Member Highlight: ACP Georgia Volunteerism Recognizing Piedmont Internal Medicine Residency Volunteer Work

2020 ACP Georgia Chapter Volunteerism Project (I.M. Still Making a Difference in Georgia)

**Piedmont Cares: Health and Faith Partnership Project**

Piedmont Athens Regional’s leadership recognized that in order to help reduce health care disparities in our community, we need to go to the patients, and meet them where they are at. With this in mind, PAR Administration, Graduate Medical Education, Community Health, and the Community Care Clinic partnered with a local Church to pilot an educational program aimed at reducing health care disparities within Athens. The goal of the program is to identify and help manage the top 3 medical issues, namely Hypertension, Diabetes, and Obesity. It allowed us to educate our residents through their hands-on participation in our efforts to address health disparities which is now a requirement of their training. We believe in emphasizing prevention and early management of the top 3 health issues so our patients can live healthier and fuller lives.

This project was planned by Piedmont Internal Medicine residents and suggested to the leadership of the hospital system.

The residents listed and in the picture volunteered their time, planned this project and presented it to leadership and they obtained their support for this project to go forward, The residents also check A1c, BP and waist circumference for patients in the church.

One healthcare disparity that has been identified in minority communities in Athens is access to health care. To increase access to care, especially primary care, the PAR Community Care Clinic was established over 6 years ago. The Community Care Clinic provides medical and subspecialty care to patients that would otherwise not have access to care. As part of the health screening at Ebenezer West Baptist Church, we were able to schedule patients with resident doctors at the Community Care Clinic thereby providing immediate access to care to those with no healthcare access. We hope to expand this project that serves as both an educational tool in the social determinants of health and a practical method to reduce healthcare disparities within the community we serve.

**Location:** Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center

**Executive Leaders:**
Michael Burnett, Chief Executive Officer, Jason Smith, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Catherine Apaloo, Designated Institutional Official & Internal Medicine Program Director, Dr. James Pippim, Transitional Year Program Director, Jacob Barry, Manager, Graduate Medical Education, Elaine Cook, Director of Community Relations

**Resident’s names:**
Dr. Basilio Addo
Dr. Margaret Gavor
Dr. Dipal Patel
Dr. Huda AlBahadili
Dr. Nirvi Shah
Dr. Laurent Morel
Dr. Konstantin Nestoiter
Dr. Alain Morel
Dr. Nicola Jackson
Dr. Shreyas Singireddy
Dr. Susan Waitimu
Dr. Warsha Mandhan
Dr. Rosemary Ansah
Dr. Tochukwu Duru
Dr. Rafeal Da Silva
Dr. Ibipo Abdurraheem-Salami
Dr. Eunice Amenu
Dr. Akintayo Akinyemi
Dr. Tinuola Andre

**PAR Community Care Clinic:** Ruby Flemming, MA, Kerri Garcia, MA, Monita Collins-Ford, Scheduler, Cindy Carmean, Director of Operations, Matt Hobbs, Manager.

**Our Clinic MA’s:** Ms. Ruby Flemming and Kerri Garcia