

Celebrating

**A Decade of
Rural
Medical Education
in Ohio**

Mad River Family Practice
The Ohio State University Rural Program

An Ohio Rural Health Professions Campus

The OSU Rural Program *“A practice with a residency...”*

Mad River Family Practice – otherwise known as The Ohio State University Rural Program – was formally established July 1, 1998, following a year-and-a-half in development and provisional accreditation by the ACGME as a traditional “1-2” rural training track residency in family medicine. In a “1-2 RTT” residents spend an initial year in an urban program, then spend the remaining two years in the rural location.

Since that time the Rural Program has evolved into an integrated “2-2-2” rural track residency where two trainees each year spend all three years of their postgraduate training living and working in a small-town practice and a rural community. This continuing rural practice is punctuated by periodic tertiary care training experiences at The OSU Medical Center and Nationwide Children’s Hospital. In addition, over the past ten years the Rural Program has become a veritable rural health professions campus, participating in the education of students in medicine, nursing, and pharmacy.

One of less than 25 rural training track residencies nationwide, the Rural Program is an experiment in community-anchored rural health professions education.

“...and, in effect, a ‘realized’ (as opposed to ‘idealized’) micro-practice in medical education.”

Randall Longenecker MD
Rural Program Director

A time to plant...

January 1997 – The OSU Department of Family Medicine contracts with Dr. Randall Longenecker under a Title VII residency training grant to develop a rural training track in Logan County

October 1997 – Site visit by the Residency Review Committee in Family Medicine

February 1998 – RRC approval as a “1-2” RTT

July 1998 – Initial implementation under provisional accreditation from the ACGME

February 2000 – Dr. Longenecker and others found the Rural Medical Educators, eventually a special interest group of the National Rural Health Association

June 2000 – First two residency graduates, Dr. Gary Okuley and Dr. Bard Rogers

May 2001 – Tara Wagner initiates a Rural Residency Coordinator network, further developing a database of RTT’s around the nation, which she and Dr. Longenecker created in 2000; now informs efforts at reform in graduate medical education and healthcare

October 2001 – Full accreditation by the ACGME

June 2002 – The Rural Program applies for and receives a “2-2-2” waiver from the ACGME as an integrated RTT, allowing residents to spend all three years of training in the rural location

January 2003 – First Rural Health Scholars Retreat

October 2003 – OSU Development Office establishes the Rural Family Medicine Endowment Fund

October 2004 - Dr. Paul Weber appoints Dr. Longenecker as Assistant Dean for Rural Medical Education at The OSU College of Medicine

July 2006 – With the departure of Dr. Esch, Drs. Wenger and Johnson join the Rural Program as faculty

September 2006 – An Australian Bulletin Board welcomes students on rural rotation in Logan County

June 2009 – Dr. Wenger leaves for practice in Virginia; Drs. Hardesty and McCauley commit to staying on as faculty in his place

...a time to grow,

Although initially designed only for residency education, more than 80 medical students, nurse practitioner students, and pharmacy students have also benefited from various learning experiences in this interprofessional environment.

Since 2003 the Rural Health Scholars Program, has engaged a total of 67 students with a wide range of specialty interests. These students have focused on the writing of rural physicians, the definitions of “rural” and rural research, poverty, women’s health, GIS technology and mapping, and advocacy.

Through OSU endowment funding of this program and scholarships from Ohio’s State Office of Rural Health, 12 students have attended the NRHA Annual Meeting and 7 have attended the NRHA Rural Health Policy Institute in Washington DC, most often accompanied by Rural Program faculty.

The Rural Program has produced six peer-reviewed publications, \$80,000 in grant funding, four research presentations and more than 100 other presentations to regional, national and international audiences.

Over these 11 years, residents and faculty have participated in the ongoing care of approximately 4,500 patients along the spectrum of age from birth to age 103 at Mad River Family Practice, to date delivering to 1,127 babies, including 16 sets of twins.

...a time to harvest

Since the Rural Program's first graduation ceremony in 2000, 13 physicians have completed training, all to initial rural or urban underserved places of practice. In addition, two faculty have gone on to teach in residency programs in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Portland, Maine.

Residency Graduates

Gary Okuley MD – Defiance, Ohio, 2000

Bard Rogers MD – Borger, Texas 2000

Kenneth Lomenzo MD – Mexia, Texas 2001

Matthias Klomfass MD – Cambridge, Ontario 2002

John Duffy MD – Wallace, North Carolina 2003

Lance Criblez MD – Pandora, Ohio 2004

William Raisig MD – Ellijay, Georgia 2004

Harpreet Arora MD – Cambridge, Ontario 2006

Shefali Arora MD – Cambridge, Ontario 2007

Penny Baker MD – Bellefontaine, Ohio 2008

Amy Gust MD – Sevierville, Tennessee 2008

Carolyn Hardesty MD – West Liberty, Ohio 2009

Leesa McCauley MD – West Liberty, Ohio 2009

Faculty Exports

Debra Rothenberg MD – Central Maine FP
Residency Program, Portland, Maine 2002

Arland Esch DO – Bethesda FP Residency Program,
Cincinnati, Ohio 200

...and a time for celebration and renown.

- 2003 Dr. Longenecker elected co-chair of the Rural Medical Educators; remains an executive committee member as membership chair
- 2007 Tara Wagner elected President of the Association of Family Medicine Administration
- 2007 Oralea Pittman RN, FNP-BC received American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) State Award for Nurse Practitioner Excellence for the State of Ohio
- 2007 Lars Peterson, Rural Health Scholar, awarded the Student Leadership Award by the NRHA, Anchorage, AL
- 2007 Residency and faculty performed “Clinical Jazz: Live in Concert” before a group of educators at the Generalist in Medical Education in Washington DC
- 2008 MRFP is a featured OSUMC Community Benefit program for Amish Group Prenatal Visits
- 2008 Dr. Longenecker named OAFP Family Medicine Educator of the Year, primarily for his efforts in developing the Rural Program
- 2008 Dr. Longenecker was one of two physicians invited by HRSA to participate in the planning for a national Rural and Underserved Workforce Summit, August 10-12, 2009