



Center for Global Health Initiatives 2023 Annual Report

Center for Global Health Initiatives (CGHI)

Resident

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Class of 2023

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Purpose & Scope of Work

The AAFP CGHI Advisory Board serves to enrich the experiences of AAFP members who seek to either place global health at the forefront of their careers, incorporate it into their existing careers, or simply explore the broad, all-encompassing definition of what global health means. We aim to support individuals in all the different phases of their career development from new medical student to seasoned faculty member. The board does this by organizing events and providing opportunities for the global medical community that encourage important conversations as well as allow for a place for like-minded individuals to educate one another, network, and discuss their unique perspectives on different aspects of global family medicine. As medical student and resident members of the board, we represent the voices of our medical student and resident counterparts, bringing a trainee perspective to conversations surrounding engagement and event planning.

Activities & Achievements

AAFP National Conference

Every year, the CGHI student and resident board members host an event at national conference. Last year, we organized a Get Global event to captivate and inspire students and residents to explore and pursue GH opportunities and attend the Global Health Summit (GHS). The session made a nod to the Stimulation Use for Global Away Rotations (SUGAR) Prep Procedural Education for Adaptation to Resource-Limited Settings (PEARLS) series allowing attendees to create spacers for MDIs using a plastic bottle, scissors/scalpel, needle, and tape. Following this, the group engaged in a facilitated discussion on the ethics of global family

medicine and then was given the opportunity to interact with three panelists who each have unique experiences both locally and abroad in regards to global medicine. We are currently in the process of creating another Get Global event for this year's national conference.

Global Health Summit

Annually, the AAFP hosts a Global Health Summit based in the U.S. where attendees are given the opportunity to network and learn from experienced physicians who have integrated and centered Global Health in their careers. The annual GHS includes poster presentations, panels, workshops, and opportunities for trainees to learn more about FM GH residencies and fellowships. A top priority for the CGHI advisory board over the last year was organizing an event that inspired more FM trainees to imagine themselves in GH and encourage FM GH practitioners to continue bringing medical care to people around the world. As members of the board, we also participated in judging the GHS abstracts submitted for the upcoming October 2023 summit.

With the integration of the Global Health Summit into the AAFP Family Medicine Experience (FMX) Conference, our roles have been centered on how to maximize attendance and learning opportunities for trainees at the year's summit.

Webinar Series

The CGHI Board has developed quarterly Global Health Webinars as a part of the 365 Series at the GHS that explores a wide range of interests and topics within the field of Global Health. As the student representative, Natali facilitated a discussion between three CGHI board members focusing on "How to Get Started in Global Health Work." As the resident representative, Abigail led the webinar on "How to Prepare for Global Health Practice." These webinar sessions provided AAFP members opportunities to get involved, ask questions, and earn CME credit while gaining understanding about the Global Health work.

WONCA Polaris

WONCA is the World Organization of National Colleges, Academies and Academic Associations of General Practitioners/Family Physicians, an organization that collaborates with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other groups around the world. Polaris is the North American arm of the WONCA Young Doctor's Movement. The medical student and resident CGHI board members sit on the Executive Committee of this organization. We have contributed to a quarterly newsletter highlighting different topics and GH professionals and panel discussions with FM GH professionals from around the globe.

Lessons Learned and the Value of Serving on Global Health Initiative

This has been an invaluable experience for us. The skills, knowledge, and mentors we have gained over the last year and a half are unquantifiable. As trainee representatives, we have experienced the value of our voices being necessary as the AAFP seeks to best support and engage young doctors. We have also learned about the level of commitment and dedication it

takes outside of our normal careers and daily lives to serve on a national advisory board where its members often have conflicting schedules and live in different time zones. In this technological age, we have been fortunate to participate in the organization and delivery of a nationally-delivered live webinar series, which we believe will become even more common with time. We are both very humbled and honored to serve as the medical student and resident members on this advisory board and look forward to not only furthering our professional development in this sphere of work but also collaborating with our fellow board members again in the future.

We strongly encourage other trainees who possess good leadership skills and are interested in global health to apply for the medical student and resident board members to the CGHI Advisory Board. It is such a unique opportunity to work with passionate and established global health leaders who quickly become your mentors and provides an exclusive look at the inner workings of an important AAFP advisory board.

Note: This report was prepared by the resident or student representative(s) listed and includes their account(s) of the business conducted during their term. This is not an official record of business proceedings from the AAFP or any other entity. To find out more about the business of the AAFP, its congresses, commissions, and current policies visit aafp.org.