

# GLOBAL HEALTH

## and family medicine

### Get skills that travel

#### Family physicians see people—not nationalities, borders, or boundaries.

As global becomes local and communities become more closely tied to one another, primary care is showing the way forward for better health. Global health is all about greater well-being for all persons, no matter where they live or where they are from.

#### Where does global health happen?

Global health happens everywhere in the world, even in communities large and small throughout the United States. More than 244 million people around the world are international migrants—20 million of them refugees—making global health a more immediate need than ever. Almost all health concerns today are transnational. That means physicians and health care professionals must think broadly for solutions while working to understand the specific life experiences of the people they serve.

#### Make it your own

There are a variety of ways to work in global health, depending on your interests. Common focus areas include low-resource settings, tropical disease, women's health, and sanitation.

#### Family medicine prepares you to practice globally

As a specialty committed to health equity and community, family medicine will equip you to practice global health.

- It's the only specialty with broad-spectrum training in obstetrics, pediatrics, and mental health care.
- Family physicians can treat anyone, regardless of age, gender, or health concern.
- Procedures practiced in family medicine are in high demand around the world.
- Advancing global health requires family medicine's socially minded approach to medicine.
- Family medicine residency training includes an emphasis on prevention, public health, and disease management.
- Family physicians are adaptable, multidisciplinary, collaborative, and capable.

#### Get connected

##### Find a mentor:

[aafp.org/patient-care/global-health/mentorship.html](http://aafp.org/patient-care/global-health/mentorship.html)

##### Attend the annual AAFP Global Health Summit:

[aafp.org/events/global-health.html](http://aafp.org/events/global-health.html)

##### Discover AAFP resources:

[aafp.org/global-health](http://aafp.org/global-health)

#### Find a program and get started

##### Browse international rotations and identify residency programs with global health training:

[aafp.org/international/residencies](http://aafp.org/international/residencies)

Reach out to a refugee health coordinator in your state. To practice global health, you don't always have to leave home, although there are many opportunities to do so. Migrant and refugee communities in the U.S. need care from professionals who understand their culture and history.