Residency in Community Health and Primary Care Optometry

PROGRAM
Number of Positions: 1

Residency Supervisor
Meagan Baker OD, FAAO
The Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic
Heart of the City Health Center
Cherry Health
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Clinical Teaching Faculty:  (pictured from left to right, top to bottom)
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Renée Mika OD, FAAO
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Kevin Bos OD
MP Chelsky OD, FAAO, Diplomate
Affiliate and Residency Program Director
The Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University provides educational direction and support for this program. Dr. Alison Jenerou serves as MCO’s Director of Residency Programs.

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MISSION
Residency Mission: The mission of the Residency in Community Health Optometry and Primary Care at Cherry Health is to provide advanced clinical training and competency by delivering primary comprehensive optometric care within a multi-disciplinary health care setting. There is an emphasis on integration of services and increased access to quality and affordable care for underserved and at-risk individuals in order to improve their health and wellness.

Cherry Health Mission: Cherry Health improves the health and wellness of individuals by providing comprehensive primary and behavioral health care while encouraging access by those who are underserved.

CHERRY HEALTH
Cherry Health is an independent, non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with a primary focus of providing high quality health services to those who have little or no access to health care,
regardless of income or insurance status. Services provided by Cherry Health include primary care, women’s health, pediatrics, dental, vision, behavioral health, mental health, correctional health, five school based health centers and employee assistance for employers. Cherry Health provides services to all individuals, regardless of their ability to pay. A sliding fee payment scale based on income and family size is available to those without insurance. Medicaid and Healthy Michigan are accepted, as are many other insurances.

Established in 1988, Cherry Health is the largest FQHC in the state of Michigan serving Barry, Eaton, Kent, Montcalm and Wayne counties at more than 20 locations, 14 of which are primary care Federally Qualified Health Center sites. Cherry Health employs over 800 employees and a network of over 60 physicians and mid-level providers specializing in primary care/family medicine, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics/gynecology, optometry and psychiatry. Additionally, Cherry Health runs a school linked program active in 70 public schools offering both vision and dental care.

In 2011, Cherry Health merged with Touchstone Innovaré (the county’s largest provider of mental health services for adults) and Proaction Behavioral Health Alliance (an array of services that assists individuals with addiction and recovery issues with rebuilding their lives). With the merger of the three organizations, Cherry Health absorbed services addressing behavioral health, mental health and correctional health.

VISION SERVICES
Cherry Health provides comprehensive adult and pediatric vision services at the Heart of the City Health Center, the Montcalm Area Health Center, and soon within the Wyoming Health Center. Our school linked vision program, “See to Succeed”, provides traveling comprehensive eye care and glasses for students within over 40 schools throughout Kent County. In addition, integration of care is available for those with other chronic health care needs including medical, dental, and behavioral health services.

Adult vision services include dilated eye exams, diabetic eye exams, and diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease. Pediatric vision services include infant eye exams, cycloplegic eye exams, and sensory motor evaluations including vision therapy for strabismus, amblyopia, and accommodative, oculomotor, and binocular vision disorders. Specialized vision care is provided for adults and children with developmental and/or intellectual disabilities. A full service optical dispensary is located within each site.

Cherry Health vision services have been in operation since 1988 and originated through the efforts of Dr. Mark Sheldon with Grand Rapids Ophthalmology. Largely volunteer operated until 2005, the vision clinic was renamed The Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic in October 2011 with the opening of the Heart of the City Health Center and in honor of the Lions’ generosity enabling the expansion of vision services. The vision clinic at the Montcalm Area Health Center opened in October 2015 and provides comprehensive services as well as a retail center with eye glasses. The vision clinic at the Wyoming Health Center is anticipated to open at the end of 2016.

Equipment and services have been furnished with the support of Grand Rapids Ophthalmology, the Grand Rapids Lions Club, the Lions Clubs International Foundation, the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Optical Supply (OSI, an Essilor lab), the Michigan Foundation for Vision Awareness, and the Kent County Medical Society Alliance.
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
Goal 1: To provide the resident with diverse optometric experiences and patient populations in order to gain proficiency and expertise in the diagnosis and management of a wide range of primary eye care and ocular disease conditions.

Objectives:
- The resident will be involved in over 1500 patient encounters through direct care, precepting externs and observation.
• The resident will perform comprehensive exams on patients of all ages to develop the skills needed to recognize and diagnose commonly encountered ocular conditions.
• The resident will perform problem focused exams on patients with acute ocular conditions.
• The resident will be exposed to complex and infrequently encountered conditions due to our at risk population and through observation of sub-specialty care.
• The resident will prescribe appropriate topical and systemic pharmacological agents.
• The resident will assume responsibility for the care, follow up and referral of their patients under the supervision of the attending optometrist.

Goal 2: The resident will enhance their technical skills and competency in all areas of an ocular examination.

Objectives:
• The resident will become proficient in the following examination skills:
  o Refraction
  o Binocular vision evaluation
  o Dilated fundus exam with 20D/BIO
  o Slit lamp examination of the anterior segment and posterior segment with 90D/78D fundus lenses
  o Goldmann Applanation Tonometry
  o Gonioscopy
  o Pachymetry
  o Corneal topography
  o Performing Cirrus OCT for optic nerve and retinal evaluation.
  o Performing 10-2, 24-2 and 30-2 Humphry Visual field.
  o Performing anterior and posterior segment photography.
• The resident will become proficient in the following surgical procedures:
  o Corneal foreign body removal
  o Epilation
• The resident will develop advanced skills in the following areas:
  o Diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease through utilization and interpretation of advanced diagnostic techniques.
  o Diagnosis of binocular vision and accommodative dysfunction.
  o Examination of young children and infants.
  o Development and implementation of vision therapy program.

Goal 3: The resident will learn to function effectively within a multi-disciplinary, community based health care team and with other subspecialties in eye care.

Objectives:
• Develop an understanding of community health issues and health disparities that impact health and health care.
The resident will be encouraged to complete additional cultural competency training provided by Cherry Health.

- The resident will be encouraged to attend training focused on use of a medical interpreter to enhance patient care.
- The resident will be encouraged to participate in an inter-professional collaborative care model focused on patients with diabetes and other chronic health conditions.
- The resident will be responsible for maintaining a working relationship with internal medicine and associated specialties through development of written and verbal communication skills.
- The resident will be encouraged to participate in See to Succeed, a mobile, school linked, comprehensive pediatric vision service.
- The resident will spend time observing sub-specialists in eye care including glaucoma, retina, cornea, cataracts, oculoplastics, low vision and pediatrics (more or less time dedicated depending on level of interest).

**Goal 4:** The resident will develop clinical instructional and precepting skills to reinforce their own learning and allow participation in the educational experience of optometric externs.

**Objectives:**
- Provide direct clinical supervision of optometric externs.
- Participate in evaluation of optometric externs.
- Lead journal article review/club with optometric externs.

**Goal 5:** The resident will gain experience in the development and completion of scholarly and research activities including written and oral presentations to reinforce the importance of life-long learning.

**Objectives:**
- The resident will be encouraged to attend local and national continuing education meetings.
- The resident will present a poster or lecture at a professional meeting.
- The resident will write two case reports of publishable quality.
- The resident will develop a lecture for the Michigan College of Optometry’s Residency Day.
- The resident will develop lectures for presentation at grand rounds.

**CURRICULUM**

**List of clinical activities:**
- Direct patient care including diagnosis, management, treatment of ocular and visual conditions.
- Perform and interpret dilated eye exams, refractions, sensory motor evaluations, visual field testing, corneal pachymetry, gonioscopy, anterior & posterior segment photography and optical coherence tomography (OCT).
- Coordinate appropriate referrals and consultations to sub-specialty care.
- Provide appropriate written correspondence to internists, pediatricians and other health care providers.
• Observation of sub-specialty optometric care
• Observation of patient care in other clinical services offered by Cherry Health including but not limited to; Adult Medicine, Pediatrics and Behavioral Health.
• Precepting 4th year externs

List of didactic activities:
• Optometry grand rounds
  • Present lecture
  • Assist externs on preparation of their case reports
• Weekly journal club
• Present lecture at the Michigan College of Optometry’s Residency Day
• The resident will be encouraged to attend one nationally recognized meeting.
• The resident will be encouraged to be an active member in our state and local optometric associations.

List of scholarly activities:
• Write two case reports of publishable quality, suitable for submission to the American Academy of Optometry
• Prepare and present a paper or poster at a nationally recognized meeting.
  • If poster is not accepted the resident may submit a third case report or literature review may be submitted.

RESIDENCY SCHEDULE
The residency will begin the last week of June and continue until June 30th of the following year (53 weeks in duration). The first week is reserved for orientation and training activities. The resident will be scheduled for 38-40 hours per week, Monday through Friday. The resident will not be required to provide on-call or emergency care outside of clinical hours. The majority of this time will be spent on optometric patient care with one half day per week allotted to professional development.

STIPEND/BENEFIT PACKAGE
The resident’s annual stipend is $33,000. The resident is entitled to paid leave as follows: two weeks of paid time off and one week of paid professional development/conference time. Benefits include medical, dental and vision insurance, short and long term disability insurance and professional liability insurance. The Michigan College of Optometry provides a $500 travel stipend and FSU library privileges. Cherry Health will provide an additional $1,000 travel stipend.

RESIDENCY PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS
1. Successful completion of the majority of the residency’s goals and objectives.
2. Attend all scheduled clinic sessions as assigned (not including excused absences).
3. Conduct him/herself at all times with composure, patience, and professionalism.
5. Maintain an accurate activities log of all non-clinical activities.
6. Write two papers of publishable quality.
7. Submit a poster to a national optometry meeting.
8. Complete all evaluations of program and preceptors in a timely manner.
9. Obtain agreement from all residency faculty that a residency certificate should be granted.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicants must have a Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree from an accredited school or college of optometry.
2. Applicants are expected to have taken and passed all portions of the National Board of Optometry exams.
3. The resident will be expected to obtain licensure in the state of Michigan.
4. The resident should be enthusiastic/have interest in community health.
5. The resident must be hard working, motivated and capable of independent learning.
6. Applicants must apply through ORMatch

Application Procedures

1. Register with ORMS
   This program participates with the National Optometry Residency Match (ORMatch). The application procedure, required supporting documentation and matching algorithm may be found on the organizations website or the applicant may contact ORMatch at:
   Optometry Residency Match
   National Matching Services, Inc.
   20 Holly Street, Suite 301
   Toronto, Ontario
   Canada, M4S 3B1
   (p)416.977.3431
   (f)416.977.5020
   ormatch@natmatch.com
2. Complete the Michigan College of Optometry’s Application for Admission.
3. Provide a curriculum vitae and letter of intent (email is acceptable).
4. Three letters of recommendation from faculty at the applicant’s college, at least one from a fourth year clinical instructor.
5. Official optometry college transcripts.
6. NBEO scores, official transcripts from the national board are preferred.
7. A personal interview is preferred.
8. Application deadline: **February 1st.**

Additional important information may be found on the following web sites:

**Michigan College of Optometry (MCO)**
http://www.ferris.edu/mco/programs/educ.htm
Summary of MCO affiliated residency programs

**Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)**
http://www.opted.org/about-optometric-education/residency-programs
Commonly asked questions about optometric residencies, residency directory and several other residency related links

**Accreditation Council on Optometric Education**
http://www.aoa.org/x5153.xml
List of accredited residency programs; Questions or concerns may be addressed to: ACOE@aoa.org
Optometric Residency Matching Service (ORMS)
http://www.optometryresident.org/
Matching forms and residency directory