THE ENDOWMENT FOR RURAL FAMILY MEDICINE EDUCATION

The Endowment for Rural Family Medicine Education was established to ensure the long term sustainability of training future generations of Idaho’s family physicians. Over $775,000 has been raised and invested with the Idaho Community Foundation, with the long term goal to fully fund the endowment is $2.5 million.

Idaho ranks last for primary care physicians per capita and forty-ninth of fifty states for residency positions per capita. However, the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho ranks 7th in the nation for retention of physicians upon graduation. FMRI is able to maintain this high retention rate by providing residents with the opportunity to train in rural Idaho. The costs of providing this training are almost $500,000 annually.

Rural Idaho relies more than ever on FMRI to provide highly skilled family physicians. Please help us fund our rural training program. The enclosed envelope is available for your tax deductible gift.

The Family Medicine Residency of Idaho (FMRI) believes the heart of healthcare education is service to others by training outstanding family medicine physicians in our Teaching Health Center; preparing broadly trained family medicine physicians to work in Idaho’s underserved and rural areas; and serving the vulnerable populations in Ada County, Idaho in Patient Centered Medical Homes.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), FMRI sees 16,582 patients in seven clinics annually, a large percentage of whom are uninsured and underinsured in Ada County. FMRI is now the largest provider of Medicaid services in all of Idaho with over 25,000 Medicaid patient visits per year. Residents and staff provide significant care to underrepresented minorities, including the Hispanic population and a large refugee population. In addition, FMRI serves 575 of the area’s HIV/AIDS patients, as well as other special populations such as cystic fibrosis, tuberculosis and Hepatitis C. Being FQHC certified also allowed FMRI to open a pharmacy in 2013 and provide reduced drug pricing with a sliding fee scale to eligible patients.

The residency program hosts 34 formal rural training sites for resident rotations. These sites include one tribal clinic, six community health centers, and nine rural health clinics. Eighteen sites are located in federally designated Medically Underserved Areas and 24 are located in Primary Care Health Professional Shortage Areas. Additionally, FMRI has accredited fellowships in sports medicine and geriatrics, as well as in obstetrics and HIV primary care.

Looking towards the future, FMRI’s dual goals are to be the premier residency training program in the Intermountain West while maintaining high quality primary care to our patients.
Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to present you the 40th Anniversary Family Medicine Residency of Idaho Annual Report. Over the past 40 years, we have trained 309 family physicians. Of this number, 164 or 53% are practicing in Idaho. Eighty nine (54% of graduates remaining in Idaho) practice in rural or underserved areas of the state. I am proud to note that FMRI ranks 7th in the nation in retention of family physicians to practice in the states they train in. This success rate is only possible because of our extensive rural training program. We have two rural training tracks (one in Caldwell and one in the Jerome/Twin Falls areas) and we have established 34 rural rotations throughout Idaho. The maps in this report visually capture this data for you.

Over its 40 year period, FMRI has experienced significant growth. Starting in 1975 with four residents per class, FMRI today trains 16 residents per class or a total of 48 residents in training at any time. In other words, we have a big job to do training the next generation of family physicians for Idaho.

Today, FMRI is a Federally Qualified Health Center and a Teaching Health Center. We have over 220 employees and an annual operating budget over $23 million. FMRI operates 7 Family Medicine Health Centers in Ada County including a school based clinic in conjunction with West Ada School District. Last year, FMRI clinics served as the medical home for 16,582 patients and provided 55,680 patient visits. FMRI is one of two Ryan White Grantees in Idaho serving patients with HIV/Aids, holds the state contract to provide medical screenings for refugees entering the United States and assigned to Idaho, and is the largest Medicaid provider in Idaho.

FMRI has grown as Idaho has grown. In the current rapidly changing health care environment our focus for the future is providing high quality patient centered medical homes to a diverse group of patients. We value our joint mission of education and service, and find synergy with them.

Sincerely,

Ted Epperly, MD
President and CEO
Launching in late 2015, the Targeted Rural Health Education (TRHE) project aims to deliver targeted information about health topics to rural Idaho communities. In collaboration with the Idaho Bureau of Rural Health and Primary Care, the TRHE’s overarching goal is to promote positive health outcomes in rural communities. Additionally, the project will encourage physicians to learn about aspects of population health in the communities they serve through the use of Community Health Needs Assessments, foster relationships between physicians and community members, and support physician development of writing evidence-based information for patients.

While on rural rotations, residents will review their respective rural rotation site’s Community Health Needs Assessment and, after discussion with their family physician preceptor, select a health topic of high importance in the community. They will then either select or write an informational health article and distribute it to local media for dissemination. Through the project, meaningful efforts will be made to empower residents of rural communities to improve health disparities.

Tara Mertz-Hack, Second-year Resident, Magic Valley RTT
Dr. Jon Getz has very generously donated $5000 to FMRI to fund Spanish language education for any interested resident. This money will be used for books, online resources which can be accessed with mobile phones, and small group in person lessons with local Spanish instructors. The residents are very excited and grateful. Dr. Getz has stated that he plans to keep this same level of annual funding for a total of 5 years. Thank you to Dr. Getz for your personal commitment to resident education.

**INVESTING IN SPANISH PROGRAMS**

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**REACHING THE UNDERSERVED**

**KUNA CLINIC — HISPANIC PATIENT OUTREACH**

Based in the Kuna Clinic, Community Health Workers Luis Lagos and Martha Madero are reaching out to seasonal farmworkers and the uninsured in Kuna and surrounding area. Working in partnership with organizations such as the Mexican Consulate, Terry Reilly Health Services, and the Idaho Food Bank, they reach out to the Hispanic community through health screenings, clinic referrals, and assistance with health insurance enrollment.

**MERIDIAN SCHOOLS CLINIC**

In February 2014, FMRI opened in collaboration with the West Ada School District the first free-standing school based clinic in Idaho. The clinic provides treatment of minor acute injury and illness, referral back to the primary care physician when appropriate, well-child and adolescent exams, immunizations, routine laboratory tests, management of chronic illness, behavioral and mental health assessment and treatment, referral for drug and alcohol assessment and treatment, health education and health promotion, medications and/or prescriptions for medications, referral to specialists when appropriate, and nutritional counseling (MSC does not provide Women’s Health Services). Since opening, the Meridian Schools Clinic served over a thousand children.

**EMERALD CLINIC REFUGEE CARE**

Each year, roughly 500 international refugees resettle in the Boise area and receive an initial health screen for any immediate health or mental health issues at our Refugee Screening Clinic. In January 2015, the Refugee Continuity Clinic began as a targeted approach to provide continuity care for all newly arrived refugees who are assigned to FMHC as their healthy connection provider. This specialty program currently has 260 patients empaneled. Forty-three different languages are spoken in the seven FMRI clinics.

**FITONE CORPORATE CHALLENGE WINNERS**

To encourage employee health and wellness, the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho sponsored employees and board members for the FitOne run/walk on Sept. 26, 2015. With the highest percentage of employees represented for a medium size company up to 250 employees, FMRI was recognized as a corporate challenge winner.
Thank You!

This year, Blue Cross of Idaho Foundation for Health donated $100,000 to the Family Medicine Residency of Idaho For Rural Medical Education. FMRI successfully met Blue Cross’ challenge to create an endowment in Rural Family Medicine Education by Spring 2015. The challenge had two components raising over $500,000 in community funds and establishing an agency account at the Idaho Community Foundation. With the Blue Cross donation, FMRI’s Endowment for Rural Family Medicine Education has raised over $775,000. The long term goal to fully fund the endowment is $2.5 million.

Dr. Ted Epperly, CEO of FMRI with Dr. Rhonda Robinson Beale, Chief Medical Officer of Blue Cross of Idaho