

UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

Division of Community Health

Community Rotation for Pediatric Residents

Overview

The Community Rotation for Pediatric Residents is a collaboration of Children's Community Health Division and the Pediatric Residency Training Program, with community partners. It is a one-week mandatory rotation for all first-year pediatric medical residents at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh where new physicians spend time in a variety of community settings learning about social, environmental, educational, neighborhood, and other factors that may influence the health of children – factors such as housing, transportation, access to healthy food and green space, school environment, and more. The rotation is paired with a series of primary care interactive sessions where residents learn to apply their community health experience to clinical encounters with patients. This community-partnered resident training experience is unique to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh among residency programs across the nation.

How it Works

There are three core types of community-based resident experiences:

Clinical-community connections:

Residents learn how they can refer to and work together with community partners to provide continuity of care for patients and connection to valuable community services and resources.

Social factors that influence health:

Residents understand the various social factors that influence the health and wellbeing of children and their access to quality health care.

Preventive health and wellness:

Residents recognize the value of community-based prevention efforts to child health and wellbeing, and understand the process Children's uses to identify community health priorities.

A variety of community partners and organizations serve as host sites and enable experiences for residents to participate in service projects, attend home visits, interact with youth in school settings, deliver community-based education programs and more.

Impact

By participating in the Community Rotation, first-year residents at Children's gain greater understanding of the local community in which their patients reside, recognize ways the hospital engages in community health, gain practical skills for becoming a pediatrician advocate for community and child health, and learn how pediatricians can collaborate with community partners for their patients' continuity of care.

About UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Community Health works together with hospital, other healthcare, and community partners to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities, and elevate quality of life for children and families in the communities where they live, learn, work and play.