

Inaugural Family Medicine OB (FMOB) Fellowship in Georgia Set for 2022

By: Kamela Boyd, M.S.

A newly created fellowship program in Savannah will train residency graduates who seek further training in obstetrics and women's health. Fellows receive a comprehensive 12-month experience in FMOB in medical centers located in Savannah, Vidalia, Waycross and Dublin, Georgia.

"We are excited to be able to establish Georgia's and HCA's first FMOB fellowship here at Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah," said Dr. Robert Pallay, program director of the Family Medicine residency in Savannah. "Being fortunate enough to convince Dr. Candace Murbach to leave her position in Jacksonville and return to Savannah to take on this challenge has made me more confident of its success."

Physicians often remain in the community where they had their residency and post-residency training. This fellowship program will allow rural communities in Georgia to hire and retain family medicine physicians who choose to offer obstetrics as part of their practice. The expectation is that the improved access to medical and obstetrical care will make a significant impact in these rural and underserved areas and help to reduce our high infant and maternal mortality and morbidity.

"Georgia has the worst maternal mortality in the country and is also in the bottom 5 states in maternal morbidity and infant morbidity and mortality," said Dr. Murbach, the new program director for this FMOB program. "It is our sincere hope that developing this program and working with the people of these communities and the various agencies throughout these counties, will quickly make a difference in the care of these pregnant women and their infants."

The residency fellowship will soon announce its first two fellows who will start in July 2022. Across the country, HCA Healthcare is the largest sponsor of residency and fellowship programs for physicians, training over 5100 residents and fellows in 61 teaching hospitals.