



General Assembly – July 24, 2026 – Destin, FL

LSU Health Shreveport at Alexandria
Family Medicine Residency Program
Program Director: Micah Pippin, MD

The 2025-2026 academic year welcomed new physicians to the program with six new interns.

This year we filled all positions. Orientation plans are underway, and the six new interns will officially begin training July 1st.

One of our part-time faculty, Dr. Dana Mays, who was a previous graduate and chief resident at our program, joined as full-time core faculty.

From the accreditation front, the program received official notice of continued accreditation by ACGME. In the coming year, the program will continue to increase its emphasis on evidence-based medical knowledge and scholarly activity to build on the successes we have had in the last year.

The residency's academic channel on the online journal Cureus has flourished. Over the last four years, we have published 24 original, peer-reviewed, PubMed indexed articles with each graduating resident now achieving authorship. This represents an almost 700% increase in publishing over the last four years compared to previous peer-reviewed program scholarship. These articles have been viewed by over 20,000 readers and have been cited by 32 other authors. We also curate a collection of peer-reviewed articles on dermatologic conditions in skin of color which accepts papers from authors worldwide and continues to grow.

Original published research includes evaluations of the opioid epidemic in Louisiana and barriers to family physicians' management of patients affected by opioid use disorder. The program has prioritized addressing conditions, such as opioid use disorder, that disproportionately affect our region and all Louisianians. We continue to provide medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in our outpatient clinic and are partnering with our public health department and numerous other entities to aid in the implementation of Project M.O.M. (Maternal Overdose Mortality) in our community to address the opioid epidemic's effect on pregnant patients here in central Louisiana.

We continue to prioritize evidence-based medicine, and our residents have all passed their board exams on the first attempt for the last 11 years. For the last four years our program has outperformed the national average on the annual in-training examination, and our scores continue to rise.

In the last year, the program has partnered with the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency (LOPA) in coordinating donor care at Rapides Regional Medical Center. To date, we have aided in the recovery of 29 organs for donation.

Program faculty continue to occupy leadership positions at Rapides Regional serving as chairs for the family medicine and pharmacy and therapeutics departments, and vice chair for the hospitalist department at the medical center. The faculty are also represented on the medical executive committee at Rapides Regional and are members of countless other committees.

Chief Residents' elections resulted in a win for Dr. Christopher Smith and Dr. Yashwanth Damodhar, who began their terms May 1st. We are grateful to outgoing Chiefs, Dr. John Delgado and Dr. Saad Hanan for their outstanding service and dedication.

Family Medicine Residency Program Director Reports, continued

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Including the class of 2026, the program has produced 166 graduates. Our program continues to supply the most family physicians joining the Louisiana workforce.

Dr. Rana Khazendar and Dr. Joseph Delgado were the Wellness Coordinator this year for the residents and provided opportunities for the residents to get out and enjoy some relaxing times away from the residency.

On the Cenla community front, the program remained very active during this academic year. The residency continues to partner with various local organizations for health fairs providing glucose checks, blood pressure screenings and immunization education. Residents and faculty have worked with AHEC to encourage young people to seek careers in the health field. We have spoken at school career days and hosted a suture workshop for local students. Faculty members serve as Medical Directors for local hospice agencies and rehabs; faculty and residents provide medical care at several area nursing homes.

The Alexandria program continues to provide services at the Region 6 Office of Public Health Mega Shelter. Our residents provide medical care for evacuees of regional weather events. This is a medical special needs shelter to provide refuge to individuals who may not be eligible for a general shelter because of their medical needs but do not require hospitalization.

Respectfully submitted,
Micah Pippin, MD
Program Director