

# PRIMARY CARE TRAINING ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

## *Awardee Profile: James Madison University*

Organization	<b>James Madison University</b> Department or Division: Physician Assistant Program
Principal Investigator	<b>Gerald Weniger</b> wenigegr@jmu.edu 540-568-2395
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic (HRFC)</li></ul>

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Trainee Group(s) and Discipline(s) Targeted

- Advanced degree students: physician assistants

Primary project objectives

- Increase ability of HRFC volunteers and staff to provide primary care for their underserved patient population
- Evaluate effects of a student-engaged medical clinic on ability of the HRFC to accomplish mission and goals
- Disseminate assessment findings on the value/effectiveness of student-engaged free clinic
- Expose PA students to health information technology, inter-professionalism, population health measures, social determinants of health, systems-based practice, cultural competency, and primary care clinical experiences within an underserved population, thereby strengthening the future primary care workforce,
- Evaluate the effects of a student-engaged medical clinic on PA students' training.
- Disseminate assessment findings related to student outcomes, specifically graduates working in primary care and/or medically underserved communities.

### EVALUATION OVERVIEW

Evaluator contact information

**Gerald Weniger**  
wenigegr@jmu.edu  
540-568-2395

HRSA Priority Outcomes

- Rate of graduates/program completers practicing in primary care, at least 1 year after program completion.
- Rate of graduates/program completers practicing in underserved areas, at least 1 year after program completion.
- Patient service provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.



## EVALUATION OVERVIEW

*Continued*

- 
- Quality of care provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.
  - Cost of care provided by trainees and faculty at participating PCTE clinical training sites.
- 

### Measures and Tools

- Quality of Life Scale.
  - Analyze changes in quality indicators as defined by HRSA Health Center programs, including:
    - Percentage of patients age 18+ who had documentation of a calculated BMI during the most recent visit or within the 6 months prior to that visit and if the most recent BMI is outside the parameters
    - Percentage of patients age 18+ with a diagnosis of coronary artery disease who were prescribed a lipid-lowering therapy
    - Percentage of adult patients 18 to 75 years of age with a diagnosis of types I or II diabetes, whose hemoglobin A1c was less than or equal to 9% at the time of the last reading in the measurement year
    - Percentage of diabetic patients who had eye screenings for diabetic retinopathy
    - Percentage of patients 18 to 85 years of age with diagnosed hypertension whose blood pressure was less than 140/90 at the time of the last reading
    - Percentage of women age 50+ who had a mammogram in the last 24 months
  - Evaluate the program impact on HRFC patient services, including but not limited to, clinic use (number of visits, number of new patients, etc.) provided by the student- engaged clinic.
  - Analyze the program impact on HRFC budget, including but not limited to, the cost of care saved through the student- engaged clinic.
- 

## ABSTRACT

*As submitted with proposal*

### Overview:

The James Madison University (JMU) Physician Assistant (PA) Program and the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic (HRFC) have a strong history of collaboration. Both organizations now desire to strengthen the relationship by working collaboratively in order to better meet the primary care needs of patients and primary care training needs of students who are future primary care providers

### Objectives:

- Increase the ability of HRFC volunteers and staff to effectively provide primary care for their underserved patient population
- Evaluate the effects that a student-engaged medical clinic has on the ability of the HRFC to accomplish its mission and goals
- Disseminate assessment findings on the value/effectiveness of student-engaged free clinic
- Expose PA students to health information technology, inter-professionalism, population health measures, social determinants of health, systems-based practice, cultural competency, & primary care clinical experiences within an underserved population thereby strengthening the future primary care workforce by supporting this enhanced training
- Evaluate the effects that a student-engaged medical clinic has on training of PA students
- Disseminate assessment findings related to student outcomes, specifically graduates working in primary care and/or medically underserved communities

## **ABSTRACT**

*Continued*

WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, and HOW:

The JMU PA Program proposes a project to initiate a student-engaged medical clinic within the already established Harrisonburg-Rockingham Free Clinic (HRFC) located in the City of Harrisonburg, VA. Grant funding is requested as soon as it is available on 7/1/16. The goal of the partnership is to meet JMU's bold mission/vision for the University: "...to support students, faculty and staff through meaningful engagement with the campus, academics, alumni, the community and the world. Engagement enhances their academic, civic, personal and professional learning while reinforcing ethical decision-making and meeting the needs of others through service". And also to fulfill the mission/vision of the HRFC: "to help build a healthier community" and "to provide affordable, sustainable, health care services for low income and uninsured adults, primarily through volunteer resources and community support".