



Community Health Connections

We take great care of you!

Family Nurse Practitioner Residency Program

The post-graduate Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) residency at Community Health Connections (CHC) offers the opportunity for professional development and additional skills training in a community health center. This 12 month program prepares FNPs to meet the needs of the culturally diverse and clinically complex patients commonly seen in a community health center practice. Residents will join in weekly didactic presentations taught by CHC staff, participate in chart reviews, and attend interdisciplinary training with medical residents through our partnership with the University of Massachusetts medical residency program.

During this residency, residents will develop and maintain their own panel of patients to facilitate continuity of care, and will work with experienced clinicians who understand the importance of treating a diverse patient population. Residents will be exposed to a wide variety of health care services including chronic disease management, integrated behavioral health care, LGBTQ care, specialty care, and HIV services. Quality improvement initiatives and offsite experiences to both specialty practices and to programs that address the social determinants of health are just a few of the many opportunities for residents to develop their skills. It is anticipated that each resident will show evidence of clinical development, professional leadership and increased perceived clinical confidence by the end of this residency.

Residency Goals:

- Improve clinical competence and professional confidence
- Develop cultural competence and professional leadership skills
- Enhance provider autonomy
- Develop skills that improve patient care outcomes
- Improve preparedness to meet the needs of complex patients
- Increase job satisfaction in Community Health
- Improve provider retention

Examples of Health Center Supported Clinical and Leadership Topics*

- Pain Management
- Diabetes
- Hypertension management
- COPD
- History of Community Health Centers
- Integrative Behavioral Health in Primary Care

**Weekly UMass Medical School didactics and workshops are held at the Fitchburg Family Practice*

Other Residency Notables

- Residents are hired as a full time employee by their residency employer with benefits
- Close collaboration with and feedback provided by clinical leadership
- Opportunities for professional and personal growth

Evaluation Methods

- Pre- and Post-Residency Self Evaluation
- Quarterly meetings with Medical Director
- Monthly Meeting with Residency Advisor

Applicant Qualifications

- Graduate of Accredited Masters or Doctorate Level Program
- Certified by AANP or ANCC
- DEA and MA DPH registration required