MAGNIFY | Today is National Rural Health Day

#powerofrural

National Rural Health Day

Celebrating the Power of Rural!

IT’S NOT JUST A DAY, IT’S A MOVEMENT.

With more than half of our graduates staying within state borders, the UofSC School of Medicine Columbia continues to play a critical role in supporting the healthcare needs of South Carolina and its people. We are a national leader in growing the healthcare workforce in underserved and rural communities and are ranked No. 1 in the country for the percent of graduates practicing in
medically underserved areas. Several years ago, to expand our impact on the state, we created the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare. It's no surprise that today is important to our school.

Despite these efforts, there is still more work to be done. Every county in South Carolina is designated as "medically underserved." Current projections suggest rural healthcare shortages in South Carolina and throughout the nation will worsen in the coming decade without explicit efforts to counteract this trend, so bringing awareness to this day is more important than ever before.

Through engagement efforts, our office has learned that many alumni who practice in underserved and rural areas wear this service as a badge of honor. Proud class of 1993 alumnus, James Gragg, MD, was featured in a campus-wide rural health story this week, and feels strongly that his experiences during medical school are what prepared him for his 20+ years in rural healthcare. "I felt as though I chose the perfect medical school for me because there was always such a strong emphasis on primary care and serving underserved areas." Click here to read more from this story titled "Serving the Underserved."

Very soon, our graduates with accurate mailing addresses on file will receive a letter that outlines opportunities for us to expand our rural healthcare programs. These include:

- Strengthening programs to attract and prepare students from rural areas to enter and succeed in careers as medical professionals.
- Providing scholarship support for rural students, in some cases linked to incentives to return to rural areas to practice.
- Offering students enhanced opportunities for clinical experiences in rural areas, learning from and being mentored by health professionals who have devoted their lives to exemplary healthcare delivery in a rural setting.
- Partnering with the SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare to help place these graduates in rural areas.

We believe these steps will help us generate more healthcare professionals for South Carolina’s most underserved areas. With your support, we can move more quickly in addressing these pressing needs and "celebrate the power of rural" today and everyday.

Give to the Rural Health Initiative Fund
FOCUS | Progress in Planning for the new UofSC Health Sciences Campus

What an exciting time it is at the UofSC School of Medicine Columbia as the planning process for the new UofSC Health Sciences Campus in Columbia has officially begun. The University of South Carolina has received a number of submissions in response to their Request for Qualifications (RFQ) call earlier this fall. From these respondents, some will be invited to submit a more comprehensive proposal for the design and construction of a Medical Education Building and a Health Science Research Building in the Bull Street Development. Once the partner to coordinate planning and construction is selected in late spring or early summer of 2022, we anticipate the following next steps:

- Detailed programming and architectural design throughout the remainder of 2022 and 2023.
- Approval of the Phase II construction process by the Commission on Higher Education and SC legislative committees in 2023.
- Sitework to begin in 2023.
- Construction groundbreaking will likely occur in early 2024.
- Occupancy of both the Education Building and Research Building could occur in early 2026.

We understand that unpredictable delays may be encountered due to construction material shortages. However, we are optimistic that this pathway will create facilities that will serve as a wonderful new home to the UofSC SOM Columbia for decades to come.

As we contemplate the upcoming season, I remain extremely grateful that I am privileged to work with such an outstanding group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni from the UofSC SOM Columbia. I want to offer a special “Thank You” to our alumni who remain the living embodiment of our School of Medicine mission through your compassionate care and groundbreaking research. I hope you and your family have a wonderful Thanksgiving week and a joyous holiday season.

Les Hall, MD
REFLECT | Charles Clark Served His Nation and Provided Care to Those Most in Need

As a young student, Charles Clark, M.D., always had an interest in anatomy. Born in Biddeford, Maine, into a military family, Clark spent most of his formative years on United States Marine Corps bases, but he calls Okatie, South Carolina home.

Clark was drafted into the Marine Corps in 1972 after earning his bachelor’s degree in zoology as a premed student from the University of Maine. While serving in the military, he earned a master’s degree in business from Pepperdine University.

Then came the opportunity to pursue his love for medicine at the University of South Carolina as a member of the inaugural class to attend the School of Medicine.

“It was extremely fortuitous that, just as I was getting out of the Marine Corps, the university opened the medical school,” Clark recalls.

Clark attended the School of Medicine on a United States Air Force scholarship as a reservist. After graduating as a member of the inaugural class, he completed an internship in pathology at the University of Vermont School of Medicine.

Click here to read the full story about Dr. Clark.
TIME TO LAY IT ALL OUT ON THE TABLE

Looking for HOSTS from ALL DISCIPLINES working in the following areas:

PEDIATRICS • EMERGENCY MED
ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MED

CLICK HERE TO BE CONSIDERED

Would you use a SOMC Mobile App? Let us know!

So far, 72 Alumni have said:

- NO 22.2%
- YES 78.8%

CLICK HERE FOR SURVEY | DEADLINE IS 12/1
Tis the season to maximize your tax benefits!

Click to GIVE to the School of Medicine

Your year-end gift will make a difference!
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

2022 ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

APRIL 1-3

Celebrating

the 40TH ANNIVERSARY of the BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES PROGRAM
Research. Clinical. Day to day. All medical careers.

Give the gift of your time.

Our students are looking for shadowing opportunities.

CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER
Where on EARTH are you now?

Click here to update your contact information

DID YOU KNOW...

When you graduate from the UofSC School of Medicine, you are automatically a member of the SOM Alumni Association?

Please contact Paige Stiles at paige.stiles@uscmed.sc.edu to learn ways you can get involved!

REVERE | Class Kudos
Lashondra Gadson, MD ('02) with her husband Winfield celebrated their daughter’s first birthday last month. They welcomed Alison Jordan Gadson on October 30, 2020 in Atlanta, GA.

Edward Jackson, II, MD ('04) has been recognized as a 2021 Hidden Gem recipient at the Emory School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA where he serves as an Assistant Professor for the Department of Orthopedic Surgery. Recipients of this award were nominated by department leadership in recognition of their outstanding, but often unnoticed or unrecognized, contributions to Emory and beyond.

Christina New, MD ('18) and her husband Chandler welcomed their first son, Carter Gene New, on October 25, 2021, weighing in at 9lbs 6oz.

Khanjan Shah, MD ('11) received a $100K research grant from the American College of Cardiology to study disparities in peripheral arterial disease care for the overall goal of improving care for the most vulnerable. She is an Interventional Cardiologist and Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL.

Kelsey Snedecor, MD ('18) completed her pediatric residency at Prisma Health Midlands Hospital this summer and has recently accepted a position with Palmetto Pediatrics & Adolescence Clinic in Blythewood, SC.

Would you like to send a personal note to congratulate these alumni on their achievements? Or do have news of your own you'd like us to share?

Click Here to Contact Holly Jefferson

Deadline to submit Class Kudos is December 15th!

The Office of Development and Alumni Relations
University of South Carolina School of Medicine

Kim Riggi, Senior Director of Development and Alumni Relations
Holly Jefferson, Director of Alumni Engagement and External Affairs
Paige Stiles, Assistant Director of Alumni and Student Engagement
Susan Butler, Finance/University Foundations Administrative Coordinator
Michelle Edgar, Development Research Analyst and Stewardship Coordinator
Margaret Gregory, Public Information Coordinator

The Garnet Microscope | Volume 4 | Issue 11
November 2021

Share this email:

Manage your preferences | Opt out using TrueRemove®
Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails.
View this email online.

6311 Garners Ferry Road
Columbia, SC 29208 US

This email was sent to paige.stiles@uscmed.sc.edu.
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.