

STFM and the STFM Foundation Recognize the 2011 Group Project Fund Winners

PROJECT: The SAGE Project: Assessing the Social Accountability of Global Health Experiences. Do Global Health Tracks During Family Medicine Residency Increase the Likelihood of Underserved Care?

Given that an influx of newly insured will likely exacerbate current physician maldistribution, residencies will soon be evaluated on their ability to produce physicians for shortage areas. Surveys indicate Global Health Track (GHT) participants have increased interest in underserved care, but no studies have assessed whether participants are more likely to practice in underserved areas. This project will identify five residencies with well-established GHTs, determine whether their GHT participants are more likely to practice in underserved areas compared with nonparticipants, and create an evidence summary document that can be used to inform curricular decisions.

STFM Group: Global Health—*Winston Liaw, MD, MPH, VCU Family Practice Center, principal investigator*

Award: \$9,732 over 2 years

PROJECT: An Ounce of Prevention: How We Are Managing the Early Assessment of Residents' Clinical Skills

This STFM Foundation group project will survey family medicine program directors to discover what early assessment methods and activities are being used, benefits and costs of these methods, barriers to implementation of early assessment activities, and whether or not these assessments have been effective at identifying interns who will experience academic difficulty. This information will be used to develop a recommendation for early clinical skills assessment of residents.

STFM Group: Learners in Academic Difficulty—*Tracy Kedian, MD, University of Massachusetts, principal investigator*

Award: \$8,150 for 1 year

PROJECT: Identifying the Motivators and Challenges for Senior Faculty in Family Medicine

The purpose of this project is to identify the personal and professional needs of senior (more than 55 years old) faculty to provide an enhanced forum and resources to support and engage this significant segment of STFM membership. This will be accomplished through both a survey and focus groups, yielding quantitative and qualitative data for publication and to inform educational programming decisions.

STFM Group: Senior Faculty—*Jeff Stearns, MD, University of Wisconsin, principal investigator*

Award: \$8,500 over 2 years

PROJECT: Rural Health Predoctoral Book Discussion Groups

The goal of this project is to expose first- and second-year medical students to the realities of the practice of rural medicine today through reading and discussion of a recently published collection edited by the PI, *The Country Doctor Revisited, a 21st Century Reader*. Ten sites will be recruited from medical schools with affiliated rural family medicine residencies. The project allows for early interaction between rural residency directors and medical students, creates opportunities for students to network with other students interested in rural practice, and to develop mentoring relationships with rural family medicine faculty. The students' eventual choice of residency will be tracked.

STFM Group: Rural Health—*Theresa Zink, MD, MPH, University of Minnesota, principal investigator*

Award: \$9,920 over 2 years

For more information about the STFM Group Project Fund or to donate to the STFM Foundation to help support projects like those listed here, visit www.stfm.org/fnd.