

Morehouse School of Medicine, Columbus Campus

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Background: Healthcare in Georgia is 43rd in the nation, 46th in access. 89% of GA counties are below the national average for doctors per 100,000 residents (229 vs 278 nationally).

Objectives of the Project: MSM seeks to establish a regional campus in Columbus, GA, a metropolitan city 100 mi. southeast of Atlanta, GA.

Approach/ Evaluation Strategy and Outcomes/Results to Date: Table 1.

Discussion: Low student recruitment reflects a significant shift over prior years. This is likely due to post pandemic preferences and the creation of rotational sites in Chattanooga, TN, Seattle, WA, and Lexington, KY.

Summary: MSM has resourced and expanded training sites in Columbus, GA to meet the criteria of a regional campus. This will allow for expansion of the class size by 8% and inform future regional campus formation.

Mentors: Valerie Montgomery Rice MD, Adrian Tyndall MD, Martha Elks MD

Key Collaborators (Columbus Regional Campus Task Force): John Bucholtz, MD (Piedmont Columbus Regional), Walter Conwell, MD (Faculty Affairs and Development), Chandra Edwards (Columbus Campus PM), Ashaki Goodman, MBA (Columbus Campus PM), Harvey Green (Institutional Advancement), Angelita Howard, EdD (Online Education), Bridgett Miller (IT), Jerald Mitchell (Columbus GA Chamber of Commerce), Katherine Napier, EdD (CFO), Michael Rambert, JD (General Counsel), Representative Calvin Smyre (Georgia House of Representatives District 135)

Table 1. Approach/Evaluation Strategy and Outcomes/Results to Date:

Approach:	Completed	Outcome/Feedback on implementation:
Expand the distributive model	July 2021, ongoing	Successful recruitment of community preceptors, successful negotiation for inpatient IM, both inpatient peds and psych need more sites, Ft. Benning Veteran Affairs MOU pending
Implement institutional policy and resources	Initiated Jan 2021, ongoing	Community preceptor training, improved process for appointing adjunct faculty, >10 institutional policies created, ex: Site comparability policy
Task force	Oct 2021	Meeting quarterly then increased to bimonthly Mar 2022
Expand housing	Oct 2021	Additional housing identified, verified by Chief of Security
Notify LCME	Dec 2021	Response received Mar 2022, provided add'l info Apr 1, 2022, desire to expand student services
Recruit students	Feb 2022	Zero students wanted year long experience, task force proposing scholarship incentive
Admissions cohort	Pending	Pending

Add'l long-term metrics of evaluation contributed by the MSM BOT (Feb 2022):

- ROI to Georgia
- measures of diversity in the local workforce
- measures of health equity in the local community
- standardized reporting to include milestones, opportunities, and threats.

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Background/Significance of the Project:

Healthcare in Georgia ranks 43rd in the nation and 46th in healthcare access. The majority of Georgia's counties (88.7%) are below the national average for doctors per 100,000 residents (229 vs 278 nationally). MSM is addressing this problem by expanding training programs to provide opportunities outside of Atlanta. The overall goal is to recruit and train healthcare professionals who will return to areas such as Columbus, GA to become the next generation of healthcare leaders who will serve the underserved of Georgia.

Objectives of the Project:

MSM seeks to establish a regional campus in Columbus, GA, a metropolitan city 100 miles to the southeast of its main campus in Atlanta, GA.

Methods/Approach/Evaluation Strategy:

The methods chosen to accomplish this expansion include:

- Expand the distributive model of clerkship rotations to include all 6 core rotations, including inpatient experiences for internal medicine and pediatrics
- Implement institutional policy and resources to support transition of the site to a campus
- Create a task force of institutional and community stakeholders
- Submit notification to the LCME
- Recruit existing students to participate
- Incorporate the regional campus into the admissions process to create a regional campus cohort with each matriculating class

The above methods are evaluated by evidence of completion and feedback gathered from stakeholders on the strategy and implementation of each individual method.

Outcomes/Results to date		
	Completed	Feedback on implementation
Expand the distributive model	July 2021, ongoing	Successful recruitment of community preceptors, successful negotiation for inpatient IM; inpatient peds and psych need more sites, Ft. Benning Veteran Affairs MOU pending
Implement institutional policy and resources	Initiated Jan 2021, ongoing	Created enduring online community preceptor training, improved process for appointing adjunct faculty, >10 institutional policies created
Task force	Oct 2021	Meeting quarterly then increased to bimonthly Mar 2022
Expand housing	Oct 2021	Additional housing identified, verified by MSM police chief
Notify LCME	Dec 2021	Response received Mar 2022, requested more information Apr 1, 2022
Recruit students	Feb 2022	Zero students wanted year long experience
Admissions cohort	Pending	Pending

Discussion (to include interpretation of results):

Key strategies to creating a regional campus included expanding the educational opportunities with community preceptors and the local hospital system, instituting institutional policies that ensured a comparable education experience and responsiveness to student feedback. The fact that no students indicated a desire to spend the entirety of the 3rd year in Columbus, GA reflects a significant shift over prior years. This is likely due to post

pandemic preferences of the students and the creation of rotational sites in Chattanooga, TN and Seattle, WA. Task force members are proposing a scholarship incentive to students who elect to train at the regional campus.

Summary/Conclusion (include impact):

Morehouse School of Medicine has been able to expand and resource the training sites in Columbus, GA to meet the criteria of a regional campus. The impact of forming a regional campus will allow for expansion of the matriculating class size by 8% and inform future regional campus formation.