As the need for primary care physicians continues to grow, and the number of medical students pursuing primary care as a career path declines, we serve an essential role as one of the country’s largest departments of Family Medicine. The residency program has graduated close to 400 new family physicians in the past three decades and is nationally known for the training of minority academic family physicians. Additionally, fellowship programs are offered in research/public health and primary care sports medicine. Family physicians that complete their training in our department go on to practice in a wide range of health care settings; from academic centers and urban clinics, to private practice in rural communities.

“In urban areas and overseas, there’s a greater and greater need for primary care. Being in Family Medicine, I hope to be part of that change as people recognize how important primary care is.”

Jasmeen Bhullar, MD, first-year resident, who is considering putting his medical knowledge to good use in Africa.

“The relationship you build with patients is so satisfying. Every time I deliver a baby it’s amazing. I’m so happy that my patients are letting me participate in that important part of their life.”

Thuy Nguyen, third-year resident, who came to Maryland from California for the program’s quality and intensity.

“What we do is much more than provide clinical care and coordinate care. There’s our teaching mission: We train the vast majority of family doctors in the state. And there’s our academic mission: We find better ways to coordinate and treat diseases such as diabetes. We also partner with the city and state to expand people’s access to health care and to find solutions to health-related problems. We do all these things to improve the health of individuals of communities, the city, and the state.”

David Stewart, MD, MPH, associate professor and chair

**Caring for Life**

With excellent care, comprehensive training, and community outreach, the Department of Family and Community Medicine serves a vital role. As one of the nation’s first training programs for family physicians, we are building the future for the increasingly important field of Family Medicine. As the primary source of medical care for thousands of families and individuals of all ages throughout Baltimore and Maryland, we are improving health and lives. We use both the latest medical advances and a touch of old-fashioned bedside manner to not simply heal a sickness, but treat the whole person. At a time when family physicians have more patient visits each year than general surgeons, pediatricians, and obstetrician-gynecologists combined, the breadth of our care and intensity of our training program is needed more than ever.

For more information, please contact:

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Office of Development
410-706-8503
toll free 1-877-FUND-SOM
www.fundformedicine.org

**Caring for Life**

Department of Family & Community Medicine
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Gifts to support and benefit The University of Maryland Fund for Medicine are administered by the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation, Inc.
Reaching Out to Improve Health

On and off campus, we reach out to the community through educational and research efforts—all with the goal of improving the lives of families.

• Our naturally recognized strengths include care for the urban population, prevention and management of teen pregnancy.
• Our research efforts in areas such as hypertension and long-term care focus on issues that directly improve the health and quality of life of our patients.
• Our community initiatives include educating the general public and training practice doctors on such issues as blood pressure, diabetes and smoking cessation.
• We are involved in several collaborative educational outreach programs for inner-city youth and economically disadvantaged communities where the diseases are most prevalent—and most likely to be untreated.

“Some of the people that come to the clinic are very fragile. They may not have transportation or money to pay for their prescriptions. Before we established the Wilda Fund, the doctors and social workers were giving patients out of their own pockets. The work that goes on in the Department of Family and Community Medicine is worthwhile. I would encourage others to give.”

Kevin F. Feinert, MD
Associate Professor

Supporting the Work of Family and Community Medicine

This support the Department of Family and Community Medicine receives from grateful patients, alumni, civic leaders, and philanthropists means so much to our physicians, our residents, staff, and our patients. While each donor has a personal reason for giving, every gift is deeply appreciated.

“My father believed that Family Medicine served as a bridge for all others and provided the ability to see and treat the patient as a whole. A gift to the Department of Family and Community Medicine was a perfect way to honor his life, career, and underlying beliefs. It is our hope that by naming the Family Health Center in honor of our patriarch, it will not only provide support for education and healthcare, but also stand as a reminder for others to give to support the department.”

BARRY H. FRIEDMAN ’69 MD, JD, MRA, whose father, Marion Friedman, served as a board member at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and practiced as a family physician in Baltimore for 35 years.

Professor R. Gordon Gompertz, MD, whose husband Frank was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma. He was misdiagnosed prior to that. Dr. Gompertz was instrumental in saving his life and finding a child and really guiding us through that whole process. We wanted to support the department from a teaching perspective so they can continue to train future physicians. Family Medicine providers are on the front lines. They’re the quarterbacks in making sure that patients get to the right specialists. Without their expertise, patients might not get the care that they need.”

Ellen Freeman, whose husband Frank was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s lymphoma at age 30. His cancer free for more than 30 years.

“My patients open up their world to me and allow me to part of it. I’ve had weddings, funerals and baptisms. Talking to my patients is so gratifying. My practice is like a country doctor—do house calls, drop off prescriptions and visit my patients after procedures. Most of my patients have my cell phone number.”

VYNETTE ROOKS, MD
Assistant Professor

How Can You Make a Difference

Your gift to the Department of Family and Community Medicine can make a real and enduring difference in the lives of our patients and the future of family medicine by helping us to:

• Build our endowments to give the department a stable source of funding and allowing faculty members to pursue wide-ranging initiatives to improve health care.
• Forge more partnerships with other schools on the UMB campus to seek multidisciplinary solutions to society’s health challenges.
• Serve more patients within Baltimore City and other Maryland communities.
• Expand outreach programs to the most vulnerable populations—those who may have no other place to turn for health care.
• Continue to enhance our training of tomorrow’s family physicians, who will serve crucial roles in the lives of thousands of patients.

Marion Friedman, MD, and Mrs. Esther Friedman

ROBERT S. FEINERTZ, MD
Associate Professor

If you would like to thank a particular physician, support research or education initiatives in Family Medicine, or provide unrestricted support to strengthen Family Medicine, please complete the information below.

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Thank you for supporting the UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE.

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