



TRAIL RIDER NOTES

Spring Update

*This year TCOM celebrates **30 years** of formal Rural Medical Education and the **20 year** anniversary of the ROME program. Tremendous gratitude for all who have had a hand in training students over the years! And thank you to all who submitted a vote for our anniversary logo! (winner shown to the left)*

*And on the heels of the **10 year** anniversary of the Midland Primary Care Pipeline Program, TCOM has officially announced a 2nd rural pipeline in partnership with Weatherford College!! Find out more information about the new TCOM-ROME Pathway. Weatherford College*

The ROME team continues to plan additional opportunities for students to experience the beauty of rural medicine and enter the rural healthcare workforce!



YEAR 1 & 2 HIGHLIGHTS



Rural Scholars learned about common injuries and modification options related to farm and ranching equipment, among other topics during their AgMed Field Trip! This is an annual collaboration with the Southwest Ag Center and UT Tyler's Occupational Medicine Residency Program, with special guests from TX AgrAbility. Rural Scholars' additional curricular themes included Rural Public Health, Lifestyle & Preventive Medicine, Rural Health Disparities, and advanced skills workshops. 16 Rural Scholars finished their 1st year of medical school, and 15 are heading off to their rural rotations next month!!



Student Spotlight

TCOM c/o '26 Dual Degree Graduate Emma Brilleslyper, DO, MPH (top, left) selected as the 2026 Excellence in Public Health Award by the Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service Physician Professional Advisory Committee for her work with the Office of Rural Medical Education improving women's health in rural Texas.

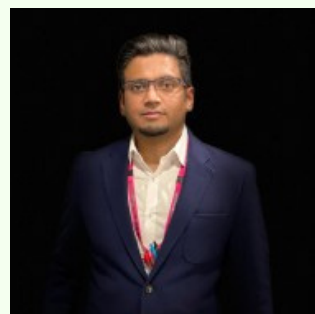
c/o '28 S/Ds Michael Mangan, Nathan McCoy, and Lane Berry (bottom) present their poster on Student Led Initiatives in Rural Health at the Texas Rural Practitioners Conference.

Congratulations also to S/D Lane Berry, 2026 winner of the "Better Together Student Leader Award" for TCOM!

c/o '29 S/D Jenny Steward (top, right, grey scrubs) developed and led the inaugural "We Care for You" initiative for our custodial staff.

Preceptor Spotlight

Dr. Ivanshu Jain is a ROME preceptor for the psychiatry core clerkship and a name we keep hearing on repeat! He is highly regarded by the students—consistently praising his patience, calm exterior, and warm teaching style that mimics his approach to patient care. He has also accepted numerous TCOM students for additional psych electives. It's no coincidence that we have seen an uptick in ROME graduates choosing psychiatry, matching 4 in the past 5 years! Thanks to Dr. Jain, students graduate with improved empathy and a stronger interest in addressing rural mental health! **We appreciate you Dr. Jain!**



Spring Medical Mission Trip

During Spring Break, 31 students and 3 faculty/staff traveled to rural west Texas providing FREE medical clinics for the communities of Sanderson, Marathon, Van Horn, Ft. Davis, and Ozona. Over 1600 patient visits have now occurred through this outreach, along with immeasurable growth, mentorship, and understanding of rural health challenges. Sponsored by Wellpoint, the trip was led by TRHA student chapter leaders Zak Alvarado ('28) and Michael Mangan ('28) through the Office of Rural Medical Education. The torch has already been passed, and planning is well underway for another trip next month!



Alumni Spotlight

CONGRATULATIONS to the following ROME alumni leading the way at their respective programs!

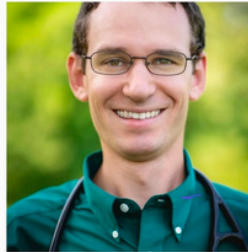
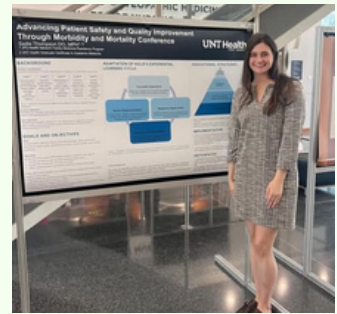
- Dr. Gilbert Lopez, Chief, UT Athens Family Medicine; (pictured top, left)
- Dr. Sadie Thompson, Chief, JPS FM completed the Graduate Certificate in Academic Medicine through UNT Health. (pictured top, right)

We also want to recognize the following c/o '22 graduates:

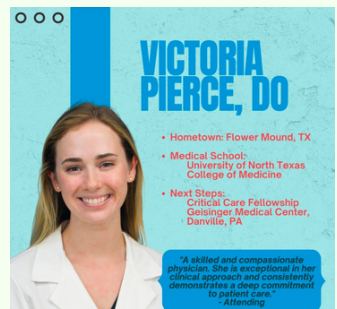
- Dr. Joshua Murphy, completing his Rural FM Global Health Fellowship at Cahaba Medical in rural Alabama
- Dr. Victoria Pierce completing her Critical Care Fellowship at Geisinger Medical in rural Pennsylvania
- Dr. Peter Newman has returned to the Southwest, completing his 1st year of a 3-year Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship with OU Health in OKC

Best of luck to you all! Remember to come back to Texas!

Let us know who we missed!
ROME@unthsc.edu



Joshua Murphy, DO - Global Health Fellow (Ensley)



First Year Fellows



PEDIATRICS

Peter Newman, DO

PEM Fellow

940 NE 13th St

73104 Oklahoma City, OK

NRHA & TOMA

Raise your voice! NRHA encourages you to use their FY 2026 appropriations advocacy campaign to contact your representative and senators. There is a pre-written message and also space for you to discuss the specific impacts that proposals would have on your rural community. Urge Congress to invest in Rural Health!

REGISTER NOW for the TOMA 18th Annual Convention August 8th at UNT Health TCOM, Forth Worth TX

SAVE THE DATE! TCOM Founders' Day celebration set for Friday, October 2, 2026



Rural Scholars from c/o 26-29 with Dr. C attending the Texas Rural Practitioners Conference in Boerne, TX

Did You Know?

SaferCare Texas has the First Ambulatory Care Patient Safety Organization (PSO) in Texas.

For more information click [here](#)

What are the benefits?

Working with a PSO is voluntary and provides the following benefits:

- Legal privilege and confidentiality of deliberations and analysis of quality and safety events
- Aggregation of patient safety event data, and comparison with peers (de-identified by the PSO Privacy Protection Center)
- Expertise to understand and prevent the causes of patient safety events.
- Advice for improving the quality and safety of patient care

SCPSO@unthsc.edu



CELEBRATING OUR ROME GRADUATES!

UNT Health
FORT WORTH
TEXAS COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



William Barrett
Psychiatry
Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences
Stillwater, OK

2020 Match Day

Rural Scholar

Not pictured:
Zainab Falana
Family Medicine

*Rural Scholar**

UNT Health
FORT WORTH
TEXAS COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



Brenda Godoy
Family Medicine
UT-Health Tyler
Tyler, TX

2020 Match Day

Rural Scholar

UNT Health
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OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



Enrique Mangan
Internal Medicine
UTMB Galveston
Galveston, TX

2020 Match Day

*Rural Scholar**

UNT Health
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TEXAS COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



Jonathan Markgraf
Family Medicine
Kansas School of Medicine
Wichita, KS

2020 Match Day

*Rural Scholar**

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OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE



David Mize
Emergency Medicine
Detroit Medical Center
Detroit, MI

2020 Match Day

Rural Scholar

CELEBRATING OUR ROME GRADUATES!

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Isabella Moon
Pediatrics

San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium
San Antonio, TX



*Rural Scholar***

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Uchechi Nwaichi

Internal Medicine
Ochsner Clinical Foundation
New Orleans, LA



Rural Scholar

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Lucy Potts
Pediatrics

Baylor Scott and White Medical Center
Temple, TX



Rural Scholar

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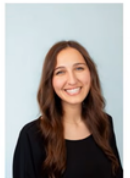
Amanda Seiffert

Family Medicine
JPS Health Network
Fort Worth, TX



Rural Scholar

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Lillian Spitzer

Internal Medicine
Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, SC



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Suzanne Stafford

Obstetrics and Gynecology
Walter Reed Military Medical Center
Bethesda, MD



*Rural Scholar***

CELEBRATING OUR ROME GRADUATES!

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Yen Tran
Family Medicine
Memorial Hermann Hospital
Sugar Land, TX

Rural Scholar

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Brittany Uebbing
Family Medicine
Waco Family Medicine Institute
Waco, TX

Rural Scholar

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Ananya Desai
Family Medicine
Sutter Health
Santa Rosa, CA

Rural Recognition

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Jade Rogers
Family Medicine
Texas Tech HSC - Lubbock
Lubbock, TX

Rural Recognition

Rural Recognition

ROME Rural Recognition is offered to students who show a dedication to Rural Medicine through involvement with TRHA, service on ROME medical mission trips, and choosing at least one rural rotation during both 3rd and 4th year.

Congratulations to Ananya Desai and Jade Rogers for receiving this recognition, and for furthering their training in Family Medicine!



*denotes Midland Primary Care Pathway Program student

**denotes HPSP Military Medical School Scholarship student

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ROME Class of 2026 stats:

Family Medicine - 8

Internal Medicine- 3

Pediatrics- 2

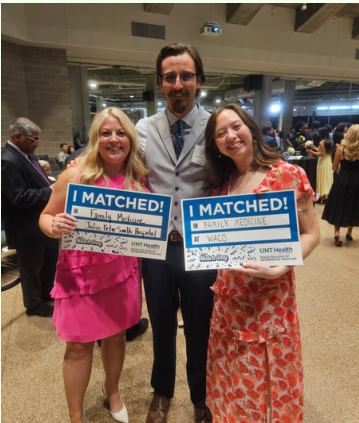
OB Gyn- 1

Psychiatry- 1

Emergency Medicine- 1

TX programs- 57%

Primary Care- 88%



Rural Medical Education Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

60

Current Rural
Scholars Years 1 - 4
4 FOMO



445

RME
Graduates
1998-2025



73

Rural
preceptors
53% are ROME alums



75

Quality
Improvement
Projects (2020-
2025)



55

Free Clinics on
Medical Mission
Trips (2020-
2026)



1637

Patients seen in
the MMT clinics
2020-2026

88%

ROME Class of
2026 pursuing
Primary Care

55

Rural precepting
sites

100+

Student
publications
& presentations
2020-2025

51

Community health
& wellness
exhibits

hsc

Texas College of
Osteopathic Medicine

