

Global & Domestic Engagement

International Programs: Capacity Sharing in Malawi

The Providence Global and Domestic Engagement (GDE) department partners to make health impact through program sponsorship and service that honors the leadership, expertise, and goals of international communities. In Malawi, we work through bi-directional partnership with locally led initiatives in support of global health equity. The discipline of family medicine is less than a decade old in Malawi and growing the pool of family medicine physicians is a key priority of the Ministry of Health in order to increase access to high quality primary care across this largely rural, low resource country.

By strengthening frontline health workers, faculty, and training systems in Malawi, Providence supports goals and sustainable outcomes set by local experts to ensure high quality care to as many Malawians as possible.

Core strategies that guide our work:



Faculty Sponsorship: Providence sponsors a faculty member from the United States year- round to mentor both local learners and rotating PSJH residents onsite in Malawi. Malawian faculty are sponsored to attend and present at global health conferences.



Residency Rotation: Providence sponsors PSJH medical residents for four-week rotations in rural Malawi where they learn tropical medicine, resiliency, and resourcefulness while mentoring Malawian medical students.



US Based Family Medicine Immersion: Providence sponsors Malawian registrars (residents) to attend a six- week Swedish family medicine rotation, a UW Global Health Leadership certificate course, and participation at global family medicine conferences.

Why Malawi?

Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world with a largely rural population and an extraordinarily high burden of disease. According the World Bank, there are currently only 648 doctors to support 18.6 million people. The Malawi College of Medicine seeks to grow the number of primary care physicians to at least two at every district hospital.

Vital Partnerships

Providence partners with <u>Seed Global Health</u>, <u>Swedish Family Medicine Residency</u> and the to promote the development of a <u>University of Malawi College of Medicine</u> Masters of Family Medicine training program. As Providence grows its programming in 2021 and post-pandemic, we seek additional ways to make an impact with Seed in priority sites across Sub-Saharan Africa.

