



**Name: Avosuashi Akande**

Hometown: West  
Bloomfield, MI  
Medical School: University  
of Missouri-Kansas City

*Why I chose HCMC:* I chose HCMC because of the diverse patient population and amazing faculty and residents. The residents were confident in their ability to go out into practice post residency and be confident and effective physicians. I also got a strong sense of family and community amongst all the residents which is something I valued highly while interviewing at programs.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Attend the Minnesota State Fair

*Plans after residency:* I plan on practicing full spectrum family medicine.

*If I weren't a physician what would I do?* -I would be a motivational speaker



**Name: Brian Boben**

Hometown: Santa Clara,  
California  
Medical School: Ross  
University School of  
Medicine

*Why I chose HCMC:* I wanted to join a residency program that not only provided top quality training in Family Medicine, but also one that centered on the well-being of the community it served. I felt an immediate connection with the program when I visited the campus. The residents, faculty and staff members are warm and extremely helpful. There was no doubt in my mind that this is a nourishing environment for both healthcare providers and the patients they care for. I was also impressed to learn about the numerous in-house services available for patients (i.e. Group Prenatal Care, Aquí Para Ti, and Integrative Medicine) which are powerful tools for building a strong healthy relationship with the community. I recognized that my training at Hennepin Healthcare would make me a well-rounded primary care physician, but more importantly equip me with a network of dedicated and passionate healthcare partners for the road ahead.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Too many #1's to pick from, but I love magic and it would be a dream come true to see the Northern Lights.

*Plans after residency:* If time permits, I'd like to travel before I begin a fellowship in Sports Medicine.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* – Gastronomy - I come from a family of exceptional cooks and definitely see myself expanding my hobbies in culinary arts.



**Name: Eleazar Briones**

Hometown: Montevideo, MN  
Medical School: University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Saint Kitts

*Why I chose HCMC:* Training at a renowned level 1 trauma center while serving a diverse patient population is exciting. During my master's studies at the U of M I had the opportunity to volunteer in the PEER program in the emergency department at HCMC and loved working with the staff and talking with patients. As a volunteer I dreamed of joining the ranks of white coats rounding each morning. My wife and I are overjoyed with the opportunity to return to MN and be near our families. I look forward to forming new relationships with my co-residents and faculty while working towards a common goal.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* It's hard to pick just one, but if pressed I would choose from Art in Bloom at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, the British Commercial Awards at the Walker Art Center, and dinner at Popol Vuh.

*Plans after residency:* I look forward to practicing family medicine in Minnesota while raising a family with my wife.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -I would be working in research to further stem cell therapy in congestive heart failure or on pharmacogenomics in breast cancer therapy.



**Name: Janelle "Jen" Damon**

Hometown: Milwaukee, WI  
Medical School: University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

*Why I chose HCMC:* There are so many reasons! Working with an underserved population is very important to me. Both the hospital and Whittier Clinic aim to provide accessible care to all patients. Being in a program that has other residents has the advantages of learning from other specialties while practicing autonomously with one another. There are many opportunities to learn a variety of procedures both in the hospital and in the clinic. Residents from all departments -- including surgery, EM, TYs, and FM -- seem to love the training they get here and support each other through all the ups and downs. Additionally, our clinic has access to other services including physical therapy, behavioral health, acupuncture, and many more so we can help treat the whole person, not simply a disease.

*Number One on my Twin Cities Bucket List:* Explore the bike trails!

*Plans after Residency:* My partner, Aaron, is also a resident at HCMC and we love the area, so we would like to stay here after residency.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -I'd likely be working in the medical field in some degree; I worked in business for a handful of years prior to med school and found it nowhere near as fulfilling as working with people in health



**Name: Aditya Rani Dodla**

Home town: Hyderabad,  
India

Medical School: Guntur  
Medical College, India

*Why I chose HCMC:* There are several reasons why I chose HCMC. Amazing exposure, great faculty, intense curriculum, diverse patients with underserved population. HCMC is a great place for getting full spectrum family medicine training.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* I love visiting beautiful lakes and parks during summer time. I want to try multiple restaurants with my friends and family. I would like to explore winter activities.

*Plans after residency:* After residency I would like to practice full spectrum family medicine with main focus on primary care and women's health. I want to balance my personal and professional life.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -It is hard to imagine myself not becoming a physician, I would probably be a teacher if I weren't a physician.



**Name: Brandi H. Gorden  
Klukas**

Hometown: Saint Paul,  
Minnesota

Medical School: University  
of Minnesota Medical  
School

*Why I chose HCMC:* I took many rotations at Hennepin County Medical Center. The more time I spent there, the more at home I felt. In addition to the physicians and other providers, I have been fortunate to meet and get to know members of the maintenance and cafeteria staff, the interpreters, and a diverse, culturally-rich patient population. HCMC is a family that takes people on what may be the worst day of their lives and gives them the best. This is why I have chosen HCMC for the next step in my medical training.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* I ran the Twin Cities Marathon in 2002, and I would love to do it one more time.

*Plans after residency:* The connections between mental well-being and physical wellness are indisputable, and my interest grew throughout Medical School. Thus, I plan on completing an Addiction Medicine Fellowship in order to address these barriers to physical health in my patients.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -Medicine called me away from a career in cancer research late in life so it is difficult to imagine pursuit of another profession. However, if I had to choose something else, I would dedicate more time to my other passions: my husband and children, writing, and computer programming.



**Name: Luis "Marty" Ortega**

Hometown: Cottage Grove, MN  
Medical School: University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

*Why I chose HCMC:* I chose HCMC because it's a world-class safety net institution, with diverse faculty, staff, and residents, and a strong sense of community with multicultural diversity. I also call the Twin Cities home, and I'm especially happy to train somewhere I can get plenty more exposure to providing healthcare to immigrant & refugee communities.-

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Visit more breweries and finally visit the boundary waters.

*Plans after residency:* After residency I would likely consider fellowships where I can train to better serve immigrant and underserved communities

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -I would be either a computational neurobiologist or a community organizer



**Name: David Park**

Hometown: Chicago  
Medical School: Medical College of Wisconsin

*Why I chose HCMC:* There are so many reasons why I chose HCMC! HCMC provides opportunities to partner with a community organization, work with a diverse patient population, and learn with an emphasis on treating the whole patient. The clinic is also amazing with how much support and services are available for patients. Additionally, I loved how friendly and genuine everyone I met was on interview day.

*Number one on my Twin Cities Bucket List:* I want to try as many different local restaurants as I can.

*Plans after residency:* Not too sure right now. There are so many things that I want to do after residency!

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -I would probably be a teacher.



**Name: Mikhail Nerone Reyes**

Hometown: San Jose, CA  
Medical School: Saba  
University School of  
Medicine

*Why I chose HCMC:* I was drawn to the HCMC's urban location and commitment to serving a diverse and underserved population. I was also highly impressed with the program's involvement within the local community. After my interview had concluded, the residents and faculty left a positive lasting impression on me that was incomparable to my other interviews!

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Water sports and ice fishing.

*Plans after residency:* I am currently interested in pursuing a fellowship in Geriatrics or Global Health, however, I am looking forward to discovering other interests that may develop during residency.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* -Either architecture or interior designer



**Name: Anatol Silotch**

Hometown: Chisinau,  
Moldova - and grew up in St.  
John's, Newfoundland,  
Canada  
Medical School: Ross  
University School of  
Medicine

*Why you chose HCMC:* HCMC is home to a very diverse patient demographic as well as an abundance of in-house languages - and actually devotes itself to standing up for, as well as taking care of, these people from all walks of life. As a faculty member put it - Here, many of us have had a 'different' path than the norm, and we don't fear someone with a complicated story. That sense of devotion and inclusion make it a Family I'm humbled to become a part of.

As an added bonus, I also chose it for its location, and its weather (which nobody will likely believe).

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Introduce my taste buds to the original Juicy Lucy

*Plans after residency:* I'd like to become part/full-owner of a family practice; grow a family, and help my parents realize their retiring goals back home.

*If I weren't a physician, what would I do?* - An interesting thought, that'd probably do something like be an actor, both on screen and off - aiming to brighten people's days with infectious smiles. I'd probably also end up in some kind of computer animation, as well as being an entrepreneur vested in the field of media and content creation.



**Name: Jon Stoffer**

Hometown: Hudson, WI  
Medical School: Campbell  
University

*Why I chose HCMC:* There are many reasons I chose HCMC. The reputation of the program, diverse learning opportunities, supportive environment, and location are a few of the many factors that drew me to the program. During my interview day I felt a connection with the faculty and residents and instantly knew I wanted to be a part of the team.

*Number one on my Twin Cities bucket list:* Attend as many Minnesota Wild and Twins games as I can.

*Plans after residency:* I am still debating what path I will take, but am highly considering practicing full-spectrum family medicine in a rural setting.

*If I weren't a physician what would I do?* - I would have loved to be a professional baseball player.