



August 2025

Dear Rural Program Friends,

We have been busy this summer welcoming the Class of 2029 and bringing the Class of 2027 students back to campus to wrap up their core clinical year. It was refreshing to spend time with these students who are passionate about rural and underserved communities. As the students finishing their Rural LIC year reflected on their experience, we were reminded of the amazing work YOU do every day – caring for and advocating for patients, engaging in your medical and local communities, and teaching the next generation! Highlighted this month is Dr. David Reed in Wray, CO, who received an award for his impressive dedication to teaching and rural practice.

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Welcome Class of 2029!

In late July, 16 students matriculated into the Rural Program Class of 2029. Prior to their medical school orientation, we spent two days with the new students – getting to know them, reviewing the history and curriculum of the program, discussing rurality and practice models, and practicing suturing skills. The recording of the White Coat Ceremony is online.





First Photo: Rural Program faculty/staff and new students during orientation Second Photo: Rural Program Class of 2029 students at White Coat Ceremony

Class of 2027 Rural LIC Wrap-up

The Class of 2027 students returned to campus for end-of-year activities including a clinical immersion, OSCE, simulation experiences, reflections/discussions, and CCSE exam. The students also shared their Public & Population Health Projects. The goal of the project is for students to connect with community members, investigate a public health related issue, and engage in activities to help address the issue. All of the student posters, including the top 3 as voted on by Rural Program students and faculty/staff, can be found in this Google Drive folder.



Photo: Class of 2027 students presenting Rural LIC Public & Population Health projects

Preceptor Spotlight

We would like to congratulate Dr. David Reed, family medicine physician at Wray Hospital & Clinic, who was selected as this year's recipient of the F. A. "Gus" Garcia, MD Distinguished Physician High Plains Walking Stick Award. The award recognizes rural family physicians for their twenty plus years of teaching medical students and residents and for the positive impact they have had in their community. Dr. Reed is quoted in the online story:

"It is such an honor to receive the Walking Stick Award. I have always enjoyed teaching medical students and residents. I have always believed it is our responsibility as physicians to be the teachers for the new generations of physicians. I have been blessed to work in an environment where we can teach and my partners share the same ideals of teaching that I do in educating the next generation of physicians. I have loved the teaching aspect of medicine; I sincerely enjoy it. While our greatest responsibility is to take care of our patients, I think it is nearly as important to help the younger physicians acquire the knowledge and experiences we have attained. I come from two parents that were both teachers, I'm glad my career has allowed me to be a teacher too. And I know my parents would be proud of that."



First Photo: Class of 2027 student, Afton Tanner, with Dr. David Reed Second Photo: Wray Hospital & Clinic providers, medical student, and Rural Program faculty

Resources and Reminders

• LIC Preceptor Appreciation Dinner Thurs, Sept 25th: You are cordially invited to the LIC faculty/preceptor appreciation and teaching awards dinner that will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Aurora, CO on September 25, 2025. Additional details can be found in the RSVP link. Please let our team know if you plan to attend so we can join you!

- COPIC Point for Teaching in AY24/25: CUSOM and COPIC are coming together to recognize your teaching and mentorship of our students! You are eligible for 1 COPIC point per year for participating as a LIC preceptor. If you have COPIC insurance and wish to receive this, please fill out this form by September 26th. COPIC will send you your education point in October. This can be done yearly.
- Telehealth for Movement Disorders: The CU Movement Disorders Center offers a fully remote telehealth clinic for Colorado residents who have been diagnosed with a movement disorder. Patients receive comprehensive neurological evaluations, personalized treatment plans, and ongoing support—all from home. The clinic works closely with each patient's existing healthcare providers to ensure coordinated, seamless care. This program helps eliminate travel barriers and expands access to specialized services across the state. For additional info, contact MvtTelehealthUPL@cuanschutz.edu or 303-724-0443.
- Parkinson's Foundation Team Training in Oct: Join the Parkinson's Foundation in Denver, CO for in-person accredited Parkinson's training that offers a dynamic opportunity to learn best Parkinson's care practices and network with health professionals working with people with Parkinson's. The Professional Team Training (Oct 20–22) and Advanced Team Training (Oct 23–24) incorporate the latest research and treatments, enhancing knowledge, communication, and collaboration to deliver comprehensive, patient-centered care throughout the continuum of the disease. CEUs/CMEs are available. A limited number of scholarships to waive Registration Fees and hotel nights for teams of 3 or more are available.

Contact us: The Rural Program Team