

Broadway Family Medicine Clinic key player in Northside health

Written by Shaina Brassard, West Broadway Coalition
Monday, 17 December 2012 14:09



The University of Minnesota Physicians, Broadway Family Medicine Clinic (BFM) has played an important part in the health of North Minneapolis for 40 years.

Like so many businesses and organizations along the West Broadway corridor, it's both unassuming and strikingly exceptional and a place run by passionate, highly capable people that love what they do.

The state-of-the-art clinic on West Broadway is made special by a diverse team committed to the interconnected goals of providing quality medical care to the community and training the nation's next generation of urban-based family doctors.

As the home to a University of Minnesota family medicine residency training program, BFM's clinicians include 18 faculty doctors and 30 residents participating in a three year program. It's important to note that the residents aren't students, but medical doctors that have finished medical school and chosen to specialize in family medicine. Resident physicians receive additional training under the guidance of the clinic's faculty doctors so that they can qualify to take their board exams. The BFM's program is one of the best of its kind in the country. Each year, 140 doctors from all over the country interview for a chance at 10 resident slots.

Family medicine as a specialty aims to provide continuing, comprehensive health care for the individual and family, emphasizing prevention and wellness and a knowledge of the patient in the context of the family and the community. Unlike many other clinics, BFM's work is not limited to the clinic's walls; it is associated with North Memorial Hospital, where BFM doctors follow their patients to deliver babies and provide other medical care to patients in hospital.

Dr. Michael Wootten, the clinic's Program Director, has been at BFM for 18 years. Wootten oversees the resident training, and he also has what is known as a panel of patients that he sees consistently. In his opinion, being a residency training program with the University of Minnesota allows BFM to provide the absolute best care to its patients.

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