



**American Hospital
Association**

**Building Primary Care from the
Ground Up**

**AHA Sections for Metropolitan and
Small or Rural Hospitals**

Section for Metropolitan
Hospitals



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Section for Small or Rural
Hospitals

Partnerships for Training Rural Residents in Family Medicine

Matt Grimshaw, President, CHI-Mercy Medical Center, Williston, ND
**Kimberly Krohn, M.D., M.P.H., Program Director, UND School of
Medicine and Health Sciences, Minot, ND**



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**The Value of Membership in the
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Learning Objectives

Across the United States rural communities are in constant search of primary care physicians. While the literature is vast the best option is to, “grow your own.”

Learning objectives:

- **Offering a case example on recruiting physicians to rural America**
- **Demonstrating how to design and implement a rural training track site**
- **Showing the effectiveness of rural/metro collaboration in recruiting physicians**



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Webinar Faculty



- **Matt Grimshaw, President,**
CHI-Mercy Medical Center,
Williston, ND

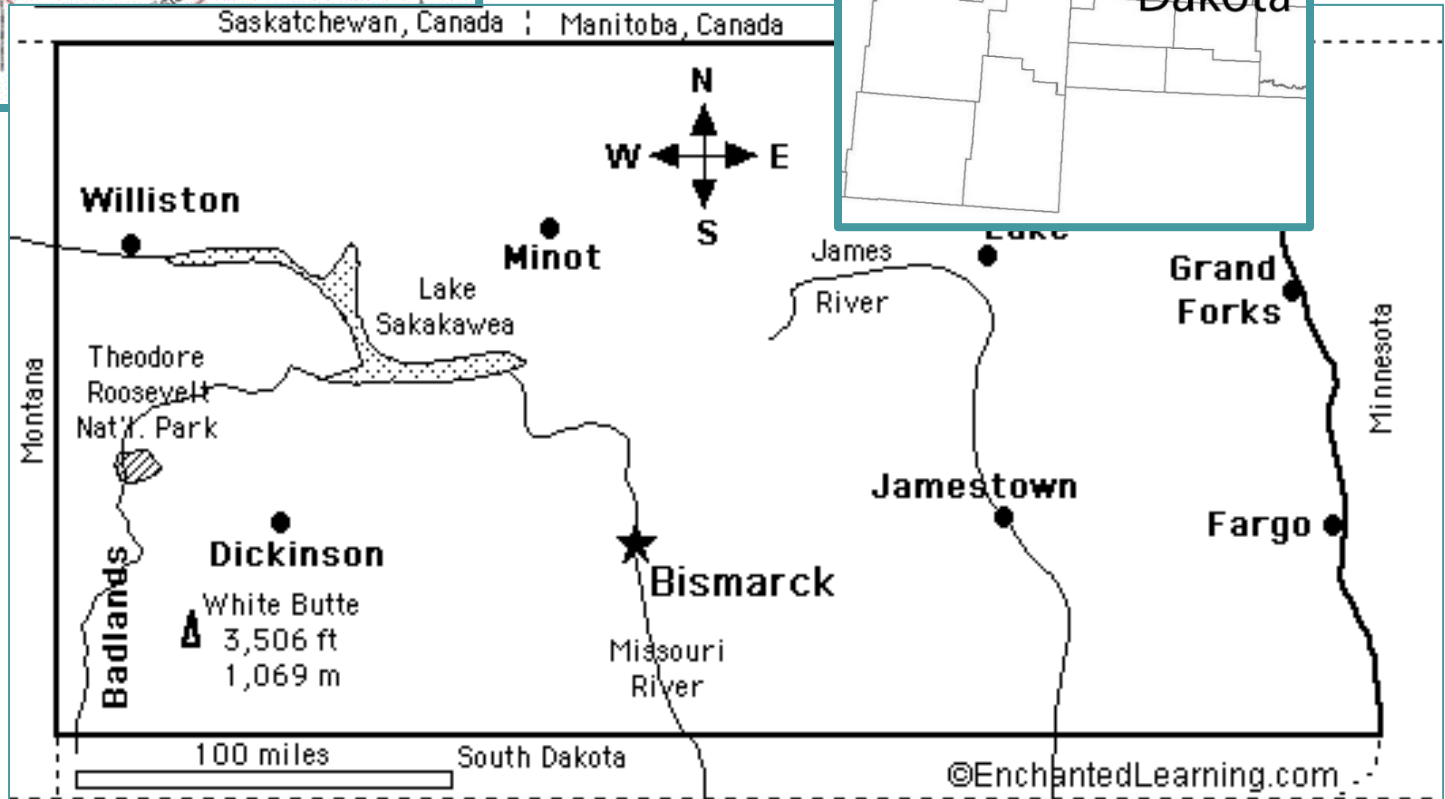
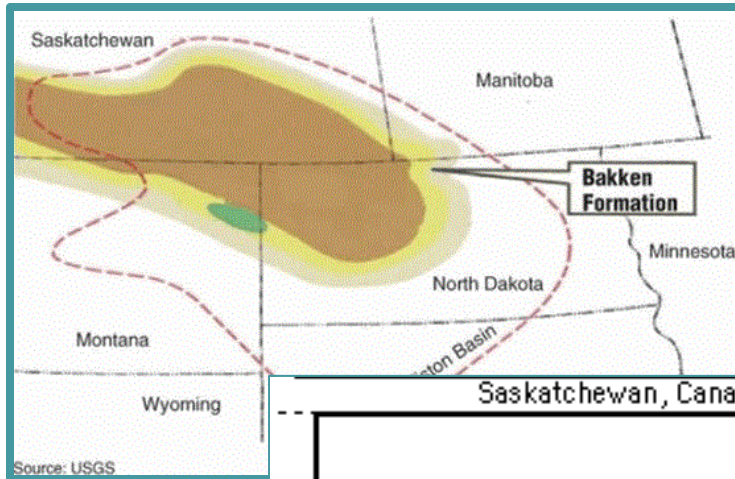


- **Kimberly Krohn, M.D., M.P.H.**
Program Director,
UNDSMHS Center for Family
Medicine, Minot, ND



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Williston, ND



CHI-Mercy Medical Center



MMC Vital Statistics:

25 Beds

1,483 Admissions

547 Inpatient

Surgeries

2,507 Outpatient

Surgeries

20,000 ER Visits

800 Births

- 1920 — Established as a missionary hospital by the Sisters of Mercy.
- 1974 — Merged with Good Samaritan Hospital and built a new, modern hospital on the western edge of Williston.
- 1995 — Acquired Craven-Hagan Clinic.
- 1996 — Affiliated with Catholic Health Initiatives.
- 2008 — Mercy Medical Center became a Critical Access Hospital.

† CATHOLIC HEALTH
INITIATIVES®

Mercy Medical Center

Your Hospital. Growing To Serve You.

Collaboration Across Sites



Year 1: Two residents are admitted into the RTT program and rotations are completed at [Trinity Health](#), a regional health care system providing a wide variety of services with a catchment area of more than 16 counties in western North Dakota and Montana.

Years 2 and 3: Residents will work from the new Family Medicine clinic at [Mercy Medical Center](#) in Williston, ND. The rural track is administered by the staff and faculty of the 6:6:6 core program in family medicine in Minot, ND.



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The RTT at UND



The RTT at Williston

Features of Rural Track Residency Program

Minot/Williston:

- Unopposed, personalized programs
- University sponsored
- Medical school focused on primary care
- Exposure to individuals of diverse ethnicity
- Community setting
- Experienced rural physicians as teachers/mentors
- Unlimited clinical exposure
- High volume trauma, OB, minor surgery
- High volume office procedures with one on one mentoring



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Success of the RTT

Williston

- Created infrastructure for residency training
- Placed residents in rural environment
- Retained residents to practice in Williston

UND Minot

- Collaborated to establish rural tracks
- Established distance learning for rural residents
- Met mandate to expand rural opportunities



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Future of the RTT

Williston

- Continue working with UND-Minot to refine and enhance resident training
- Continue to work locally to expand training experience and opportunities

UND Minot

- Improve population health of ND by improved access to primary care
- Promote the flow of medical professionals to rural areas
- Expand the clinical sites for medical students as well as residents



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Challenges of the RTT

- **Recruiting busy practitioners to teach residents**
- **Identifying communities that offer a rich training experience**
- **Improve information technology to provide didactic education via distance learning**
- **Refine relocation and orientation of new residents to their new rural surroundings**
- **Tailor transition to fit the needs of residents and their families as appropriate**
- **Refine rural track curriculum to match the strengths of the teaching sites**



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RTT in the U.S.

Rural Training Track Technical Assistance Program:

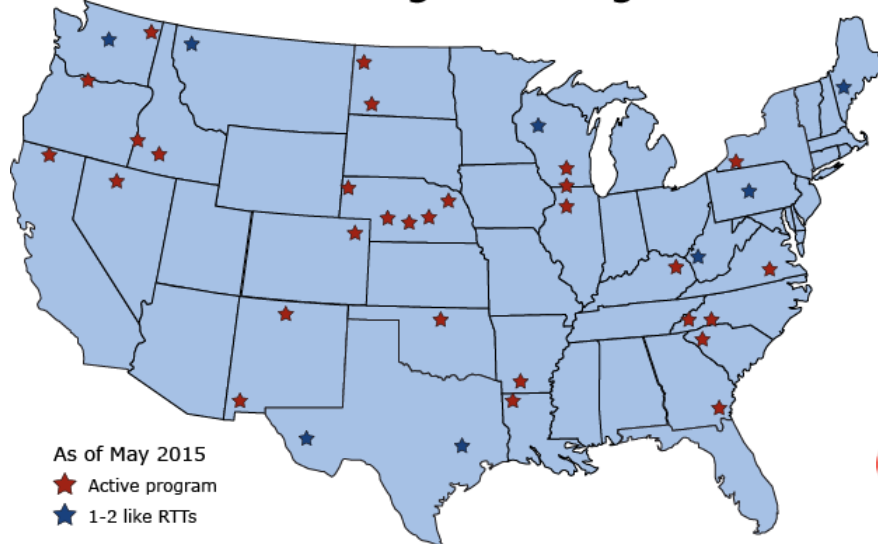
- Sustain current RTT programs
- Assist in the development of new RTT programs
- Increase the number of students who match to RTTs
- Gather data on RTT program characteristics and outcomes



RTT Program Toolbox

RTT Collaborative: mutual encouragement, peer learning, practice improvement, and the delivery of technical expertise

Rural Training Track Programs



Accreditation Council for
Graduate Medical Education

Additional Resources

Graduate Medicine Rural Track Resources

- RTT Programs: [A Guide to Medicare Requirements](#)
- GME Financing: [Sustaining Medical Education in Rural Places](#)
- Rural Residency Training for Family Medicine Physicians: Graduate Early-Career [Outcomes, 2008-2012 – Policy Brief](#)
- Family Medicine Residency Training in Rural Locations - [Report](#)



Undergraduate Medicine Rural Track Resources

- US Medical School Rural Track [Policy Brief](#), September 2013
- The [Journal of Rural Health](#) 27,2 (2011) 230-238



Discussion

**We invite your
questions and
comments.**



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Contact Information

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