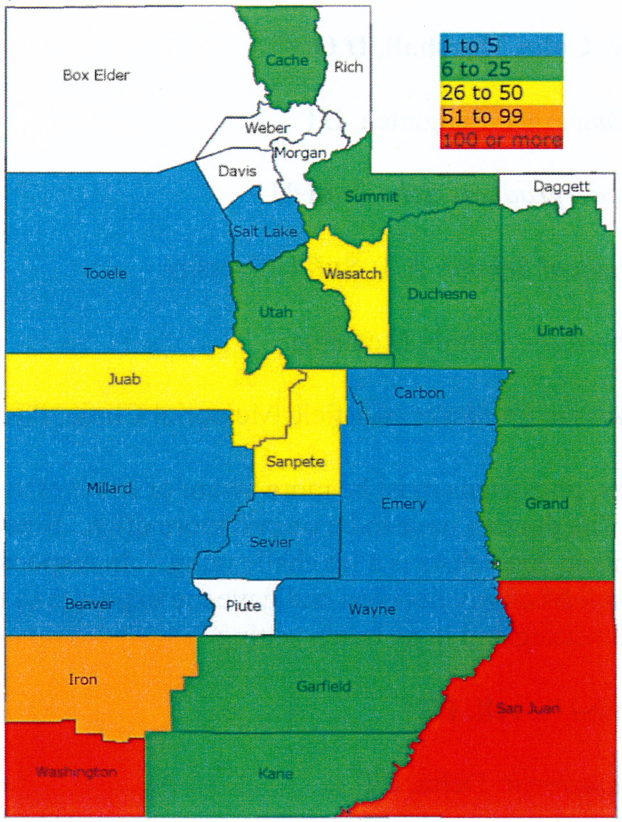
Utah Medical Education Council—Rural Rotation Program

- Approximately 15% of Utah's population lives in a rural county and 7.2% of Utah physicians have rural practices. (12% for primary care physicians)

- 23 of 29 counties in Utah currently have some form of Primary Care Health Professional Shortage (HPSA) designation.

- 2007-2013, 405 students/residents have participated in 510 clinical rotations.

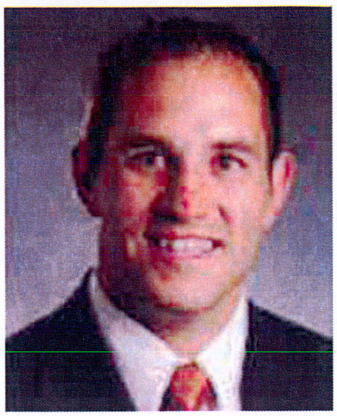
Locations of 2007-2013 Clinical Rotations



- Southern Utah University Center for Rural Health manages physician, APRN, PA and pharmacy rotations and the University of Utah School of Dentistry manages the dental rotations.

- $96,000 is spent annually to cover transportation and housing costs of 4 week rotations.

- 10% of Family Medicine physicians who have completed a rural rotation through UMEC chose to practice in a rural setting in Utah compared to 0% of all other Family Medicine physicians entering the workforce.



Dr. Mark Corry, M.D.

Hometown: Cedar City, UT

Undergraduate School: SUU

Medical School: University of Utah

Specialty: Family Medicine

Current Employer: IHC, Ceder City, UT

After completing school and rotations in Cedar City and Manti, Dr. Corry decided pursuing a rural practice is a worthwhile cause. "I have always enjoyed the patient-physician relationship in a rural community. Not only are you their doctor, but they are also your friends."

Dr. Colin Marshall, D.O.

Hometown: Panguitch, UT

Undergraduate School: SUU

Medical School: A.T. Still University

Specialty: Family Medicine

Current Employer: Garfield Memorial Clinic, Panguitch, UT

When practicing in rural areas, physicians must be more aware of some extra challenges to be faced. "There are coverage issues. The doctors have to be on call more often. Since there are a wide variety of medical needs, getting patients to specialists is a bit challenging." In response to his rural rotation Dr. Marshall said, "It definitely solidified my decision and gave me exposure to the differences between practicing medicine in a rural setting and in an urban setting."

Joani Lovell, PIC

Hometown: Delta, UT

Undergraduate School: SUU

Pharmacy School: Roseman University

Specialty: Compounding

Current Employer: Lovell Pharmacy, Delta, UT

"I worked with an independent pharmacy in West Jordan and shadowed in rural areas, both of which confirmed my decision to come back to Delta. Knowing my patients and seeing that I make a difference in their lives makes it all so rewarding."