

NEWS RELEASE:
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On-Call Media Beeper: (828) 444-1149

Hendersonville Family Health Center adds New Residents

(Hendersonville, NC) The Hendersonville Family Health Center (HFHC) recently added three first-year residents and one second-year resident for the 2006-07 year. Jacob Tallman, M.D., Kelli Konst-Skwiot, M.D., Matthew Skwiot, M.D., and James Touchstone, M.D., joined the Pardee family practice.

Tallman graduated from State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine (SUNY) in May. He holds an undergraduate degree in Biology from SUNY at Geneseo, N.Y. He is interested in holistic and rural medicine.

Kelli Konst-Skwiot and Matthew Skwiot both received medical degrees from St. Matthew's University in the Cayman Islands in June 2005. They each have a graduate degree in Health Service Administration from St. Joseph's College in Standish, Maine.

Touchstone, who is a second-year resident, spent his first year of residency at Carraway Methodist Medical Center in Birmingham, Ala., after receiving his medical degree from Grace University School of Medicine in Belize in 2001. Before attending medical school, Touchstone practiced four years as a dentist and another five years as a dental anesthesiologist.

In conjunction with the Family Medicine Program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and the Mountain Area Health Education Center (MAHEC), HFHC includes the Hendersonville Family Practice Residency Program in which new doctors spend three years of specialty training under the close supervision of the family medicine faculty.

HFHC is a full-service health care clinic that provides quality medical care for the entire family. Its team of physicians, nurse practitioners, psychologist, nurse and professional staff treat patients for acute illness and injuries, annual physicals, obstetrical and gynecologic exams, minor surgical services, blood tests, preventative medical care, pain management, counseling as well as care for infants and children.

Pardee Hospital is a not-for-profit community hospital founded in 1953. The main hospital is licensed for 222 acute care beds and is the second largest employer in Henderson County. The hospital has several locations separate from the main campus, including a 130-bed nursing facility, an adult day services center, a health education center in the Blue Ridge Mall, home care services, a sports therapy and rehabilitation facility on Thompson Street, a midwifery program, various family and internal medicine practices, and an urgent care facility. Pardee is a recipient of the 2006 HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital Award for Clinical Excellence, placing the hospital among the top 5 percent of hospitals in the U.S. for quality of care. More information is available at www.pardeehospital.org.

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