

THANK YOU!

At Rosalind Franklin University, we have a bright vision for the future of health care education, health equity, and change.

Thank you for entrusting us as a donor. Your vital philanthropic partnership is empowering Rosalind Franklin University to advance our goals and steer health care and research in the right direction — one that elevates public trust, advances community evidenced research, addresses critical healthcare workforce needs, removes economic barriers for learners and strives to achieve better outcomes for all.



Together, we are breaking down barriers to provide access to talented and promising students through scholarships.

Our future medical professionals are devoted to compassionate, culturally competent care that will lead to better community health outcomes for all.



“Being one of five children from an immigrant family with a single minimum wage income and no family members in medicine, the odds were not always with me.”

Last year, **Mohammed Salman Akhter, CMS Class of 2022** received the 2022 Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award and Ashley Elizabeth Evans Alpha Omega Alpha Professionalism Award, which he says, “was made possible because of RFU, CMS and scholarship opportunities.” While at CMS, Dr. Akhter, received the Dr. K. Michael Welch Legacy Endowed Scholarship, and is currently a surgical intern at Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Los Angeles where he is pursuing his dream of being an interventional radiologist in hopes of being able to manage patients on dialysis, peripheral vascular disease, hepatocellular carcinoma, and various other pathologies.

“Interestingly enough, I was not even accepted to medical school during my first application cycle. It was only after losing both of my parents to CHF and complications of diabetes when I was finally accepted to CMS. It is an honor and privilege to have been accepted to CMS, that gives individuals like me an opportunity to pursue their dreams of becoming a doctor because they see the potential in us when others have not.”

As a donor, you are creating more equitable futures for surrounding communities through our mobile health clinic and community health literacy outreach.

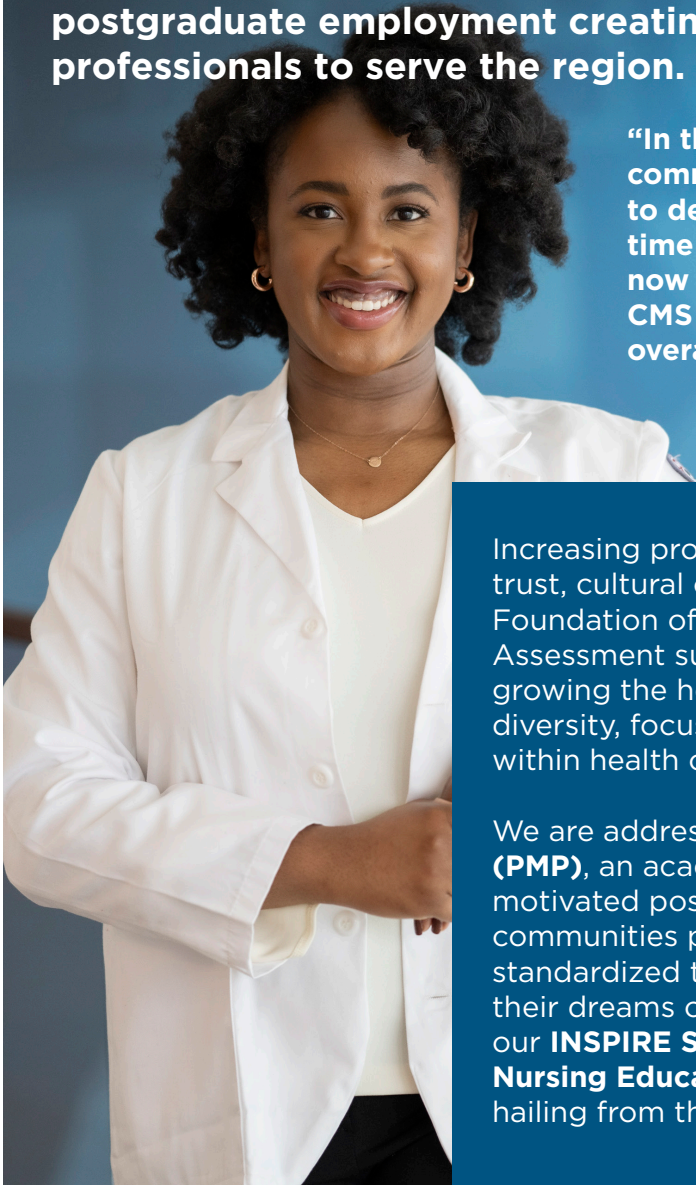
We bring quality health care to under-resourced neighbors through our mobile health clinic. Of the more than **4,000 patients treated each year by the mobile health clinic, approximately two-thirds of health indicator screenings fall within the abnormal range, with roughly 43% of the patient base suffering from diabetes.** As part of our mobile health clinic outreach, **we have partnered with more than 30 social service agencies and community groups** to ensure we are there to support those most in need.



In the coming year, RFU's new **Michael Reese Foundation Center for Health Equity Research** will cultivate new and leverage existing community partnerships to develop and test outcome-based interventions to reduce inequity and prevent chronic disease, as well as provide the data needed to help community leaders, healthcare providers and Lake County citizens work together to implement meaningful solutions that will make a difference.

YOU MADE AN IMPACT

Because of partners like you, we are addressing diversity in the healthcare workforce by mentoring local students from middle school through postgraduate employment creating a pathway for future healthcare professionals to serve the region.



“In the two years that I have been a part of the RFU community, I have had the space, resources and support to develop my interests and foster my talents. From my time as a Pre-Matriculation Program (PMP) student to now as an M3 student, I have been able to contribute to CMS through leadership, service to my community and an overall investment in RFU.”

— FAVOUR OLADIPUPO, CMS 2024

Increasing provider diversity is an important way to achieve greater trust, cultural competency, and equity in health care. The Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County (HFNLC) 2022 Community Assessment suggests that our region should be working toward growing the healthcare workforce pipeline and increasing provider diversity, focusing on cultural competency, racial equity, and trust within health care.

We are addressing this through our **Pre-Matriculation Program (PMP)**, an academic enrichment program that offers highly motivated post-baccalaureate students from under-resourced communities professional mentorship, hands-on coursework, standardized test preparation, and advising to help them pursue their dreams of becoming healthcare professionals. Also, through our **INSPIRE Summer Research Program, Science Saturdays, and Nursing Education Workforce Pathway** for underserved youth hailing from the highest hardship index ZIP codes in Lake County.

Our donors are joining us in preparing nursing students to meet future needs of the profession so they can improve the health of their communities through our new College of Nursing.

Our nursing program addresses workforce shortages, builds diversity among future nursing professionals and will improve healthcare access and quality in the region. The College of Nursing includes a Nursing Education Workforce Pathway for underserved youth hailing from the highest hardship index ZIP codes in Lake County. This pathway is intentionally designed to improve access to education and health literacy. **RFU has partnered with seven high schools from Lake County’s high economic-hardship zip codes. The counselors in these schools tell us that at least five percent — 650 students — hope to become nurses.**

Thanks to the RFU Community, we were able to support 364 students with \$121,000 through the Emergency Student Related Expenses Fund.

In the midst of COVID-19 and rising inflation, you helped students with travel, utilities, and housing costs to ensure they received training through their rotations.

You helped us improve health and drive innovation through our Innovation and Research Park (IRP). The IRP is home to our disease-based research centers, which are housed side by side with industry space connecting academic scientists with industry innovators. Their collaborations translate academic discoveries into new therapeutics.

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