



ROME Update

Much to celebrate this semester! While our graduates are preparing to start the residency programs of their dreams, our 3rd years are setting their sights on theirs. Our 2nd years are getting ready to hit the ground running for their upcoming rural clerkships, and our cohort of 15 in the class of 2028 is successfully completing their first year of medical school! *clap*

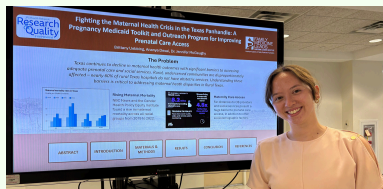
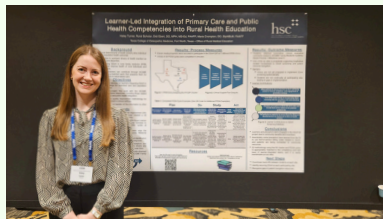
The ROME team is busy planning additional opportunities for students to experience the beauty of rural medicine!



YEAR 1 & 2 HIGHLIGHTS



Rural Scholars learned about Agricultural Safety—effects of pesticides, common respiratory diseases, among other topics during their AgMed Field Trip! This is an annual collaboration with the Southwest Ag Center and UT Tyler's Occupational Medicine Residency Program.



Student Spotlight

S/D Haley Turner ('25) presenting her poster at the STFM Conference on Medical Student Education in San Antonio, TX. (top left)

S/D's Jyotirmaya Jain ('25), Cassidy Coker ('25), and Haley Turner also presented posters at the STFM Conference on Practice and Quality Improvement in Denver, CO.

S/D Brittany Uebbing ('26) presenting her 3rd place poster at JPS Research and Quality Symposium (bottom left)

S/D's Isabella Moon ('26) and Yuen Tran ('26) also presented at the JPS Research and Quality Symposium

Preceptor Spotlight

Dr. Russell Thomas drove up from Eagle Lake, TX to deliver a captivating presentation on rural Family Medicine. Dr. Thomas has been a ROME preceptor for 29 years and stays very involved with the students from Year 1 to beyond graduation. We appreciate you Dr. Thomas!!



Spring Medical Mission Trip

During Spring Break, 25 students and 4 faculty traveled to rural west TX providing FREE medical clinics for the communities of Sanderson, Marathon, Van Horn, and Ozona. The trip offered interprofessional service-learning opportunities for learners from the Colleges of Medicine, Physical Therapy, Nursing, and Public Health! Sponsored by Wellpoint, the trip was led by TRHA student chapter leaders Joshua Roberts ('27) and Jordyn Ricks ('27) through the Office of Rural Medical Education.

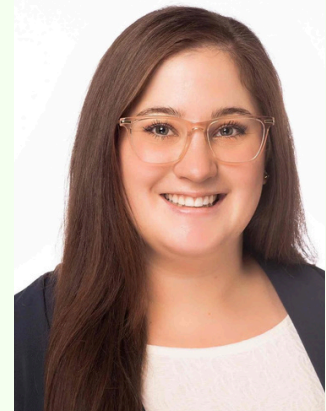


Alumni Spotlight

CONGRATULATIONS to the following ROME alumni leading the way at their respective programs!

Drs. Sadie Thompson & Hope Patchen (bottom right) Chiefs, JPS Family Medicine; Dr. Monserrat Paez (bottom left) Chief, Comanche County Memorial Family Medicine; Dr. Michael Harbin (not pictured) Chief, CHRISTUS Emergency Medicine; Dr. Cassidy Miller (top right) Chief, Conroe Family Medicine.

Let us know who we missed! ROME@unthsc.edu



Dr. Monserrat Paez
CHIEF RESIDENT



Dr. Ivana Grimm
JUNIOR CHIEF RESIDENT

Family Medicine
Residency
2025-2026



Community Engagement

- Perryton, TX Health Fair- Rural Scholar Brittany Uebbing ('26) offered OMT with Lifestyle assessments and counseling to the community (top)
- Free sport physical clinic for Whiteface ISD through a collaboration with TCOM & TTU students, and TCOM alumni and preceptor Dr Michael Sprys (middle)
- Free sport physical clinic for Paint Rock ISD with Rural Scholars, Concho County Medical Center, and FM residents, led by Dr Lesca Hadley
- Diabetes Education at Breckenridge High School led by first year TCOM students (bottom)

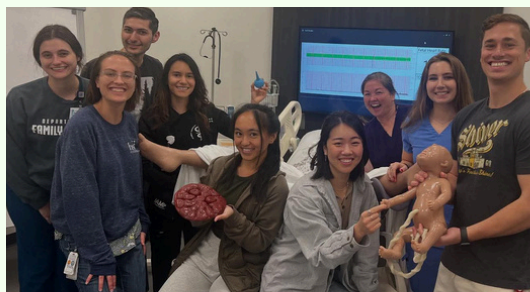
Let us know how we can serve your rural community!
ROME@unthsc.edu



NRHA & TRHA

Raise your voice! NRHA encourages you to use their [FY 2026 appropriations advocacy campaign](#) to contact your representative and senators. There is a pre-written message and also space for you to discuss the specific impacts that proposals would have on your rural community. Urge Congress to invest in Rural Health!

SAVE THE DATE for the TRHA Annual Conference Oct 22nd-23rd at SHSU in Conroe, TX



2nd year Rural Scholars enjoying their OB Skills Workshop with the help of 4th yr Kurt Chunda and ROME alumna Dr Sadie Thompson

Did You Know?

SaferCare Texas has the First Ambulatory Care Patient Safety Organization (PSO) in Texas.

For more information click [here](#)

What are the benefits?

Working with a PSO is voluntary and provides the following benefits:

- Legal privilege and confidentiality of deliberations and analysis of quality and safety events
- Aggregation of patient safety event data, and comparison with peers (de-identified by the PSO Privacy Protection Center)
- Expertise to understand and prevent the causes of patient safety events.
- Advice for improving the quality and safety of patient care

SCPSO@unthsc.edu 

CELEBRATING OUR ROME GRADUATES!






Gonzalo Cacho
Internal Medicine
William Beaumont Army Medical Center
Fort Bliss, TX




CONGRATULATIONS

Rural Scholar



Kurt Chunda
Family Medicine
JPS Health Network
Fort Worth, TX



CONGRATULATIONS

Rural Scholar



Cassidy Coker
Family Medicine
HealthONE - Colorado
Aurora, CO



CONGRATULATIONS

Rural Scholar



Anna Foley
Psychiatry
Naval Medical Center San Diego
San Diego, CA



CONGRATULATIONS

Rural Scholar



Ann George
General Surgery
Cleveland Clinic
Warrens, OH



CONGRATULATIONS

Rural Scholar




Kory Howell
Anesthesiology
Texas Tech HSC - Lubbock
Lubbock, TX




CONGRATULATIONS



Rural Scholar

CELEBRATING OUR ROME GRADUATES!










Jyotirmaya Jain
Internal Medicine
HCA Corpus Christi
Corpus Christi, TX


Rural Scholar






Stacy Luka
Family Medicine
Waco Family Medicine
Waco, TX





Rural Scholar








Angela Paez Rodriguez
Family Medicine
University of Kansas School of Medicine
Wichita, KS



Rural Scholar

Not pictured:
Reagan Rosenberger
Family Medicine
Texoma Medical Center
Denison, TX

Rural Scholar

Benjamin Tebbe-Trujillo
Family Medicine
Eglin Air Force Base
Eglin, FL






Rural Scholar





Haley Turner
Family Medicine
TIGMER
Laredo, TX

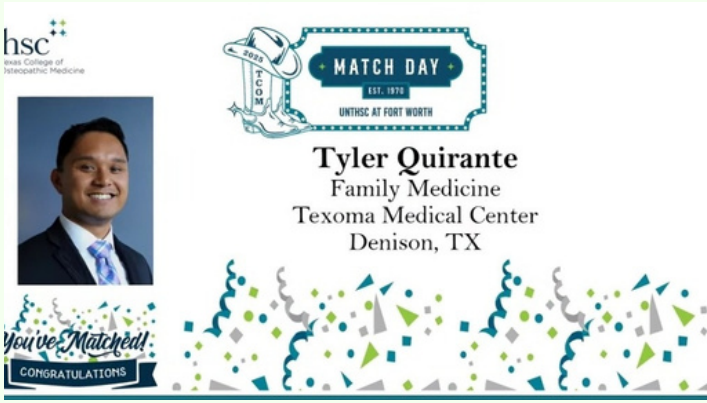



Rural Scholar

TRAIL RIDER NOTES



Rural Scholar




Rural Recognition



New! Rural Recognition

ROME Rural Recognition is now offered to students who show a dedication to Rural Medicine through involvement with TRHA, service on ROME medical mission trips, and choosing at least one rural rotation during both 3rd and 4th year. Congratulations to Tyler Quirante for receiving this inaugural recognition, and for furthering his rural training at Texoma Family Medicine!



Rural Medical Education Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine

59

Current Rural
Scholars Years 1 - 4



432

RME
Graduates
1998-2024



75%

ROME Class of
2024 pursuing
Primary Care



73

Rural
preceptors
53% are ROME alums



55

Rural precepting
sites



62

Quality
Improvement
Projects (2020-
2024)



100+

Student
publications
& presentations
2020-2024



43

Free Clinics on
Medical Mission
Trips (2020-
2024)



51

Community health
& wellness
exhibits



1251

Patients seen in
the MMT clinics
2020-2024

