



## Special points of interest

- GME Funding
- Faculty Spotlight
- Scholarly Activities
- Faculty and Trainees Publications
- NCH Trainees Recognitions
- Fellowship Placement/ Match
- Graduation Keynote Address
- Advocacy & DEI Activities
- Holiday Celebrations



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## From the Editor

### A New Year!! New Hopes, Plans, & Ambitions

It is hard to believe that this issue of *Milestones in Medical Education* Newsletter marks the beginning of its 12th year anniversary. *Milestones in Medical Education* was established 12 years ago as a communication tool, a mean by which we highlight milestones achieved by faculty, trainees, alumni, or programs in the Medical Education continuum from UME to GME & CME. It is also an educational tool in which we feature “*Milestones in Faculty Development*”; a column dedicated to a review of a topic in Medical Education, accreditation, teaching, clinical care, and/or research.

As we turn the page and end the 2021 chapter, we reflect on a year in which the pandemic continued to surprise us with new variants, percent positivity, and continued mitigation measures. However, we reflect on the progress made in the past year in vaccination rates; particularly expanding vaccine eligibility to children 5 years and over. We reflect on a Holi-

day Season in which most vaccinated and boosted individuals were able to gather with loved ones, celebrate, and return to in-person schools. And despite the surge of the new Omicron variant, and through the knowledge, science, mitigation measures, the world dealt with this new variant in a different, more informed way as we learned more and more about this virus that will probably go in 2022 (we hope) from a pandemic to an endemic stage as we learn to deal with it. We are in the homestretch of this pandemic and despite having more tools at our disposal, we need to continue being vigilant & continue to encourage and increase vaccination and booster rates if we are to approach normalcy. As science taught us lessons from previous pandemics, it took almost two years for the Spanish Flu pandemic to end and with 2022, we are almost at the 2 years mark of this one.

This January issue of *Milestones in Medical Education* continues to highlight milestones achieved by our faculty and trainees despite virtual learning, and dealing with unprecedented conditions. This issue continues to highlight milestones in scholarship, professionalism, and fellowship placement that make us all proud of our trainees.

As we welcome 2022, we turn to a new chapter, a blank page of hope, ambitions, and continued successes. We are full of optimism that our team will continue to establish great milestones in academic pursuit and successes and we look forward to a bright, pandemic-free, new 2022. Enjoy reading this issue.

We have renewed faith that **2022 is not the same as “2020 Too”!!!**

Rani S Gereige, MD, MPH,  
FAAP - DIO



## Predicted Physician Shortage in the USA by 2023

Shortage of ~122,000  
physicians and worsening  
due to rapidly aging  
population



The program is an integral investment  
in the pediatric health workforce



CHGME helped train  
almost half of the  
nation's general  
pediatrics residents

### Milestones in Faculty Development

## Show Me the Money! The Reality & Challenges of GME Funding

### History of GME Funding

Below is a timeline for the evolution of GME funding in the U.S.

- **Early 1900s** - Training institutions & hospitals paid their own money to train residents
- **1965** - The Social Security Act was created. Medicare & Medicaid GME funding was established to meet the demands of increase in insured. CMS had no limit for GME spending
- **1980s** - GME payment was reformed and Direct and Indirect (DGME & IME) medical education funding were created. Teaching hospitals became the soul source of care for the poor.
- **1994** - Full funding was limited to Initial Residency Period (IRP) per resident, additional time (fellowship) reimbursed as 50% DGME (100% IME). IRP sets the number of IRP years based on the first residency started by a trainee.
- **1997** - The Balanced Budget Act (PL105-33 Sections 4261 & 4263) placed a "cap" on the number of residents funded. No change in the cap since despite an increase in matriculation numbers, medical school numbers and sizes. The cap halted the development of residency programs for years

Free-Standing Children's Hospitals were not included in the funding allocation (since they do not see Medicare patients)

### What Does DGME Pay For?

- Residents' stipends, benefits, vacation & leave
- Allocated overhead costs
- Must be ACGME-approved or pre-requisite for ABMS certification
- Trainees cannot bill
- Pays for time trainee spends at hospital and on-provider settings
- Per Resident Amount (PRA) is based on the 1984 cost estimate for each hospital with FTE Cap based on 1996 FTE count

### What Does IME Pay For?

- Compensates hospitals for higher inpatient operating cost associated with being a teaching hospital and cost due to patient complexity related to DRGs

### The Special Case of Free-Standing Children's Hospitals - CHGME

- **Prior to 1999**, free-standing children's hospitals received no GME funds
- **In 1999** - Children's Hospitals GME (CHGME) funding was established as a block grant from HRSA authorized in Section 340E of the Public Health Service Act (PHSA).
- CHGME is a discretionary appropriation, 5-year period authorization
- CHGME provides GME funding to **55** free-standing children's Hospitals
- CHGME Hospitals make up **1%** of all hospitals, yet, they train **49%** of all pediatric residents, and **74%** of pediatric subspecialists and conduct **21%** of all NIH-sponsored Pediatric research

### What is Needed?

- More stable and predictable CHGME funding (CHGME was intended as a short-term solution)
- Lifting the residency cap or redistribution of cap
- Ensure strong pipeline of Pediatricians and pediatric specialists
- Advocate for more funding to meet the cost of living growth and the growth of programs

GME Funding in general is complicated, challenging, multifactorial, and requires reform, update, and revision with the first step needed is to bring equity to free-standing children's hospitals through a unified model for all teaching hospitals. This can only be achieved through continued advocacy

### Two bills:

1. Resident Physician Shortage: Reduction Act of 2019 (S. 348)
2. Community & Public Health Programs Extension Act of 2019 (S. 192)



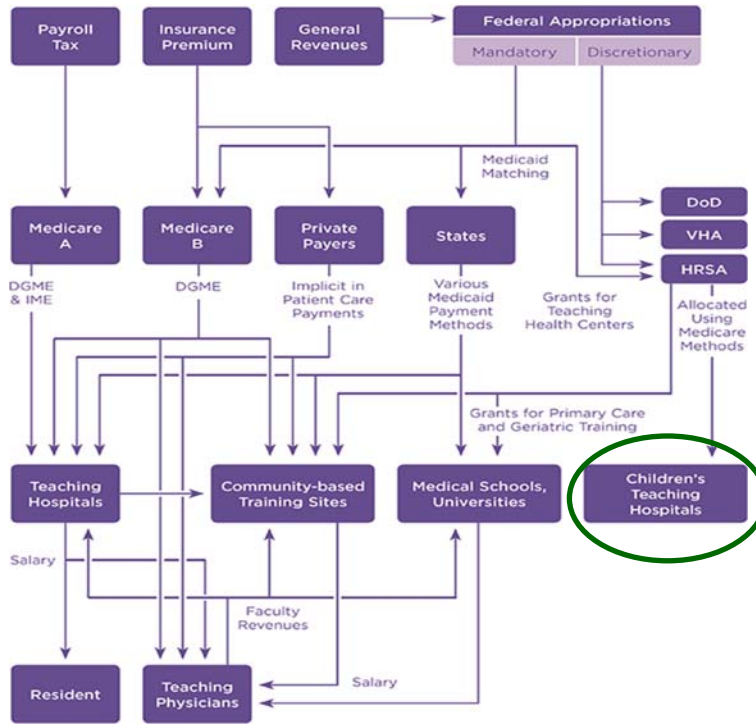
Milestones in Faculty Development

# Show Me the Money! The Reality & Challenges of GME Funding (Cont'ed)

*“Education improves quality of care, and should be an element in the cost of care to be borne partially by the hospital insurance program, until the community bears the cost in some other way”*

**References:**

1. Chandra, A., Khullar, D., Wilensky, G.R. The economics of graduate medical education. *N Engl J Med* . 2014; 370: 3357-3360
2. Children’s Hospital Association
3. Committee on the Governance and Financing of Graduate Medical Education; Board on Healthcare Services. Institute of Medicine. Eden J, Berwick D, Wilensky G; Editors.



*Teaching Children’s Hospitals Provide most of the Complex Services for the Sickest Children*

- 68% of all Peds Transplant Days
- 56% of all Cardiac Surgery Days
- 53% of all days of care for children with cancer

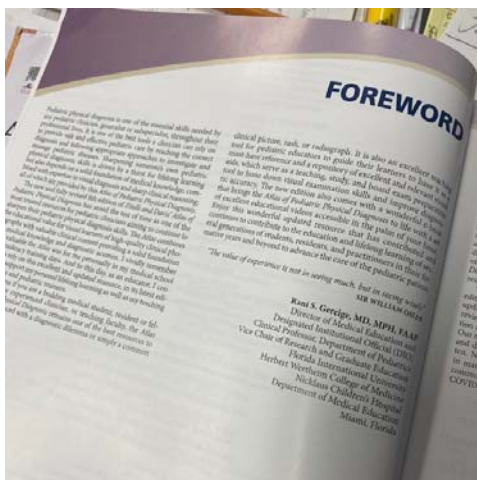
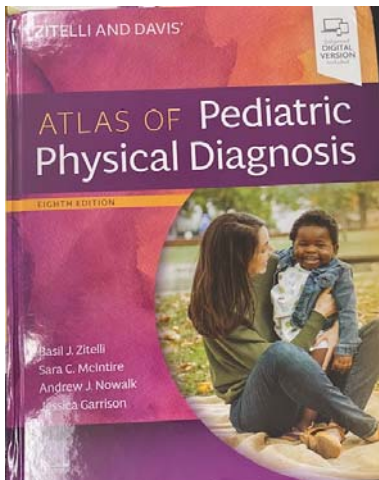
Milestones in Faculty Spotlight

## Dr. Gereige Invited to Write Foreword to Major Pediatric Publication

**Dr. Rani Gereige (Director of Medical Education & DIO)** had the honor to be invited to write the Foreword for the new **8th Edition of Zitelli & Davis Atlas of Pediatric Physical Diagnosis**. The Atlas 8th Edition and

its accompanying e-Book were released for publication in Mid December 2021. This wonderful educational reference book that stood the test of time as a resource used for preparing for the board

certification examination, teaching pediatric residents and fellows, and lifelong learning of faculty. Dr. Gereige expressed his feeling of being honored to write the Foreword to this wonderful Pediatric educational resource.



## Milestones in Scholarly Work

### Nicklaus Children's Trainees to Have a Strong Presence at the 2022 SCCM Congress



The 2022 **51st Critical Care Congress for the Society for Critical Care Medicine (SCCM)** is planned for February 6-9; 2022 in San Juan, PR. NCH trainees will have a strong presence of national presentations at the Congress. The following trainees were notified that their abstracts were accepted for presentation:

- **Drs. Pablo Napky & Rose Barry (PL3)** will be presenting their abstract titled: *“Epidemiology and Outcomes of Intracardiac Thrombosis in Children”*.
- **Dr. Rose Barry (PL3)** will be presenting her abstract titled: *“Temporal Trends of Meningococcal Disease and Mortality in Children from 1997-2016”*.
- **Dr. Ariella Barhen (Year 3 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting her abstract titled: *“Invasive Mechanical Ventilation in Pediatric Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant from 1997 to 2016”*.
- **Dr. Leanna Laor (Year 3 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting her abstract titled: *“Video EEG Abnormalities Among Neonates During Extracorporeal Life Support”*.
- **Dr. Sebastian Proano (Year 3 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting his abstract titled: *“Pediatric Anterior Mediastinal Masses: A National Database Study”*.
- **Dr. Adam Beaton (Year 2 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting his abstract titled: *“Neonatal Air Leak Syndromes in the United States: Analysis of the Kids’ Inpatient Database 2016”*.
- **Dr. Brittany Plescher (Year 2 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting her abstract titled: *“Trend Analysis of Hospitalizations and Outcomes of Children with Crohn from 1997-2016”*.
- **Dr. Daniel Torres (Year 2 PCCM Fellow)** will be presenting his abstract titled: *“Epidemiology and Outcome Trends of Hospitalized Infants with RSV Bronchiolitis During 1997-2016”*. **Selected as a STAR Research Presentation (Podium Presentation)**

Congratulations to all presenters and their co-authors and faculty/ research mentors!!!

## Milestones in Faculty & Trainees’ Publications

### NCH Trainees, Alumni, & Faculty Continue to Contribute to the Published Literature

The manuscript titled: *“A Case of a Lethal Diquat Ingestion in a Toddler”* authored by: **Ness-Cochinwala M**; **Proano JS**; Bernstein J; **Martinez P**; **Ladd H**; and **Totapally B** was published (Online ahead of Press) in *The Journal of*

*Emergency Medicine*. 2021 Nov 23;S0736-4679(21)00750-2 . Congratulations!!

**Drs. Mario Reyes & Marcos Mestre** were co-authors on a multi-institutional manuscript titled: *“Development and Use of a Calculator to Measure*

*Pediatric Low-Value Care Delivered in US Children’s Hospitals”* published in *JAMA Network Open*. 2021; 4 (12):e2135184.doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.35184. Congratulations!!!

## Milestones in Humanism and Professionalism

## NCH Trainees Compliments and e-Recognitions



**Elisa Prebble,  
MD (PL3)**

Dr. Elisa Prebble received an NCHS-way e-Recognition from Dr. Marry Vuong; Clinical Pharmacist for her **Excellent Performance**. Dr. Vuong commented: *“Elisa is one of the most compassionate physicians I know. She excelled as team leader last month and not only made sure the care of the patients was safe and effective, but fun and compassionate as well. She has great bedside manner and truly is dedicated to her patients. Thank you Elisa!!”*. Congratulations Elisa on a job well-done!

**Raymond  
Morales, MD  
(CICU Fellow)**



Dr. Raymond Morales received an NCHS-way e-Recognition from Ms Emily Zubiria, RN Cardiac Critical Care for his **Excellent Performance**. Ms Zubiria commented: *“I would like to give a big thank you to Ray for his help with my patient/family the night of 11/30-12/1. I had a baby who had been in our unit for many months and had acutely decompensated on day shift. The parents were going to be pursuing an elective withdrawal of support on night shift. Ray came by frequently to make sure that I had what I needed for the shift to go smoothly and for the parents to feel supported. He translated for me with the parents in Spanish*

*and made sure they understood the plan of care and were able to ask questions. This was in addition to managing patients all throughout the rest of the busy unit. Thanks Ray for all of your help and caring!”*. Congratulations Ray on a job well done!



**Ricardo  
Vega Auz,  
MD (PL2)**

Dr. Ricardo Vega Auz received an NCHS-Way e-Recognition from Dr. Jennifer Thompson; (Adolescent Medicine Fellow) for his **Excellent Performance**. Dr. Thompson commented: *“Ricky was an amazing resident. Always came in with a positive attitude and was an important part of the team. He will make a great Pulm physician”*. Congratulations Ricky!

**Megha Patel,  
DO (PL2)**



Dr. Megha Patel received an NCHS-way e-Recognition from Dr. Jennifer Thompson; (Adolescent Medicine Fellow) for her **Excellent Performance**. Dr. Thompson commented: *“Megha was an amazing resident. Always came in with a positive attitude and was an important part of the team. She will make a great Cardio physician”*. Congratulations Megha!



**Larissa Romanow,  
MD  
(PL2)**

Dr. Larissa Romanow received an NCHS-Way e-Recognition from Dr. Jennifer Thompson; (Adolescent Medicine Fellow) for her **Excellent Performance**. Dr. Thompson commented: *“Larissa was an amazing resident. Always came in with a positive attitude and was an important part of the team. She will make a great NICU physician”*. Congratulations Larissa!!!

**Amanda  
Wedelich,  
MD (PL2)**



Dr. Amanda Wedelich received an NCHS-Way e-Recognition from Dr. Daniela Aguilar-Abisad (PL2) for her display of the **NCHS Values**. Dr. Aguilar-Abisad commented: *“I’m really thankful for the opportunity to work with Amanda these past 3 months! From PICU to NeuroD, to 6T, I’ve really learned so much from her. She is genuinely gracious, compassionate, and thoughtful with patients, families and staff even in the midst of very busy and stressful times. Today when my co-resident and I came in she had even started pre rounding on our patients to help with the workload as she was on call overnight. Thank you for being a great example of kindness and humility for me!”*. Congratulations Amanda!!!

## Milestones in Residents' Fellowship Placement; a Source of Pride

# NCH Residents Applying for Fellowships Matched in Top Pediatric Subspecialty Training Programs

Pediatric residents from the class of 2022 who applied for fellowship training after residency received their match results in mid-December. The following PL3 residents matched in the Programs below:



- ◆ **Liliam Aquino Crisanto, MD** - Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at *University of CA San Francisco (UCSF)*
- ◆ **Rodrigo Cavalcante, MD** - Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at *Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)*
- ◆ **Sofia Colon Guzman, MD** - Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at *Children's Mercy in Kansas City*
- ◆ **Marina Dantas, MD** - Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship at *Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC)*
- ◆ **Melissa Diaz, MD** - Pediatric Hospital Medicine Fellowship at *University of North Carolina (UNC) Chapel Hill*
- ◆ **Eilaf Fallatah, MD** - Allergy-Immunology Fellowship at *Boston Children's Hospital*
- ◆ **Farouk Farouk, MD** - Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship at *University of Illinois in Chicago*
- ◆ **Ashley Fonseca, MD** - Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at *University of Texas Southwestern (UTSW) Children's Medical Center in Dallas*
- ◆ **Annette Gawron Roberts, MD** - Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at *Duke University School of Medicine in Durham*
- ◆ **Ana Luiza Graneiro, MD** - Allergy-Immunology Fellowship at *Nicklaus Children's Hospital*
- ◆ **Karen Hanze Villavicencio, MD** - Pediatric Infectious Diseases Fellowship at *Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)*
- ◆ **Natasha Johnson, MD** - Pediatric Pulmonology Fellowship at *Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (UPMC)*
- ◆ **Gabriel Mandel, MD** - Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellowship at *Cleveland Clinic Children's in Cleveland*
- ◆ **Rose Mathews Barry, MD** - Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship at *Loma Linda University Children's Hospital*
- ◆ **Pablo Napky, MD** - Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship at *Children's Hospital of Colorado in Aurora*
- ◆ **Jennifer Navarro, MD** - Pediatric Endocrinology Fellowship at *University of Miami/ Jackson Health System*
- ◆ **Candelaria O'Farrell, MD** - Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Fellowship at *Texas Children's Hospital/ Baylor College of Medicine in Houston*
- ◆ **Claudia Riera Canales, MD** - Pediatric Gastroenterology Fellowship at *University of Miami/ Jackson Health System*
- ◆ **Ashish Saini, MD** - Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at the *Children's Healthcare of Atlanta/ Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta*
- ◆ **Jacklyn Smith, MD** - Fellowship in Child Neurology at *Children's National in Washington*
- ◆ **Eric Tano, MD** - Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship at *Rainbow Babies & Children's in Cleveland*

Congratulations to all the future fellows. We are very proud of your achievements. A detailed listing of the full Class of 2022 and their post-graduation plans will be featured in the Graduation issue of the Milestones Newsletter.

## Milestones in Class of 2022 Graduation Planning

### 2022 Immediate Past-President of AAP to Give the Class of 2022 Graduation Keynote Address & Grand Round



**Lee Savio Beers, MD, FAAP**, is the immediate past president of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) after serving her term as the 2021 AAP president. Dr. Beers will be the keynote speaker for the Class of 2022 Graduation Ceremony scheduled for Friday June 10th; 2022.

**Dr. Beers** began her one-year term as President of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) on Jan. 1, 2021 in the middle of the pandemic. Dr. Beers is a Professor of Pediatrics and the Medical Director for Community Health and Advocacy at Children's National Hospital. She is the Founding Director of the DC Mental Health Access in Pediatrics program and Co-Director of the Early Childhood Innovation Network. She also oversees the Child Health Advocacy Institute's Community Mental Health CORE, a public-private coalition that serves as a catalyst to elevate the standard of mental health care for every young person in Washington DC.

She earned her Medical Degree from Emory University School of Medicine and com-

pleted a pediatric residency at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth VA. Prior to joining Children's National, she was a general pediatrician at the Naval Hospital in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD.

She received the Academic Pediatric Association 2019 Public Policy and Advocacy Award. She serves in a wide variety of leadership and advisory positions within the Washington DC community. Her clinical and research interests include adolescent pregnancy and parenting, the integration of mental health and pediatric primary care, the impact of adversity and stress on child well-being and advocacy education. She lives in Washington DC with her husband Nathaniel, and two children.

## *NCH GME to Celebrate the Class of 2022 Graduation*

*NCH Department of Medical Education is pleased to hold the graduation celebration of the Class of 2022 Residents and Fellows on June 10th 2022. Stay tuned for more details to come.*

## Milestones in Community Advocacy & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Activities

### NCH Residents Spread Holiday Cheers to Neglected Children

In the spirit of advocacy and spreading Holiday Joy to children, the NCH Pediatric Residents raised **\$1,895** in funds for their toy drive. This fundraising event resulted in purchasing

hundreds of toys for young children and \$900 worth of gift cards for teens. The toys and gift cards were delivered to neglected children of the Miami Rescue Mission. Congratula-

tions to the NCH Pediatric Residency Program and its Advocacy Committee for all the thoughtful and humanistic efforts!!!!



### NCH Residents Participate in Project GE:NES

**Alejandra Frauenfelder Sanchez, MD (PL2) & Nicole Jackson, MD (PL2)** participated in the 2021 **Project GE:NES** (Genomic Education: Nurturing, Empowering, Sustainable) Cohort.

Project GE:NES is an ongoing after school program that focuses on increasing genomics literacy while simultaneously empowering Black youth to play an agentive role in their healthcare. The project is a partnership between the Per-

sonalized Medicine and Health Outcomes Research team at **Nicklaus Children's Hospital** and **Overtown Youth Center (OYC)**; and the **Miami Dolphins Foundation**. The GE:NES project welcomed its first cohort of at Miami Edison Sr. High School located in "Little Haiti," an area of Miami with the largest Haitian-American student population of any Miami-Dade county public school. Topics covered included DNA, inheritance and health, diversity and variation

among humans, medical genetics & Personalized Medicine, and career development in STEAM fields among others. Drs Sanchez and Jackson (PL2 NCH Pediatric Residents) participated as guest speakers on the topic of Genomics of COVID-19 & career day. The project reached more than 40 students. The Project will be recruiting its second cohort in Spring of 2022.



Research Institute





### Milestones in Departmental Holiday Celebration

## The Medical Education Family Celebrates the Holidays

On **December 16th 2021**; the Department of Medical Education held its Holiday celebration at Monty's in Coconut Grove for all Medical/ Dental residents and fellows. The

long awaited celebration was a chance to get together as a family in an outdoor (and masked) area with opportunity for social distancing after the pandemic years. The celebra-

tion was held at the perfect time few months after the Delta variant surge and right before the Omicron surge. Below are some photos from the event.



### Milestones in CME News

## Virtual 2022 PPGC Launching April 2nd, 2022 - Virtual Education Soaring to the Clouds

The **57th Annual Virtual 2022 PPGC** will launch **April 2nd 2022** in a fully virtual format. (Live Virtual April 2, 3; 2022 followed by 6 months access for all content). The course will feature 10 CME Credit Hours and 10 MOC part 2 ABP Points. Topics include practical pediatric practice sessions including:

- ◆ Adverse childhood events on children
- ◆ COVID-associated orphanhood
- ◆ Palliative Care for the medical home
- ◆ Allergy testing for the medical home
- ◆ Common skin infections
- ◆ Cases I learned from
- ◆ Sudden death in the young
- ◆ Sleep disorders
- ◆ Climate change and impact on health
- ◆ New sepsis guidelines
- ◆ COVID-19 vaccines
- ◆ Infection prevention-readiness for the office
- ◆ COVID-associated myocarditis
- ◆ Innovative practice models

**Registration**                      **Opening**  
**Soon!!!**





## GME Welcomes New Babies to the Family

First Pediatric Residents Louis & Alaina Durkac welcomed on **November 13, 2021** their precious baby boy **Archie**. Congratulations!



## Medical Education Birthdays

### January

|                                 |    |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Wendy Tamayo                    | 1  |
| Ifrah Waheed                    | 3  |
| Camila Gonzalez Aragon          | 5  |
| Aldo Majluta Yeb                | 5  |
| Michael Elias                   | 11 |
| Amanda Wedelich                 | 15 |
| Roxana Navarro                  | 17 |
| Stephanie Mangels               | 18 |
| Jacob Convissar                 | 20 |
| Stephanie Acosta                | 23 |
| Giancarlo Giovannini Sanguineti | 28 |
| Candelaria O'Farell             | 31 |



### February

|                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| Alison Payson              | 1  |
| Freddy Martin              | 3  |
| Angela Parra del Riego     | 7  |
| Andrea Montano Ballesteros | 8  |
| Marina Dantas              | 10 |
| Jonathan Creech            | 11 |
| Sofia Colon Guzman         | 16 |
| Courtney Hundzinski        | 16 |
| Erileen Garcia Roldan      | 19 |



**Nicklaus  
Children's  
Hospital**

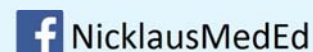
Department of Medical Education  
3100 SW 62 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33155

Phone: 305-669-5873 | Fax: 305-669-6531

CME@Nicklaushealth.org  
nicklauschildrens.org/medicaleducation

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To Teach is To Touch a Life Forever