

GREATER GREENSBORO SOCIETY OF MEDICINE & HIGH POINT MEDICAL SOCIETY

2010 Community Internship Program

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Community Internships are programs that expose people in the community to the reality of medical care today. Members of the media, legislators, hospital trustees, foundation board members, the clergy, civic leaders, educators and business people are invited to spend two days in the company of physicians as they go about a normal day's work. Each intern spends one day in a surgical setting and one day in a private medical office. The physicians who participate are assigned a different intern on each of the two succeeding days.

Interns are encouraged to ask questions as opportunities present themselves and physicians are encouraged to be as open with their responses as they can while respecting patient confidentiality.

The goal of Community Internships is to give interns a window on the very real human concerns of medicine. Interns are, on occasion, given the opportunity to observe the paperwork side of medicine, to think about the thorny ethical questions that arise during a physician's care of certain seriously ill patients or to feel the frustration of trying to stay on schedule in a busy medical or surgical practice.

The real benefits of the program are twofold: interns are afforded a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see closely the application of the best health care in the world; physicians have an equally rare chance to discuss the why and how of what they do with intelligent, interested observers. Those who have participated in these programs in the past – both interns and physicians – have come away from the experience with positive feelings that range from exhilaration to quiet satisfaction, from enlightenment to fascination, from excitement to exhaustion.

An invitation to participate in a Community Internship program is rare indeed. We urge you to join us in an exciting two days.

Why A Community Internship Program?

A Community Internship Program could be called the ultimate community relations tool. It brings doctors and community opinion leaders together in a one-on-one setting, and offers an insider's view of medical professionals in action. This unique experience benefits the doctors, the interns, and the medical society.

Advantages to the doctors

- Promotes better understanding between doctors and the community - especially the community opinion leaders who serve as interns.
- Renews doctors' enthusiasm for medicine.
- Gets doctors more involved with the community.
- Gives doctors community resources they didn't have before.

Advantages to the community intern

- Gives a behind-the-scenes look at the medical profession.
- Lets interns personally experience a doctor's world.
- Allows doctors and interns to learn from each other.
- Shows the intern the human side of doctors.
- Gives leaders and opinion makers resources to rely on when making critical decisions on health care.

Advantages to the medical society

- Helps your medical society market its services to members.
- Spotlights the professionalism of your society's staff.
- Gets members involved in society activities.
- Helps attract new members.
- Costs less than most community relations projects – and gets consistently excellent results.