

PGY-4 Residents (Class of 2026)



Allan Barraza, DO

Medical School: Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine

Undergraduate: Nova Southeastern University

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I chose St. Joe's for the outstanding patients, residents, and faculty. I easily connected with the patients as many of them are Spanish-speaking and come from backgrounds like mine. I felt especially fulfilled participating in their cases as a medical student and learning from residents and faculty who are welcoming, patient, and enjoy teaching. The team is a big family who enjoys spending time together during and after work.

Career goals/interests: MFM



Marcella Israel Rocha, MD

Medical School: Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais-Brazil

Undergraduate: Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais-Brazil

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I chose Saint Joe's for their commitment to diversity, not only for providing high-quality care to underserved populations, but also for being an inclusive environment for the staff and residents.

Career goals/interests: General OB/GYN



Mandy Ortiz, MD

Medical School: Central Michigan University College of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of Colorado

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I did a sub-internship at St. Joe's during my fourth year of medical school and really enjoyed it. I felt that it was a positive learning environment and was a place where residents truly supported each other.

Career goals/interests: I would like to become an OBGYN generalist and practice in a rural or urban underserved community.



Andrew Tannous, MD

Medical School: University Colorado School of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of California, Santa Barbara

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I was looking for a program that provided excellent clinical and surgical training within the field. Most importantly, I wanted to surround myself with residents and faculty who are supportive, hard-working, and eager to take care of their community. I had the pleasure of witnessing this first-hand during my medical school clerkship., which reinforced my decision to become an OB/GYN

Career goals/Interests: Gyn Oncology

PGY-4 Residents (Class of 2026)



Anissa Zimmerman, MD

Medical School: Creighton University School of Medicine

Undergraduate: Creighton University

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I was able to experience St. Joe's during my fourth year of medical school and I loved every aspect of the program! I couldn't imagine a better fit for my future training. I was initially drawn to the program because of the large Spanish-speaking population served by the Seton Women's Center and the fact this program was community drive while still being academically minded. I got to know many of the residents and attendings and knew St. Joe's would be a supportive environment that would provide me with amazing opportunities for training.

Career goals/Interests: I see myself as an OB/GYN generalist

PGY-3 Residents (Class of 2027)



Jacqueline Anders, MD

Medical School: Georgetown University

Undergraduate: Dartmouth College

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? St. Joe's was a great fit for me because the program is tailored to my career goals and aspirations. When I spoke to the residents and faculty, they were incredibly welcoming and had glowing reviews of the camaraderie and positive learning environment. Friends I have in the area had always talked about how St. Joe's residents were surgically and clinically well-trained. Moreover, the community we serve is largely Spanish-speaking, and the St. Joe's team is passionate about health justice and advocacy. All these things made the program a perfect fit for me, and I am so grateful to be able to train here.

Career/interests: I am planning to become an OBGYN generalist and work with a primarily Spanish-speaking community.



Sarena Gill, MD

Medical School: University of Michigan Medical School

Undergraduate: University of Colorado

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? The biggest factor was the program's warm, fun, and welcoming community; this was apparent because, even with virtual interviews, I felt a true connection with current residents. I loved how we shared interests outside of medicine, such as a love for exploring Colorado's natural beauty with hiking, skiing, rafting, and more.

Career goals/interests: Working as a generalist in Colorado with a focus on serving marginalized communities and advocating to address disparities in OBGYN patient populations.



Sophia Khan, MD

Medical School: The George Washington School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Undergraduate: University of Maryland

Why did you choose Saint Joseph Hospital? The location of Saint Joe's in downtown Denver is what drew me initially as I could have quick and easy access to the gorgeous nature. Denver had it all for me in terms of opportunities to prioritize my wellness. In addition, I wanted to be able to use and improve on my medical Spanish through working with a Spanish-speaking population, which is a large percentage of the patients seen at the Seton Clinic. Finally, I was impressed by St. Joe's sincere focus on helping the local community in conjunction with their commitment to clinical excellence and providing evidence-based and up-to-date care.

Career/Interests: Generalist or MFM Fellowship



Kim Lugo, MD

Medical School: Saint Louis University School of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of Colorado

Why did you choose Saint Joseph Hospital? I chose Saint Joe's because of their commitment to working with a diverse, underserved patient population. Also, the high volume, high acuity of obstetric and gynecologic patients that Saint Joe's serves aligns with my future career goals of being a full spectrum generalist. The additional exposure to dedicated rotations in minimally invasive surgery was a draw to me as well. Even with all things virtual, I was able to appreciate how close and supportive the Saint Joe's residency family was and could see myself thriving there in the future. A bonus was also Saint Joe's being located in Denver, which is in close proximity to various outdoor activities and family support.

Career/Interests: General OBGYN

PGY-3 Residents (Class of 2027)



Liana Mathias, MD

Medical School: Robert Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont

Undergraduate: Wesleyan University

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I could not stop smiling for days after my interview. I truly felt so much warmth and excitement from each person on interview day and felt so aligned with Joe's core values. I was excited by the patient population of Denver, to improve my Spanish speaking skills, to gain excellent surgical and obstetrics training, and hopefully get some good hiking and skiing in at the same time!

Career goals/interests: Open to anything! Right now, I am thinking generalist with an emphasis in family planning, working with underserved populations, and teaching.

PGY-2 Residents (Class of 2028)



Kari Anna Byrnes, MD

Medical School: East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of Virginia

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? During a fourth-year away rotation at St. Joe's, I was easily swayed by the warmth and support of the OBGYN community. There was mutual respect between team members which created a comfortable learning environment. I was impressed with the surgical prowess of the attendings and residents, as well as their compassionate demeanor. As a mountain enthusiast, I was excited to trade the Appalachians during medical school for residency training in the Rockies! The decision to move to Denver was an easy one, and I am enthused about the skills and knowledge I will attain at St. Joe's!

Career/interests: I am passionate about broadening access to women's healthcare, and I plan to become a generalist serving rural communities.



Courtney McDonald, MD

Medical School: University of Colorado

Undergraduate: University of Colorado

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I am a Colorado girl at heart. It was important to me to be near my support system during residency and to continue doing all of the fun outdoor activities I love. I did an away rotation at St Joe's and I finally understood what people meant by "look for your people!" During my rotation I found a happy, healthy, but also very hard-working group of OBGYNs at St Joe's and I couldn't be more excited to join the team.

Career/Interests: Generalist or MIGS fellowship. Global health career either working with refugee patients locally or out of the country.



Alexanna Nathan, MD

Medical School: UC San Diego School of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of Hawaii at Manoa

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I love everything about the program! I remember feeling so truly cared about during my interview day and that the program was just as excited about myself and the other applicants as we were them. Those values of support, joy, and enthusiasm were clear as I continued to learn more about the program, and I'm so excited to train in a program that loves their residents. The snowboarding, close friends and family, and all the great restaurants are all just icing on the cake!

Career/interests: I am a generalist at heart-I'm so excited about St. Joe's global health program as I hope to practice in the Pacific where there is a significant lack of resources and providers.



Marissa Rayner, MD

Medical School: University of Virginia

Undergraduate: University of Virginia

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I initially was drawn to St. Joe's because of how supportive and inclusive the program felt and its location in Denver, which is close to family and a lot of outdoor hobbies I enjoy. The residents and faculty were so welcoming and emphasized wellness as a priority. The surgical and clinical training here is excellent, and I kept hearing so many great testimonials about the quality of training. I also really wanted to join a program with a diverse patient population inclusive of those in underserved communities and a program where I could focus on my Spanish-speaking skills – this program provides all of this and more. I'm so excited to be training here!

Career/interests: Generalist serving underserved populations and dedicate part of my career to global health or healthcare in remote areas of the US.

PGY-2 Residents (Class of 2028)



Madison Summers, DO

Medical School: Idaho College of Osteopathic Medicine

Undergraduate: Central Washington University

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I was initially drawn to this program based on the location and word of mouth from people within the field of OB/GYN - everyone I spoke to mentioned that the Saint Joe's residents were incredibly well-trained and incredibly kind. From the start of the interview, I had a special feeling about the program! I wanted to train somewhere that prioritized camaraderie and wellness among the residents while still providing state-of-the-art training, and this was a perfect fit. A huge plus is the proximity to the mountains, being outside is the best respite for me!

Career goals/interests: Ten years in the future, I see myself practicing as a general OB/GYN in a rural community (hopefully close to the mountains).

PGY-1 Residents (Class of 2028)



Yanitza Berrios, DO

Medical School: A.T. Still University, School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona

Undergraduate: California State University, Fullerton

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I wanted to be at a program with strong clinical and surgical training, a commitment to serving underserved communities, and a large Spanish-speaking population. St. Joe's offered all of that and more! What solidified my desire to train here was how I felt after the pre-interview social and interview day. The warmth, kindness, and genuine dedication to both the field and the patient population were obvious, and I knew it was right fit.

Career/interests: General OB/GYN, ideally in a community with a large Spanish-speaking population.



Julia Canty, MD

Medical School: University of Colorado School of Medicine

Undergraduate: University of Notre Dame

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I wanted a program that would balance exceptional, rigorous training with the joys of life outside of the hospital. In doing my sub-I at St. Joe's, I found that the residents supported each other in a way that encouraged growth professionally and personally too.

Career/Interests: I am not 100% sure yet, but I would like to become a confident advocate for women's health!



Leah Creamer, MD

Medical School: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Undergraduate: St. John's College

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I had about St. Joe's from some friends in medical school and was drawn to its reputation for being a great place to train as well as having a wonderfully supportive community. I initially came to the hospital for my prelim year in General Surgery and was won over by how amazing the residents and faculty were in both programs; everyone was so down to earth and genuinely engaged in helping me learn. The hospital's capacity for charity care and the opportunity for global health sealed the deal, and of course the endless sunshine and morning views of the mountains are a nice bonus.

Career/interests: I still undifferentiated and everything feels interesting to me right now. If I had to guess, I would say generalist or MIGS, but I'm not ruling anything out!



Grace Ellis, MD

Medical School: University of Virginia

Undergraduate: University of Virginia

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I initially was drawn to St. Joe's because of how supportive and inclusive the program felt and its location in Denver, which is close to family and a lot of outdoor hobbies I enjoy. The residents and faculty were so welcoming and emphasized wellness as a priority. The surgical and clinical training here is excellent, and I kept hearing so many great testimonials about the quality of training. I also really wanted to join a program with a diverse patient population inclusive of those in underserved communities and a program where I could focus on my Spanish-speaking skills – this program provides all of this and more. I'm so excited to be training here!

Career/interests: Generalist serving underserved populations and dedicate part of my career to global health or healthcare in remote areas of the US.

PGY-1 Residents (Class of 2028)



Eleanor Johnston, MD

Medical School: Creighton University School of Medicine, Phoenix Regional Campus

Undergraduate: Williams College

Why did you choose St. Joseph Hospital? I had my eye on St. Joseph Hospital since the beginning of medical school. It seemed like the perfect mix; a tight-knit residency family, top-notch OB/GYN training, and access to all things outdoors. When I finally got to experience it during my sub-internship, everyone was genuine, welcoming, and hardworking. I knew these were the type of people I wanted to train with!

Career goals/interests: I'm hoping to build a career as an OB/GYN generalist in a Federally Qualified health Center, with plenty of room to stay involved in medical education. Before med school, I spent three years working in high schools in Colorado and Chicago, and I'd love to continue to work with students for the rest of my career!