

Residency program graduates head into rural medicine

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Dr. Evan Beasley knew what he was looking for in a residency program. The Baton Rouge, La. native wanted to find a place similar to home where he could take advantage of the outdoors, enjoy the continuation of his education, become a doctor and raise a family.



Dr. Evan Beasley talks about going through Mountain Area Health Education Center's Family Medicine Residency Program in Hendersonville.
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He found that new home in Hendersonville. Beasley, 30, is one of four doctors who will graduate from the Henderson County Residency Program, taught by Mountain Area

Health Education Center, Pardee and, soon, Blue Ridge Community Health Center, on Thursday.

Of the four graduates, only Beasley will remain in Henderson County. He is joining the staff at BRCHS, where he will not only be a family doctor, but clinical faculty who will work with residents who come through the residency program.

“It's not just the people that can afford (health care),” Beasley said of his decision to head to BRCHS. “It's trying to get health care to all people. I just felt like it would be a good family transition.”

The other graduates were Gray Tilden, M.D., Anibal Martinez, M.D., and Amanda Williams, D.O.

Tilden will head to the MAHEC Family Health Center in Lake Lure. Martinez will join Rose Family Medicine Residency Program in Denver. Williams will continue her medical training with MAHEC as a geriatrics fellow.

The Henderson County Residency Program began in 1999. Since its inception, there have been 35 graduates. Of that number, 90 percent practice in rural communities. The program is designed for the purpose of leading new doctors into the small town, rural communities.

That's one thing that led Beasley to Hendersonville.

“I wanted to practice family medicine (in a small town),” he said.

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