

GROWING AND RETAINING DOCTORS IN SOUTH GEORGIA

South Georgia Medical Education and
Research Consortium

October 15, 2014

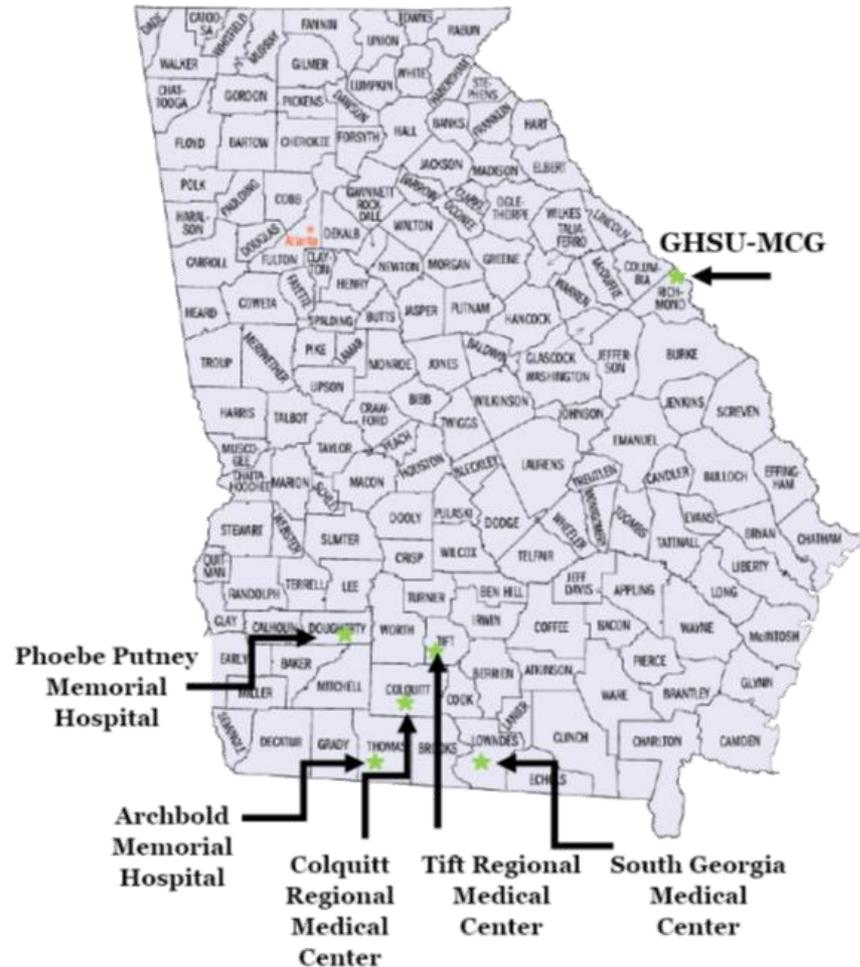
Dr. George Fredrick, Interim Designated Institutional Official
Jessica Rivenbark, Executive Director



Consortium Development and Purpose

- The Consortium is a partnership of independent hospitals in the Southwest Region of Georgia. It was developed as a unique effort to address healthcare access and physician planning through the development of graduate medical education (residency) programs. The Medical College of Georgia and the Southwest Area Health Education Center serve in an advisory capacity to the Consortium.

The South Georgia Medical Education and Research Consortium...



Development of New Primary Care Residency Programs

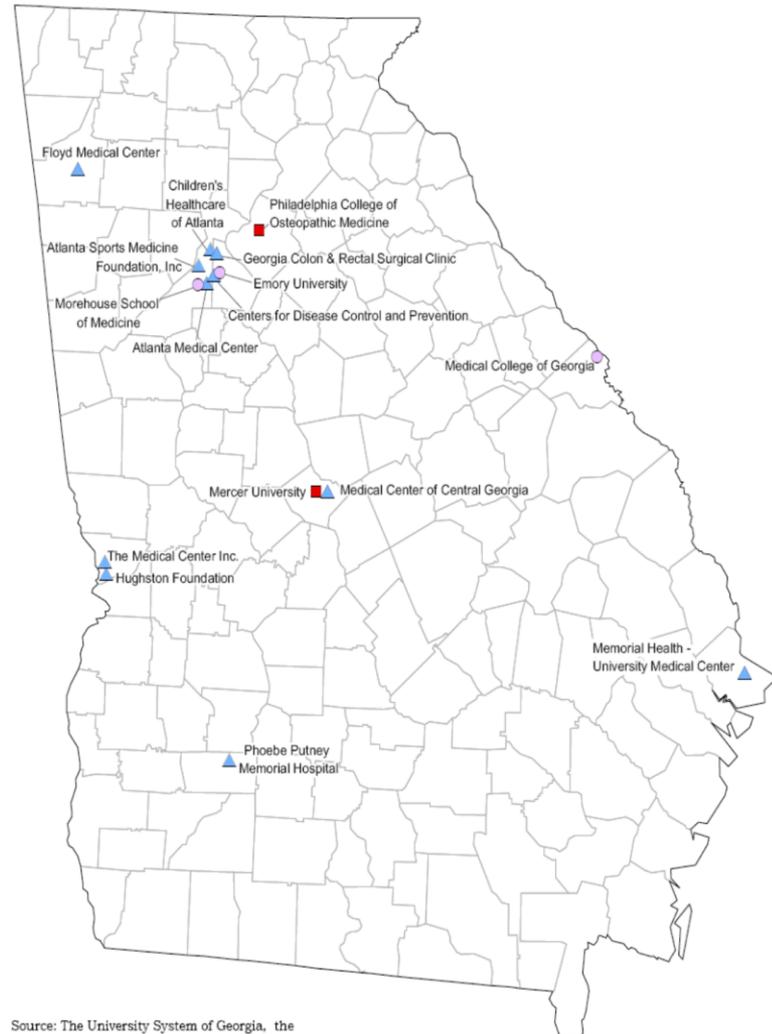
- Consortium, as independent 501(c)(3), serves as the Institutional Sponsor for new programs
 - Regional Hospitals are Participating Sites
- Resources
 - Hospitals contributed capital start up
 - State funding through the Georgia Board for Physician Workforce and Georgia Board of Regents
 - Local Support
 - Federal and State Grant Applications

Current Georgia GME Programs...

In 2012-2013, Georgia had 14 residency sponsoring institutions, educating **a total of 2,122 residents**.

There were **845 primary care residents** statewide in 2012-2013.

Currently, 16 residents in South Georgia



Source: The University System of Georgia, the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

Impact of Developing New Residency Programs

- Greater opportunities to **attract and align private and public funding at all levels** – federal, state, regional – leveraging dollars already invested by Consortium members.
- Expanding the number and size of residency programs in the region beyond what hospitals could achieve working independently, because of **efficiencies in combining resources, faculty, training sites, technology and leadership.**
- Greater success in recruiting residents and retaining graduates to **an educationally enriched region.**
- New Residency programs have **a multiplier effect** on the local economy, with an economic impact through job creation and return on investment.

Economic Value to a Community...

New residency program development creates a hospital and community multiplier in jobs, revenues and referrals.

Each Physician's Practice within the Community on Average Creates an Additional 5 Jobs

A new Physician in a Community Generates \$1.6M in Economic Impact on the Region

Each Primary Care Physician Generates \$1.4M in Annual Healthcare Cost Savings



Lessons Learned

- Impact of the Affordable Care Act to Community Hospitals
 - Slowed progress as hospitals adjust to new healthcare environment, changes to rules and reimbursement
- Regional Focus-Big Impact
 - Take into account our diverse population, recruitment challenges
- Scope of healthcare access beyond new physicians, address needs assessment for health professionals
- Challenges of a New Institutional Sponsor
 - Growing organization, new structure-first nationally

Next Steps

- Fellowship Development
- New GME Programs
- Rural Community Health Care Access
 - Recruitment through pipeline, “growing our own”
 - Working with MCG-Albany Campus on projects
- Needs Assessment of Region
 - Assess allied health programs and gaps
 - Inter-professional Training
- Further Align Resources