

Pharmacy Residency Program Home

[PGY-1 Residency Program](#)

[Current Residents](#) | [Previous Residents](#) | [Meet The Preceptors](#)
[Future Residents](#) | [More Information](#)

PGY-1 Residency Program

PGY-1 Residency Program Overview

The Carl Vinson VAMC offers an organized, accredited postgraduate year one (PGY1), 12-month pharmacy residency program. PGY1 pharmacy residency programs build on Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) education and outcomes to contribute to the development of clinical pharmacists responsible for medication-related care of patients with a wide range of conditions, eligible for board certification, and eligible for postgraduate year two (PGY2) pharmacy residency training. The purpose of this PGY1 Pharmacy Residency Program is to train residents how to provide pharmaceutical care to ambulatory care/primary care/acute care and geriatric patients, participate as a member of the interdisciplinary health care team, and provide education to patients, pharmacy staff/students and other health professionals.

At a Glance

- Duration: 12 months
- Number of Positions: 2
- Application Deadline: January 2017
- Starting Date: July 1

Benefits

- Estimated Stipend: \$41,098
- Paid Federal Holidays
- Paid Vacation (4 hours accrued per 2-week pay period)
- Paid Sick Leave (4 hours accrued per 2-week pay period)
- Paid Administration Leave
- Health and Life Insurance
- Free Parking

Required Rotations

- Hospice/Palliative Care & Dementia
- Home Based Primary Care (HBPC)
- Anticoagulation
- Acute Care
- Geriatrics/Extended Care
- Ambulatory Care
- Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program
- Mental Health

Longitudinal Experience

- Drug Distribution (Staffing)
- Administrative Practice
- Project Management
- Teaching and Learning Development

Elective Experiences

- Drug Information
- PACT Telehealth & Hepatitis C
- May repeat any of the required learning experiences

Other Experiences

- In addition to rotations, residents will participate in several extended activities throughout the year which include a major research project, Medication Use Evaluation (MUE), multiple journal clubs, case presentations, presenting in-services to staff, adverse drug event reporting, management projects and tasks, P&T minutes, maintaining the Drug Shortage Update List, contributing to the quarterly pharmacy newsletter, presenting a poster at ASHP Mid-year, presenting at Southeast Residency Conference (SERC), earning a teaching certificate through South University School of Pharmacy teaching program, as well as teaching Diabetes, MOVE!, and Pain Education Classes.

Current Residents

Current Residents



Kirby Goins, Pharm.D.

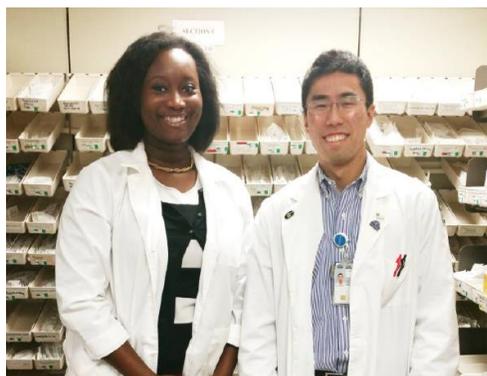
Dr. Goins received her Pharm.D. from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, SC. She is originally from Augusta, GA and she attended undergraduate at Mercer University.

Erin Gaughran, Pharm.D.

Dr. Gaughran received her Pharm.D. from St. John's University in Queens, New York. She is originally from Long Island.

Previous Residents

Previous Residents



2016

Jessica Johnson, Pharm.D.; PGY-2 position at the North Chicago VA in Ambulatory Care

Patrick Tu, Pharm.D.; PGY-2 position at the Tampa VA in Infectious Diseases



2015

Spencer Jones, Pharm.D.; PACT specialist for Green & Blue Team, CVVAMC

Marci Swanson, Pharm.D.; Pain & Palliative Care Specialist, CVVAMC



2014

Paul Hansen, Pharm.D.; PACT specialist for Blue Team, CVVAMC

Ria Mathew, Pharm.D., BCPS; PACT specialist for Milledgeville CBOC, CVVAMC



2013

Ben Selph, Pharm.D., CGP; Geriatric/Acute Care specialist for CVVAMC

Meredith Blalock, BCPP, BCPS, CGP, CDE; MH-RRTP specialist for CVVAMC



2012

Donnell Williams, Pharm.D., CGP, BC-ADM; PGY-2 residency at Detroit VA in Ambulatory Care; PACT Green Team and Hepatitis C specialist, CVVAMC

Brooke Butler, Pharm.D., BCPP; CGP Mental Health/Dementia specialist for CVVAMC

Meet Our Preceptors

MEET OUR PRECEPTORS

Laura Miller, Pharm.D.
Chief of Pharmacy



Dr. Laura Beasley Miller is the Chief of Pharmacy Services at Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. She has served in this role since 2011. She began her VA Career as a Clinical Pharmacist in 1999. She served in a variety of clinical practice settings including Ambulatory Care, Community Living Center, and Home Based Primary Care. Dr. Miller is a graduate of the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy where she earned her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree in 1996. She has served as adjunct professor for Mercer University School of Pharmacy since 1997, and has also served as a preceptor for University of Georgia Doctor of Pharmacy students since 1997. She serves on various hospital-wide committees including Medical Executive Committee, Peer Review Committee, and Executive Leadership Team. She is a 2010 graduate of the VA NEHCLI (National Executive Health Care Leadership Initiative). Her professional memberships include American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP), Georgia Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (GSHP), and

Georgia Pharmaceutical Association (GPhA). She and her husband are very active in the community and are avid Georgia Bulldog fans. They enjoy spending their free time traveling and attending their kids' sporting events and extracurricular activities.



Deborah Hobbs, Pharm.D.

PGY-1 Residency Program Director & Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager

Deborah Hobbs, Pharm.D., is the Clinical Pharmacy Program Manager and the PGY1 Residency Program Director. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Stetson University then earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Mercer University College of Pharmacy in 1986. She became a Clinical Pharmacist at the CVVAMC in 1990 and practiced in a variety of clinical settings such as the Community Living Center, Acute & Critical Care Units, and Outpatient Clinics. She serves as a preceptor for advance practice pharmacy students from Mercer, University of Georgia, South University, and Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Currently, Dr. Hobbs is a preceptor for the PGY1 Resident's Acute Care and Administrative learning experiences. She is a member of American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists and Secretary for the Dublin Chapter of Georgia Pharmaceutical Association.



Meredith Blalock, Pharm.D., BCPS, BCPP, CDE, CGP

Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program Specialist

After completing the PGY-1 residency at Dublin VAMC, Dr. Blalock was hired as the clinical pharmacist for the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (MH-RRTP). She is currently preceptor for MH-RRTP and works with Veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic homelessness and substance abuse issues. Dr. Blalock's interests include mental health and ambulatory care pharmacy. She believes a well-rounded pharmacist is a well-prepared pharmacist. Dr. Blalock is board certified in pharmacotherapy, mental health, geriatrics and diabetes education. In her spare time, she fosters rescue animals, drives fast cars and writes poetry.



Brooke Butler, Pharm.D., BCPP, CGP

Mental Health & Geriatrics Specialist

Dr. Butler was first introduced to the VA during pharmacy school while on an APPE ambulatory care rotation. When she graduated in 2011, she was afforded the opportunity to be one of the first residents at the CVVAMC. After completion of her PGY-1 residency, Dr. Butler accepted a position as a CPS working in PACT. In 2014, she changed specialties to Mental Health, which is her true passion. She became a

board certified psychiatric pharmacist and now operates an outpatient mental health clinic where she serves as an independent mental health provider. She also serves as the consultant pharmacist for the facility's CLC dementia unit. Dr. Butler precepts APPE students and PGY-1 residents on the outpatient mental health rotation as well as the hospice/dementia rotation. In her spare time, she enjoys concerts, photography, drawing, rescuing animals, and spending time with her 3 dogs and cat.



Kathleen Greer, Pharm.D., BCACP

Anticoagulation Specialist & Residency Program Coordinator

Kathleen L. Greer, Pharm.D., BCACP is the PGY1 Residency Program Coordinator at the Carl Vinson Medical Center. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Samford University in 1995 then earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from McWhorter School of Pharmacy in 1996. She completed a Pharmacy Practice Residency at The Medical Center in Columbus Georgia in 1998. She worked in a Community Hospital in Eupora, Mississippi for 2 years before taking the Ambulatory Care Clinical Pharmacy Manager position at The Medical Center in Macon Georgia. She served as an Ambulatory Care clinical pharmacist and PGY-1 residency coordinator in Macon from 2000-2011. She then worked briefly as a staff pharmacist in a community hospital in Perry, Georgia before joining the Ambulatory Care staff at the CVVAMC in 2012. Initially, she served as the Telehealth pharmacist for one of the community based outpatient clinic in Milledgeville, Georgia. She is now one of the Anticoagulation Clinical Pharmacy Specialists for the Dublin campus. She also serves as preceptor for

the PGY1 Anticoagulation learning experience. She is a member of American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) and American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP).



Paul Hansen, Pharm.D.

PACT Specialist

Dr. Hansen is a clinical pharmacy specialist in primary care for the Blue Team. He received his Pharm.D. from The University of Georgia in 2013, and completed his PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice residency in 2014 at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. He is currently a preceptor for the ambulatory care rotation focusing on diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and CHF management.



Spencer Jones, Pharm.D.
PACT Specialist

After graduating from the University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in 2014, Dr. Jones completed her PGY-1 residency at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. The following year, Dr. Jones was welcomed into the Carl Vinson VA pharmacy family after accepting a position as a PACT Clinical Pharmacy Specialist. She plans to become board certified in ambulatory care, and she currently serves as one of the preceptors for APPE students and PGY-1 residents during their Ambulatory Care rotations. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends; enjoying any kind of outdoor activities; playing the piano; relaxing with a good book/music; and travelling.



Nelson Mainor, Pharm.D.
Anticoagulation Director

Dr. Mainor received his Pharm.D. from the University of Georgia and has been at the CVVAMC for 20 years. He serves as the anticoagulation director and precepts ambulatory care APPE students as well as PGY-1 residents during their anticoagulation rotations.



Ria Mathew, Pharm.D., BCPS
PACT Telehealth Specialist

Dr. Mathew is a clinical pharmacy specialist in primary care for the Milledgeville CBOC. She received her Pharm.D. from St. Louis College of pharmacy in 2013, and completed her PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice residency in 2014 at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. She is currently a preceptor for the ambulatory care rotation and incorporates telehealth in her practice. Her hobbies include spending time with friends, traveling and supporting local eateries.



Chad Potts, Pharm.D., CGP
HBPC & Geriatrics Specialist

Dr. Potts came to CVVAMC after years of experience in long-term care pharmacy and geriatrics, and is accredited as a Certified Geriatric Pharmacist. Dr. Potts serves as CPS for Home Based Primary Care, where he provides collaborative pharmaceutical care through comprehensive medication reviews. He serves this population independently through disease state medication management clinics and anticoagulation management as well. Dr. Potts is also the consultant pharmacist for “Patriots Point”, one of our facility’s CLC units. Dr. Potts precepts residents, along with APPE students, on the Home Based Primary Care rotation as well as the Geriatrics rotation.



Michael Riner, Pharm.D., BCPS
Associate Chief of Quality Management & Patient Safety

Dr. Michael Riner is the Associate Chief of Quality Management and Patient Safety at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. He has served in this role since 2015. He began his VA Career as a PGY-1 Resident at the Bay Pines VA Medical Center in 2011 in Bay Pines, FL. He joined the pharmacy team at Carl Vinson in 2012 and served as the Associate Chief of Pharmacy Operations for three years prior to his current role. Dr. Riner is a graduate of the LECOM-Bradenton School of Pharmacy in southwest Florida where he earned his Doctor of Pharmacy Degree in 2011. He serves on various hospital-wide committees including Emergency Preparedness, GEMS, and various SAIL initiatives. He became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist (BCPS) in 2013. His professional memberships include American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists (ASHP) and American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP). He is married to a brilliant psychologist who has a

thriving practice in the Macon, GA community. He enjoys spending his free time traveling, playing tennis, and hanging out with their dog Gracie.



Ben Selph, Pharm.D., CGP
Acute Care & Geriatrics Specialist

Dr. Ben Selph completed three years of undergraduate pre-pharmacy coursework at the University of Georgia and graduated pharmacy school from Mercer University in 2012. After pharmacy school, he completed a PGY-1 pharmacy practice residency at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. Upon completion of his residency, Dr. Selph accepted his current position as the acute care/community living center clinical pharmacy specialist, where he conducts medication reviews and antimicrobial stewardship activities for the acute care wards as well as consultant pharmacist responsibilities for some of the nursing home wards in the hospital. Dr. Selph serves as co-preceptor

for PGY-1 residents on the Geriatrics, Hospice/Dementia, and Acute Care rotations, and he also helps in precepting APPE students on Geriatrics and Acute Care rotations.



Marci Swanson, Pharm.D.
Pain & Palliative Care Specialist

Dr. Marci M. Swanson graduated pharmacy school from the University of Georgia in 2014. After pharmacy school, she completed her PGY-1 pharmacy residency at the Carl Vinson VA Medical Center. During her residency, she became interested in pain management and geriatrics. After she completed her residency, Dr. Swanson accepted a position at the CVVAMC to become the pain and palliative care clinical pharmacy specialist. Dr. Swanson assists in precepting APPE students and is a mentor to PGY-1 residents.



Donnell Williams, Pharm.D., CGP, BC-ADM
PACT & Hepatitis C Specialist

Dr. Williams was first introduced to the VA as a pharmacy technician. He went on to pursue his Pharm.D. and graduated in 2011, to become one of the first residents at the CVVAMC. After completion of his PGY-1 residency, Dr. Williams accepted a position as a CPS working on PACT Green Team. Dr. Williams precepts APPE students and PGY-1 residents on the ambulatory care rotation as well as the Hepatology rotation.



Kristina Woods, Pharm.D.
Associate Chief of Pharmacy Operations

Kristina Woods, Pharm.D., is the Associate Chief of Pharmacy Operations. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from The University of Georgia College of Pharmacy in 2005. Dr. Woods has experience in various settings as a pharmacist including retail, hospital and long term care. Dr. Woods was hired at CVVAMC in 2013 as a clinical staff pharmacist and was promoted to her current position in May 2015. She serves as a preceptor for PGY1

resident's administrative learning experiences and is responsible for scheduling the resident's staffing requirements.

Ashley Scott, Pharm.D.
PACT Specialist (Perry CBOC)

Dr. Scott received her Pharm.D. from Mercer University and completed her PGY-1 residency at the Medical Center in Macon, Georgia. She was hired as a CPS at the VA in 2011. Dr. Scott is the preceptor for PGY-1 residents on their DI and Ambulatory care rotations. She currently serves as the PACT Clinical Specialist onsite at the Perry CBOC.

Future Residents

How to Apply

Requirements:

- **Qualifications:**
 - Pharm.D. degree from an accredited school of pharmacy
 - U.S. citizenship
 - Complete pre-employment background check and screening
 - **Required Application Materials:**
 - Register with ASHP Residency Matching Program
 - Complete Pharmacy Online Residency Centralized Application Service (PhORCAS)
- Requirements:**
1. Letter of intent
 2. Curriculum vitae
 3. Official academic transcripts
 4. Three letters of reference

Useful Links:

- ASHP's Online Application System, PhORCAS: <http://www.ashp.org/phorcas>
- PhORCAS contains everything required, except the VA application, which should be completed, signed, and saved as PDF in the supplemental documents section of PhORCAS. VA Application: <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-2850b-fill.pdf>

More Information

For More Information

- **Program Contact:**
Deborah Hobbs, Pharm.D.
478-272-1210 ext. 3355
Deborah.hobbs@va.gov
- **Mailing Address:**
Carl Vinson VAMC
Pharmacy Services
1826 Veterans Blvd.

Dublin, GA 31021

- [Link to Program Brochure](#)