



## University of Maryland Pediatric Residents – Class of 2027

### **Brooke Davis, M.D.**

**Medical School:** Albany Medical College

Hi, I'm Brooke! I was born and raised in Westminster, MD. I went to the University of Maryland, College Park for undergrad and majored in general biology with a minor in Spanish literature, linguistics, and culture. I took 2 gap years following college during which time I worked as a scribe in my local emergency department. I attended Albany Medical College for my medical training. I have always loved working with children and have worked as a gymnastics coach and tutor in the past. I am so excited to return to my home state and care for the children of Baltimore. Outside of the hospital, you can find me exploring new restaurants/bars, lounging by a body of water, hanging out with my cat Hudson, or watching the latest episode of Survivor.



### **Eseosa Fernandes, M.D., M.P.H.**

**Medical School:** University of Ibadan College of Medicine

I'm originally from Nigeria and went to medical school at the University of Ibadan. I have a strong interest in serving underserved populations and to prepare me for a career helping redress health disparities, I came to the United States to pursue a Masters in Public Health at Harvard University. Following this, I have also completed residency in preventive medicine at University of Maryland and had a wonderful experience. I love working with kids and have had the exciting opportunity to participate in the Baltimore for Healthy Babies project, as well as other pediatric-focused initiatives. I look forward to continuing to contribute to improving health outcomes for kids in Baltimore, on a population-based and clinical level. When not at work, I enjoy reading novels, watching comedies, exploring the arts, cooking and trying out different recipes, travelling, hanging out with friends, and love spending quality time with my son (3 years old) and husband.



### **Esther Fuzayl, D.O.**

**Medical School:** Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hello! I'm a born and raised Baltimorean and proud. For undergrad I went to the University of Delaware (go Blue Hens!) where I created my own major in Sociomedical Sciences and Health Policy with the goal of pursuing an MPH in Health Policy (still on my vision board) but ultimately decided to pursue medicine after spending my gap years working in a free clinic for the underserved here in Baltimore. I went to Touro COM for med school with the hopes of pursuing a primary care specialty. I've always loved working with kids, particularly those who are very sick and complex. I'm excited to be back home in Baltimore so I can continue to give back to the community that raised me. When I'm not in the hospital you can find me napping, running on the treadmill, reading on my Kindle, booking my next trip abroad or most likely, catching up on Bravo shows. Life's all about balance.

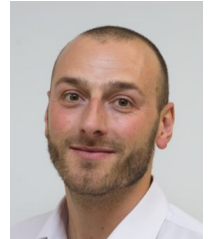


**Shreya Inala, M.D.****Medical School:** Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

Hello! I am originally from Frederick, MD, but have spent the last 9 years in Philadelphia attending both undergraduate and medical school at Temple University. I majored in Biology and minored in Healthcare Management and also participated in the Pre-Med Health Scholars program. I am so excited to be back home in Maryland! Outside of the hospital, I love exploring new restaurants and eating good food, as well as hanging out with family and friends, spending time with my cat Aurora, puzzling, and watching Bollywood movies!

**Oliver Komm, M.D.****Medical School:** University of Hamburg

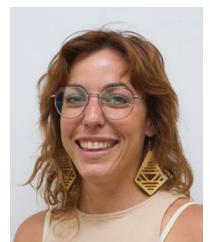
Born in Germany, in the last 10 years I lived in Baltimore, Denmark, Paris, Geneva, Rabat (Morocco), Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire), Atakpamé (Togo) and Sevilla. After a short stint as an intern at the University Hospital in Geneva I came to Baltimore to work in research, originally planning on staying for just half a year, but after I actually fell in love with the US I decided to stay for a bit longer. Two years ago I decided to do my residency in the States, worked on my boards and applied last cycle. Now I am extremely happy to be an intern at UMD in pediatrics! I decided that I wanted to become a pediatrician when I held a newborn during an observership at the local hospital in my hometown, half my lifetime ago ;).

**Meera Krishnamoorthy, M.D.****Medical School:** George Washington University School of Medicine & Health Sciences

Hi! I was born in Rockville and raised in Clarksburg, MD. I went to the University of Maryland, College Park for undergrad where my major was General Biology. In college, I volunteered at my own pediatrician's office and my heart was immediately set on peds. I went to the George Washington University School of Medicine for medical school and after my third year clinical rotations, I found my passions were centered on improving pediatric social determinants of health through a public health lens, so I ended up doing GW's 5-year MD/MPH program and taking a year off between third and fourth year to explore public health more deeply. I'm so happy to be returning home to Maryland and am so excited to be living in Baltimore, I'm proud to be a DMV lifer! My hobbies outside of medicine include playing with my 6 year old cat named Tig, painting, reading, and trying out basically any kind of DIY/craft projects.

**Neena Maizels, M.D.****Medical School:** University of Queensland School of Medicine

Hi! I was born and raised in the suburbs of Richmond, VA. For undergrad, I attended George Mason University, where I was a D1 springboard diver majoring in psychology with a neuroscience minor. After initially planning to pursue a neuro PhD, I made a last minute shift towards medical school. I completed a Post-Bacc at VCU to fulfill some missing pre-med requirements, and through shadowing a pediatric neurologist during this time, discovered my love for pediatrics! After completing almost 6 years of school and taking the MCAT, I gifted myself with a little travel break to Australia, where I lived and explored for over a year. Although there was no studying or practicing medicine during my travels, I did learn about the UQ-Ochsner Clinical School- a program that would allow me to return to Brisbane for my two pre clinical years, and



then spend my 2 clinical years training in New Orleans. I was accepted and blessed with the incredible experience of not only studying medicine cross-continently, but also snorkeling the Great Barrier Reef, dancing in Mardi Gras parades and learning how to properly eat a crawfish! After so much time away from the East Coast and my family in Virginia, I began to crave a return to my roots, and fell in love with the Maryland Peds program along the way! My perpetually adventurous spirit is so excited for this next chapter and the chance to explore a new coastal city! Outside of medicine you will find me hanging out at all of the coffee shops around town while sipping on espresso and reading a book I probably just impulse bought at a local bookstore. I also love practicing yoga and discovering cool new thrift stores. I currently live alone with my 2 sweet kitties and am planning to fill my new house in Hampden with at least a jungle's worth of house plants.

**Alexis Mbakwe, D.O**

**Medical School:** West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine



Hey! I was born and raised in Philadelphia, PA. I spent all of my teen years raised in South Jersey. I went to Rutgers University New Brunswick for undergrad and majored in Exercise Science and Sport Studies. I also went to graduate school at University of South Carolina and majored in Exercise Science as well. I worked for 4 years at University of Delaware prior to starting medical school. I went to West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and got to experience the "wild and wonderful" West Virginia. I am very happy to be closer to family and friends. I am more excited to join the Baltimore community and take care of kids. Outside of the hospital, I can be both an introverted homebody baking sweets and desserts. But when I like to be social, you can find me trying new restaurants, traveling, running, and hanging with friends and family. I am a plant mom and always looking to house more plant babies.

**Kerry McCans, M.D.**

**Medical School:** Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University



Hi! I was born and raised in Delaware County, just outside of Philadelphia. I went to the University of Pittsburgh where I majored in Emergency Medicine and became a paramedic. I practiced as a paramedic for three years in that area before moving back to Philadelphia to attend medical school at Temple University. I love pediatrics and coached middle school soccer during medical school. I love Philadelphia (Go Birds), but am very excited to make Baltimore my home. Outside of work I love to knit or do anything crafty and hang out with my dog, Zuzu. She is an 8 year old 75 pound rescue who loves to hike. She also has a really cute blue tongue!

**Michele Naideck, M.D.**

**Medical School:** Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Faculty of Health Sciences



Hi! I was born and raised in Maryland, and I'm overjoyed to be coming back home for residency at University of Maryland after a long time! I studied Neuroscience and Dance at Tulane University in New Orleans, then served in Cambodia as a Community Health Educator with Peace Corps for 3 years. While there, I also worked with Harpswell Foundation, a female educational empowerment organization, and performed with a local contemporary dance group. I got my medical degree at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, where I also continued to gain experience in global health and human rights. I am excited to return back home and turn my attention to treating the children of Baltimore. Aside from medicine, I also enjoy dancing, photography, bread baking, hiking, and fostering lots of plants.

**Patrick Ruane, D.O.**

**Medical School:** Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Carolinas Campus

Hello! I was born and raised in Red Bank, NJ. I went to the University of South Carolina (USC) for undergrad and majored in Exercise Science. After college, I was a medical assistant at USC Athletics, working with athletes of all ages. I went to Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Carolinas Campus for medical school, where I got to live in a city, the mountains, and the beach all in 4 years. I am so excited to be coming to a new city and caring for kids in Baltimore! Outside medicine and the hospital, I enjoy watching sunsets on my rooftop. I also enjoy golfing and paddleboarding whenever I have the chance. I am trying to travel more and hike more too!



**Nyajei Vandi, D.O.**

**Medical School:** New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hi! My name is Nyajei, I was born in Sliver Spring Maryland but raised primarily in Bowie Maryland. I went to the University of Maryland College Park for undergrad and majored in Public Health Science. I took 2 years off between college and medical school to receive my masters in Biomedical Studies at Drexel University. (I fell in love with the city of Philadelphia!) I went to the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine for medical school and gained wonderful friends while in New York. I'm so happy and excited to be back home in the state that raised me and serve the children of Baltimore! Outside of medicine, I LOVE to journal, spend time with my friends and family and attend church! Fun fact; I have a deep love for crab legs and will absolutely never turn down a seafood boil date!



**Haley Yetter, D.O.**

**Medical School:** Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine – Virginia Campus

Hello! My name is Haley! I spent my whole life in Sykesville, MD (coolest small town in America circa 2016). My parents are both from College Park, MD and every single person (parents, grandparents, & brother) attended the University of MD. I decided to do something completely different (my own tiny rebellion) and went to Clemson University for my undergraduate education. I graduated with a degree in Biochemistry, a puppy, and 2 football national championships (Go Tigers!!). I ventured to Blacksburg for medical school, at VCOM VA, where I met my (now) Fiancé and we got our second golden retriever. I am so beyond grateful to be back in Maryland close to my family and living my lifelong dream of becoming a pediatrician. If I'm not at the hospital, you'll probably see me training/walking/running.



**Pediatrics Preliminary – Neurology (Neurodevelopmental Disorders)**

**Sung Jik Cha, M.D.**

**Medical School:** Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine

I was born and raised in Seoul, Korea. I've also lived in New Jersey, California, Washington, Michigan, and now Maryland. I went to UC Berkeley for undergrad where I majored in Computer Science. I worked briefly as a software engineer after college and realized it wasn't the right career for me, then worked in special education which sparked



my interest in medicine and neurodevelopmental disabilities. In my free time I enjoy playing tennis, disc golf and road cycling.