CHIEF RESIDENTS
Emile Barreau, MD
Hometown: Miami, FL
Medical School: Florida State University College of Medicine
Interests: Basketball, movies, traveling, spending time with family
Favorite Quote: “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

Juan Carlos Zarza Moreno, MD
Hometown: Havana, Cuba
Medical School: University of Science, Arts and Technology
Interests: Crossfit, movies, attending live sports and music events, spending time with family
Favorite Quote: “To be a good leader, one must be a good follower.”

THIRD YEAR RESIDENTS
Craig Joseph Brown, MD
Hometown: Panama City Beach, FL
Medical School: Saint George’s University
Interests: Surfing, fishing, free-diving, dirt-biking, adventures, camping, travel
Favorite Quote: “Once you can accept the universe as being something expanding into an infinite nothing which is something, wearing stripes with plaid is easy.” — Albert Einstein

Michael Muench, MD
Hometown: Miami, FL
Medical School: University of Miami Miller School of Medicine
Interests: Gardening, piano, scuba diving, yoga, international travel, integrative medicine
Favorite Quote: “We must learn to regard people less in the light of what they do or omit to do, and more in the light of what they suffer.” — Dietrich Bonhoeffer

José R. Perez, MD
Hometown: Havana, Cuba
Medical School: Higher Institute of Medical Sciences Havana, Cuba
Interests: Biking, traveling, fishing, swimming, reading, music, film/documentaries, American History
Favorite Quote: “Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air.” — John Quincy Adams

Jorge Carriazo, MD
Hometown: Havana, Cuba
Medical School: Higher Institute of Medical Sciences Havana, Cuba
Interests: Biking, traveling, fishing, swimming, reading, music, film/documentaries, American History
Favorite Quote: “Courage and perseverance have a magical talisman, before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish into air.” — John Quincy Adams

Deema Jassi, MD
Hometown: Vernon, British Columbia
Medical School: Saint George’s University
Interests: Hockey, cooking, hiking, travel, scuba diving, fitness and nutrition
Favorite Quote: “You miss 100% of the shots you don’t take” — Wayne Gretzky

Yamirka Perugoria, MD
Hometown: Pinar del Rio, Cuba
Medical School: Facultad de Ciencias Medicas Pinar del Rio
Interests: Salsa dancing, playing tennis, reading, swimming, cooking
Favorite Quote: “If you can dream it, you can do it.”
SECOND YEAR RESIDENTS

Mary Beth Black, MD
Hometown: Knoxville, TN New Orleans, LA
Medical School: Louisiana State University HSC SOM

Paola Cintron Villa, MD
Hometown: Mayaguez, PR
Medical School: San Juan Bautista- SOM
Interests: Traveling, going to the beach, exercising and spending time with family and friends
Favorite Quote: “To remain whole, be twisted, to become straight, let yourself be bent. To become full, be hollow. Be tattered that you may be renewed.” – Lao-tzu

Tatiana Giraldo-Vivas, MD
Hometown: Cali, Colombia
Medical School: Universidad del Valle- Escuela de Medicina
Interests: Running, cooking and baking
Favorite Quote: “To be a good leader, one must be a good follower.”

Sameilia M. Hernaiz Gomez, MD
Hometown: San Juan, PR
Medical School: Universidad Central del Caribe
Interests: Community service, teaching, movies, reading, baking and salsa dancing
Favorite Quote: “Destacarse en las calles es aprender a ser pequeño, ser grande en las calles equivale a ser diminuto frente a Dios y al proyimo.” – Dr. Vargas-Vidot

Alicia Kepich, MD
Hometown: Rochester, NY
Medical School: Virginia Commonwealth University-SOM
Interests: Latin/ballroom dancing, cooking and integrative medicine
Favorite Quote: “We learn something every day, and lots of times it’s that what we learned the day before was wrong.” – Bill Vaughan

Ashley M. Rojas, MD
Hometown: Miami, FL
Medical School: FIU Herbert Wertheim-COM
Interests: Travel, poetry, history, art, cooking and yoga
Favorite Quote: “You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it’s clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors and aspirations, in this noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.” – Max Ehrmann, “Desiderata”

Marianne Turner, MD
Hometown: Venice, FL
Medical School: Florida State University- COM
Interests: Cooking, running, painting, ceramics and gardening
Favorite Quote: "Love is a fruit in season at all times, and within reach of every hand." – Mother Teresa

Tiffanie Wong, DO
Hometown: Burlingame, California
Medical School: Nova Southeastern University
Interests: Photography, piano
FIRST YEAR RESIDENTS

Linda Alvarez, MD
Hometown: Pomona, NY
Medical School: New York Medical College
Interests: Yoga, live music, cooking, Footbag, spending time with her two puppies
Favorite Quote: “For every minute you are angry, you lose sixty seconds of happiness.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Maykel Desir, MD
Hometown: Poughkeepsie, NY
Medical School: Ohio State University College of Medicine
Interests: Playing football, basketball, piano, saxophone
Favorite Quote: “The time is always right to do what is right.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

Edangel Garcia Chirino, MD
Hometown: Havana City, Cuba
Medical School: Universidad de Ciencias Medicas de la Habana
Interests: Going to the gym, spending time with friends and family, karaoke, swimming, playing basketball, reading, watching TV
Favorite Quote: “If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.” – Benjamin Franklin

Lori Marcu, MD
Hometown: Gaiesti, Romania
Medical School: FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
Interests: Traveling, foreign cuisine, outdoor activities, weight training, movies, music, spending time with family and friends
Favorite Quote: “Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.” – Winston Churchill

Sergio Ramoa, MD
Hometown: Richmond, VA
Medical School: Virginia Commonwealth University
Interests: Hiking, traveling, eating, exploring, reading, photography, bow ties
Favorite Quote: “You’re braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.” – Winnie the Pooh (A. A. Milne)

Kristen Smith, MD
Hometown: Miami, FL
Medical School: Meharry Medical College
Interests: Reading, spending time with friends and family, watching live musical performances and stage plays, dancing, going to the movies, trying local restaurants
Favorite Quote: “Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” – Harriet Tubman

Alexander Su, MD
Hometown: Old Tappan, NJ
Medical School: University of Miami School of Medicine
Interests: Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, fishing, tennis, kayaking, camping, cooking, fitness and nutrition
Favorite Quote: "Health is the greatest possession. Contentment is the greatest treasure. Confidence is the greatest friend. Non-being is the greatest joy." – Lao Tzu

Meredith Turner, MD
Hometown: Nassau, Bahamas
Medical School: Jefferson Medical College
Interests: Painting, running, the beach, travel
Favorite Quote: “We need to be the change we wish to see in the world.” – Mahatma Gandhi