



# Faith and Urban Healthcare

A Rotation for Students and Residents



LAWNDALE CHRISTIAN  
**HEALTH CENTER**  
*Loving God. Loving People.*



**OUR MISSION** is to show and share the love of Jesus by promoting wellness and providing quality, affordable healthcare for Lawndale and the neighboring communities.

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## Dear prospective applicant,

THE FAITH & URBAN HEALTHCARE ROTATION is centered on the question, *what does Christ demand of His followers in the healthcare professions?*

Medicine is undergoing a number of profound changes. Advancements in scientific research and technological innovation have allowed us to intervene where we could not intervene before. Computer screens, EMR forms, tablets, on-site imaging tests, and various other technological interventions dominate experiences in the exam room. Curiously, despite greater possibilities, deep dissatisfaction abounds for both providers and patients. Many physicians, when asked, say they would not venture into medicine again. Patients are equally dissatisfied with their forays into a highly specialized and fragmented healthcare system that largely sees them less as human beings and more as embodiments of medical cases, subject to study and “solutions.” Healthcare providers face increasing demands for productivity and quality care performance measures. These trends spell collateral damage for primary care. Riddled with debt, and with little exposure to primary care, fewer students will enter the ranks to provide frontline services for populations with the greatest need. All in all, there is little healing in modern medicine.

This is the landscape in which the Church must stand witness.

In the Gospels, Christ emerges as the ultimate healer. He teaches us that physical healing is only a part of a larger restoration of a patient to self, community, and Kingdom. He challenges us to direct our attention and compassion to the sickest and the poorest, reminding His believers that “whatever you have done for the least of these, you have done for me.” Christ subverts and overturns all of our idols in modern medicine and bids us upstream toward perhaps an impossible calling.

Lawndale Christian Health Center invites students in the health professions to explore life and work in this calling. THE FAITH AND URBAN HEALTHCARE ROTATION PROGRAM will give students a space to explore what that calling might look like for themselves, providing them both with clinical experience and a theological curriculum that will help them develop as Christian healthcare providers. The students will also have opportunities to discuss salient questions and issues with members of the Senior Leadership, who are invested in nurturing future Christian leaders in primary care for the undeserved.

We do not know all of the answers, nor have we fully imagined what Jesus’ ministry in a modern healthcare center might look like. And in that sense, the purpose for this program is not primarily pedagogical. Rather, we hope the rotation sparks in the students questions about their profession and calling, and connects them to a larger community within medicine that can accompany them on that journey.



**Dr. Ryan Fabrizius**

Internal Medicine & Pediatrics

Director of Student and Resident Rotations



# Overview

**40** HOURS  
A WEEK

**2-6** WEEKS\*

**ONE-TO-ONE**  
CLINICAL PRECEPTING  
WITH LCHC PROVIDERS

**READINGS &  
DISCUSSIONS**

FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

\* The number of weeks is somewhat flexible according to the applicant's needs.

# Location & Setting

## Lawndale Christian Health Center (LCHC)

is a community-based nonprofit organization founded in 1984 and dedicated to improving the health of Chicago's Lawndale, Garfield Park and Archer Heights communities. LCHC provides quality primary care services without regard for a patient's ability to pay and serves as a community resource for eliminating health disparities.

LCHC is one of several ministries of Lawndale Community Church. The focus of the health center is to address the spiritual, social, physical and emotional components of health and well-being.

Approximately 51% of LCHC's patients have Medicaid coverage and another 32% have no medical insurance coverage at all. 57% of our patients are latino and 39% are black.

LCHC is a federally qualified health center (FQHC). LCHC provides patient care at 5 sites (Ogden Ave., Homan Square, Farragut Academy, Archer Heights, Breakthrough) with each site serving a slightly different patient population.

Our Ogden campus is home to 5 clinical care teams, an eye clinic, dental clinic, fitness center, and a café. The clinic will also add a senior center and an immediate care clinic on campus early 2019.

In FY 2018 LCHC provided 212,807 medical visits to a total of 62,774 patients.



# Eligibility

**LCHC** strongly prefers students and residents who apply for an elective rotation as opposed to a core clerkship and requires that participants have at least 3 months of outpatient clinic experience prior to a LCHC rotation. LCHC also strongly prefers that participants have an interest in rotating at a faith-based, Christian health center and requires an interest in working among underserved patient populations.

**Students from both physician (MD, DO) & mid-level (PA, NP) programs are welcome at LCHC**

## Rotation Description

Students will work directly with Lawndale providers in clinic, seeing patients with chronic conditions, acute illnesses and for general physical exams. All patients will be seen and discussed with the attending physician. Approximately 25 hours per week will be spent in patient care, primarily in primary care clinics. Home visits may also be integrated into the student's rotation schedule.

Approximately 20 hours per week, students will engage in small group discussions with LCHC providers and members of Senior Leadership. Discussions will revolve around relevant topics and readings in Scripture and Christian theology. Topics in the core curriculum include definition of health, purpose of medicine, impact of poverty, contraceptives & abortion, and disability, in addition to elective sessions.



# Examples of Reading

## **HOLY BIBLE**

(Selections)

## **Wendell Berry**

Life is a Miracle (Selections), "Body and the Earth," "Fidelity," "God, Science, and Imagination," "Health is Membership"

## **Jeffrey Bishop**

The Anticipatory Corpse: Medicine, Power, and the Care of the Dying (Selections)

## **David Caes**

Upholding the Vision: Serving the Poor in Training and Beyond, 2nd ed. (Selections)

## **Mary Eberstadt**

"Vindication of Humanae Vitae"

## **Steve Corbett & Brian Fikkert**

When Helping Hurts (Selections)

## **Thomas Hale**

Don't Let the Goats Eat the Loquat Trees

## **Stanley Hauerwas**

Living Gently in a Violent World (Selections) "Abortion, Theologically Understood," "Salvation and Health: Why Medicine Needs the Church"

## **Peter Kreeft**

Making Sense of Suffering (Selections)

## **C. S. Lewis**

"Meditations in a Tool Shed," "The Weight of Glory"

## **Margaret Mohrmann, MD**

Medicine as Ministry (Selections)

## **Mother Theresa**

"Mother Theresa Goes to Washington"

## **Henri Nouwen**

In the Name of Jesus (Selections), Wounded Healer (Selections)

## **John Perkins**

Let Justice Roll Down (Selections)

## **Thomas E. Reynolds**

Vulnerable Communion: A

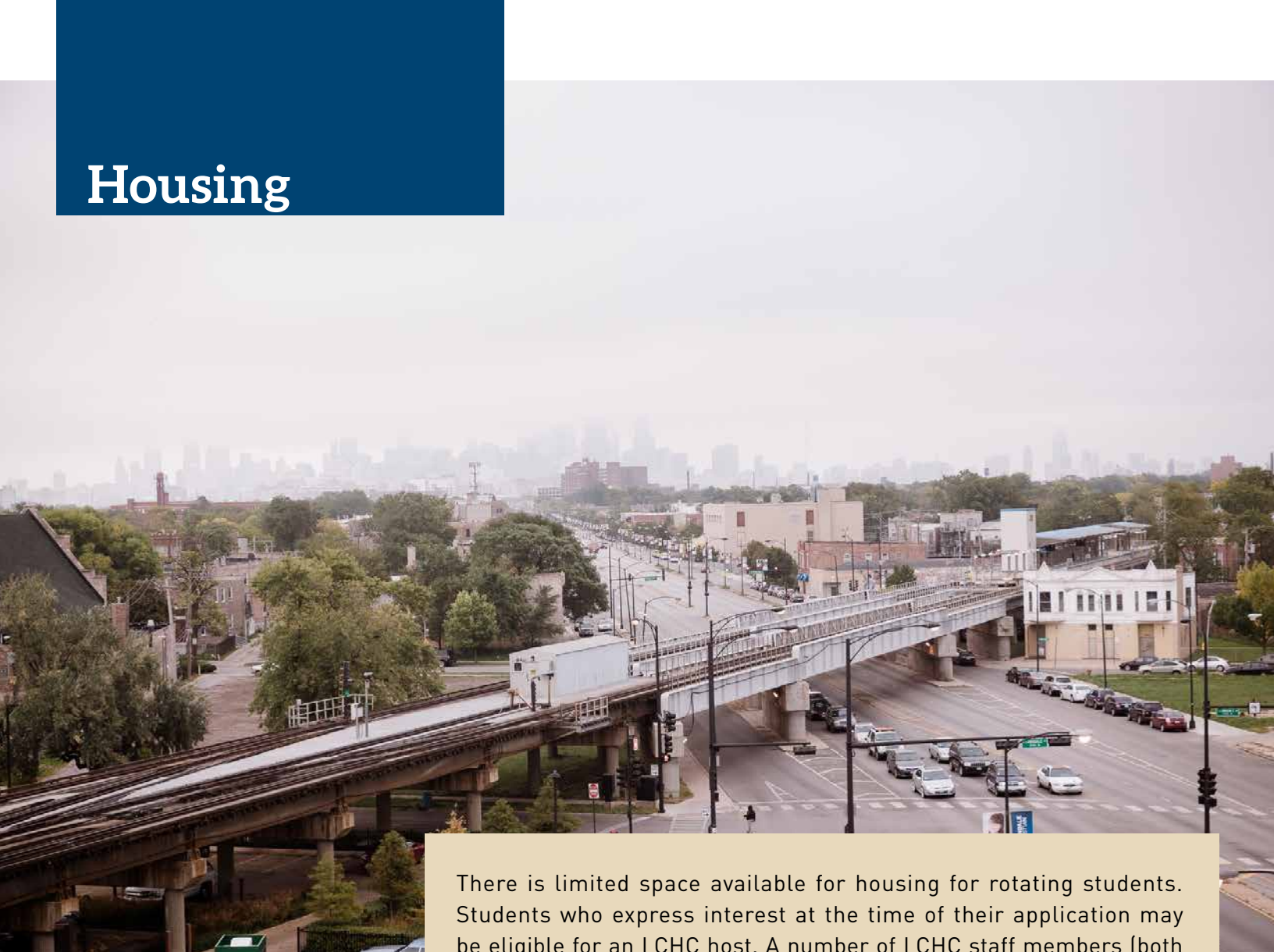
## **Joel Shuman & Brian Volck, MD**

Reclaiming the Body (Selections)

## **Allen Verhey**

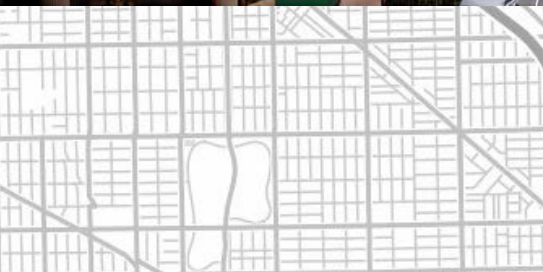
Reading the Bible in the Strange World of Medicine (Selections)

# Housing



There is limited space available for housing for rotating students. Students who express interest at the time of their application may be eligible for an LCHC host. A number of LCHC staff members (both providers and non-providers) live in the neighborhoods of North and South Lawndale, and may be able to accommodate rotating students.

Availability of hosts varies, and students are not guaranteed a host. Students should not rely on getting an LCHC host, and are responsible for finding alternate housing options in the area.





# How to Apply

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**For information about applying:**  
[www.lawndale.org/clinical-rotations](http://www.lawndale.org/clinical-rotations)

**For inquiries:**  
[ClinicalRotations@lawndale.org](mailto:ClinicalRotations@lawndale.org)

3860 W. Ogden Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60623  
872.588.3000  
[www.lawndale.org](http://www.lawndale.org)

