

**Ohio Department of Health**

246 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
www.odh.ohio.gov



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**N E W S**

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*Ted Strickland, Governor*  
*Alvin D. Jackson, M.D., Director*

**Office of Public Affairs**  
*Jay Carey, Director*

For immediate release - Oct. 7, 2008

**ODH CELEBRATES PRIMARY CARE WEEK BY HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL PHYSICIANS**

COLUMBUS – More than 1.5 million Ohioans reside in areas that have been federally designated as having a shortage of primary care providers. These shortages impact residents' ability to access care in many rural and urban communities throughout the state.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) works daily to address access issues in Ohio. Through its Primary Care and Rural Health Program, ODH assists underserved communities in recruiting and retaining primary care providers through various state and federal incentive programs. These programs include the National Health Service Corps Scholarship and Loan Repayment Programs, state loan repayment including a Minority/Appalachian Loan Repayment Initiative and visa waiver programs for foreign physicians.

“ODH is committed to helping Ohioans get needed primary care,” said Director Alvin D. Jackson, M.D. “These programs are a key part of that commitment.”

Gov. Ted Strickland designated the week of Oct. 6th as Primary Care Week. The week focuses the attention of medical and other health professions students on primary care career options and encourages Ohio residents to recognize the importance of primary care providers and their contributions to health care delivery and society. Jackson, who participated in the National Health Service Corp (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program while practicing at a Federally Qualified Health Center in Fremont, knows firsthand the struggles of those with little or no access to quality health care services.

“Primary Care Week is a time to thank those who work in underserved areas in Ohio and raise awareness of this issue in our state,” Jackson said. “I understand the importance of their work.” Physicians who have contributed to increasing access to primary care in their communities and participated in ODH recruitment and retention programs include:

- Rafay Atiq, M.D., of Dittmer Outpatient Services in Troy, was one of 30 psychiatrists in the United States honored as an "Exemplary Psychiatrist" by the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Atiq is a current J-1 Visa Waiver Program participant.
- Anthony Atkins, M.D., a Family Practitioner with Allen County Health Partners in Lima, released a compact disc of rap music to help inner-city youth make the right choices about their health and their lives. Atkins recently completed his NHSC Scholarship Program service.
- Christopher Coulson, D.O., a Family Practitioner with Arrowhead Clinic in Newcomerstown, is a member of the Army National Guard who has been deployed twice to Iraq. Coulson is a current participant in a joint state-federal loan repayment program.
- Douglas Jones, D.O., a Family Practitioner with Jenkins Memorial Health Clinic in Wellston, received the Ohio Critical Access Hospital Program's Rural Health Provider Award for his outstanding patient care, dedication and leadership. Jones is a former NHSC Scholarship Program participant who has remained in practice in Jackson County for over 20 years.

To contact a physician in your area who is truly making a difference in providing primary care to the underserved, please reference the attached list.

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**Contact: Ohio Department of Health – Office of Public Affairs (614) 644-8562**

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PRIMARY CARE RECRUITMENT/RETENTION PROGRAMS  
PARTICIPANT CONTACTS FOR PRIMARY CARE WEEK  
OCTOBER 2008**

**ADAMS**

Angela Shupert, M.D.  
John Shupert, M.D.  
Cedar Valley Medical Associates  
126 N. Cross Street  
West Union, OH 45693  
(937) 544-8989

**ADAMS, BROWN, CLERMONT, FAYETTE, HIGHLAND**

Blair Chick, M.D.\*  
Health Source of Ohio  
5400 DuPont Circle, Suite A  
Milford, OH 45150  
(513) 576-7700

**ALLEN**

Anthony Atkins, M.D.  
Allen County Health Partners  
441 East 8th Street  
Lima, OH 45804  
(419) 221-3072

**ASHTABULA**

Jeffrey Bedlion, M.D.\*  
Kinsman Health Center  
8511 Main Street  
Kinsman, OH 44428  
(330) 876-1662

**ATHENS**

Jay Shubrook, D.O.  
UMA Diabetes Center  
Cornwell Center  
O'Bleness Hospital  
Athens, OH 45701  
(740) 566-4880

**ATHENS, HOCKING, MEIGS, PERRY, ROSS, VINTON**

Dawn Murray, D.O.\*  
Family Healthcare, Inc.  
1049 Western Avenue  
Chillicothe, OH 45601  
(740) 773-1006

**CLARK**

Yamini Teegala, M.D.  
Rocking Horse Center  
651 S. Limestone Street  
Springfield, OH 45505  
(937) 324-1111

**CLERMONT**

Heather Owens, M.D.  
Bradley Patterson, M.D.  
Regional Family Healthcare  
525B W. Plane Street  
Bethel, OH 45106  
(513) 734-9050

**COSHOCTON**

Robert Gwinn, D.O.\*  
Family Physicians of Coshocton  
440 Browns Lane  
Coshocton, OH 43812  
(740) 622-0332

**CUYAHOGA**

E. Harry Walker, M.D.\*  
MetroHealth Center for Community Health  
6835 Broadway Avenue  
Cleveland, OH 44105  
(216) 957-1700

Walter Clark, M.D.\*  
Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services, Inc.  
8500 Hough Ave.  
Cleveland, OH 44103  
(216) 231-7700

**DARKE**

Carlos Menendez, M.D.\*  
Family Health Services of Darke County  
5735 Meeker Road  
Greenville, OH 45331  
(937) 548-3806

**FRANKLIN**

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Wendy Anderson, M.D.  
Ambulatory Pediatrics  
Pediatric Academic Association  
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(614) 722-4957

Bernice Pritchett, M.D.  
East Central Columbus Neighborhood Health Center  
1180 East Main Street  
Columbus, OH 43205  
(614) 645-5535

William Turek, D.O.  
Lower Lights Christian Health Center  
1251 West Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43222  
(614) 274-1455

**GREENE**

Shirelle Applin, M.D.  
386 N. Detroit Street  
Xenia, OH 45385  
(937) 352-2860

**HENRY**

Laura Elliott, M.D.  
Elliott OB/GYN Inc.  
1330A N. Scott Street  
Napoleon, OH 43545  
(419) 599-0055

**JACKSON**

Douglas Jones, D.O.  
Jenkins Memorial Health Clinic  
140 Jenkins Road  
Wellston, OH 45692  
(740) 384-2167

**JACKSON, PIKE, SCIOTO**

Randy Runyon, Executive Director\*\*  
Family Health Centers  
227 Valleyview Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690  
(740) 947-7726

**LAWRENCE**

Sue Adams, D.O.\*  
CAO Family Medical Centers  
305 N. Fifth Street  
Ironton, OH 45638  
(740) 532-3534

**MAHONING**

Ronald Dwinnells, M.D.\*  
Ohio NorthEast Health System  
726 Wick Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44505  
(330) 747-2330

**MIAMI**

Rafay Atiq, M.D.  
Upper Valley Medical Center  
3130 N. Dixie Highway  
Troy, OH 45373  
(937) 440-7626

**MONTGOMERY**

LaDonna Barnes-Lark, M.D.  
Drew Health Center  
1323 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Dayton, OH 45407  
(937) 461-4336

**SANDUSKY**

John Imm, M.D.\*  
Community Health Services  
410 Birchard Avenue  
Fremont, OH 43420  
(419) 334-8943

**TUSCARAWAS**

Christopher Coulson, D.O.  
Denise Miller, D.O.  
Arrowhead Clinic  
6307 E. State Road  
Newcomerstown, OH  
(740) 498-5515

Timothy McKnight, M.D.\*  
Twin City Hospital  
819 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Dennison, OH 44621  
(740) 922-7474

\* Physician is a current or former participant in one or more programs **and** there are/have been other participating providers at this organization.

\*\* Administrator can identify multiple participating providers at this organization.