



Internal Medicine Residency Program Director, Dr. Stephanie Call, Honored by NC Chapter of the American College of Physicians with Award for Volunteerism and Community Service



Stephanie Call, MD, MSH, Program Director for MAHEC's Internal Medicine Residency Program, has been named the 2025 winner of the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Physicians Dr. Gary Greenberg Memorial Award for Award for Volunteerism and Community Service.

The award was initiated to honor members who have distinguished themselves in voluntary service in the area of medicine and are eminent as true humanitarians.

Dr. Call received the award for her work leading the Internal Medicine

residents and their response to crisis brought about by Hurricane Helene that devastated Western North Carolina in September 2024. (*She is shown here, far right, with MAHEC Internal Medicine residents.*)

As an award recipient, Dr. Call will be eligible for nomination for the National Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for Volunteerism and Community Service presented by the American College of Physicians each year at the national Internal Medicine Conference.

Excerpt from Nomination Submission

This past year, Hurricane Helene stunned Western North Carolina, dumping 31 inches of rainfall—an estimated several trillion gallons—causing the French Broad River and Swannanoa River to peak approximately 25 feet above normal. Tragically, the storm claimed the lives of around 100 individuals and caused several billion dollars' worth of damage to the region.

The destruction was unimaginable, and words fail to truly convey the extent of the suffering this community endured. However, even more remarkable than the scale of the disaster is the resilience and unwavering spirit of the people who call this area home.

When considering nominees for the Dr. Gary Greenberg Memorial Award for Volunteerism and Community Service, many individuals come to mind—those who dedicated their time and

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efforts to rebuilding and healing this community. Among these, I would like to nominate **Dr. Stephanie Call** and the MAHEC Internal Medicine Residents for their extraordinary commitment and service during this crisis.

Dr. Stephanie Call's dedication to disaster response was inspired by her father's training in the field. Years ago, she pursued her own training in emergency and disaster response, though she could never have anticipated how soon she would put this knowledge to use. In the days leading up to the storm's peak, Dr. Call was already preparing her team—her Internal Medicine residents—to staff the hospital and care for patients in the event of an emergency.

When the storm hit, she stayed at the hospital overnight, working alongside her residents, guiding them through essential tasks like paper charting, developing communication strategies without EMR or internet access, and attending leadership meetings to ensure the flow of timely and accurate information. For weeks, Dr. Call worked tirelessly to ensure all team members were accounted for and safe.

More About the Award



The North Carolina ACP Chapter Volunteerism and Community Service Award was initiated to honor members who have distinguished themselves in voluntary service in the area of medicine and are eminent as true humanitarians. Award recipients will be eligible for nomination for the National Oscar E. Edwards Memorial Award for Volunteerism and Community Service presented by the American College of Physicians each year at the national Internal Medicine Conference. It has been awarded in North Carolina since 2004.

In 2019, the award was renamed to “Dr. Gary Greenberg Memorial Award for Volunteerism and Community Service” in memory of Gary N. Greenberg, MD, FACP. Dr. Greenberg was a long-time ACP member in Durham, NC, and recipient of the Volunteerism and Community Service Award in 2014 in recognition of his work as medical director of the Open Door Clinic, at Urban Ministries of Wake County. His legacy of service to the uninsured also included active roles with the Partnership for a Healthy Durham, Durham CAN, Project Access of Durham, Carolina Jews for Justice, Doctors for America, and HealthCare for All, NC.

Dr. Call's efforts continue post-Helene, helping raise nearly \$15,500

Separate from her work that led to the ACP award, Dr. Call played a pivotal role in the success of a recent Duke University Department of Medicine fundraiser that benefited MAHEC. After the storm, contacts at Duke reached out to her as one of the university's 2024 Joseph C. Greenfield Visiting Professor of Medicine Lecture keynote speakers. Upon learning more about the magnitude of Hurricane Helene's destruction, they decided to make MAHEC the recipient of donations through their annual holiday giving campaign.

The initiative was the first time the Department of Medicine extended its holiday campaign beyond the university. Dr. Call provided information that helped encourage participation from Duke faculty and staff across 13 divisions, raising \$15,460 for MAHEC from 57 Duke physicians, nurse practitioners, and residents. MAHEC is indebted to Dr. Call for her efforts at all levels, and as MAHEC Chair of Internal Medicine Dr. Nate Spell put it, “She is appreciated nationwide for her service to the education of residents in internal medicine.”