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The Governor's Institute
Addiction Medicine Conference

April 15th, 2020

Dear conference organizers,

I hope this finds you, your family and friends, and colleagues well and safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am writing to apply for a scholarship to the upcoming Addiction Medicine conference to be held virtually on May 1st and 2nd. I am a third-year medical student at UNC School of Medicine (SOM), where I am participating in the Family Medicine department's FIRST (Fully Integrated Readiness for Service Training) Program, an accelerated training program in Family Medicine that condenses medical school into three years, leading to residency and service in an underserved North Carolina community. I anticipate graduating from SOM in May 2021 and beginning my intern year that summer.

I am entering the medical profession in order to work for greater social justice in North Carolina, and I see treating patients afflicted by the opioid epidemic and other substance use issues as an essential part of this work.

Through my training to date, I have been involved in clinical care of numerous patients with substance use disorders (alcohol, opioids, and other drugs). In the practice settings where I have trained so far, the community health centers where I hope to complete residency (via UNC's Underserved Track), and the type of underserved setting where I intend to practice afterwards, there is a large need for more physicians knowledgeable about substance use disorders who can provide excellent treatment and support for patients. I have received some education about substance use disorders through the SOM curriculum, clinical rotations, and supplementary reading I have done on my own, but know that I need to develop a much deeper knowledge base and clinical skillset in this area to serve patients effectively.

I am sure that this conference would enhance my clinical work as a student and future physician and hope to have the opportunity to attend. A scholarship would be very helpful to that end, given my current financial constraints. Thank you for considering my application.

Warmly,
Alex Gregor