



Anne Cotter is from Middleburg, Virginia, a small town 50 miles west of Washington DC. Anne has a background in biology, global health and emergency medical technology. She stated that she can see her career and life existing in a rural community and that is why she was drawn to this program. Anne is very inquisitive and always willing to go the extra mile to learn about a medical topic.

Gisselle Mani is from El Paso, Texas but spent time as a child on a ranch in Chihuahua, Mexico. She has a background in research, Spanish, and working with Latino communities. Gisselle stated that her interest in rural health comes from wanting to gain the ability to make the most out of available resources in order to treat people living in a rural area. Gisselle is very passionate about working with Latino communities and excited about learning new medical skills.

Brittany Papworth is from Hoffman Estates which is a suburb of Chicago, Illinois and has a background in environmental science and engineering. Brittany stated that she values the power of community and being connected with people within that community. She can imagine herself in a rural area and feels very drawn to serving rural and underserved populations in North Carolina. Brittany was described by her rural preceptor as “a joy to work with” and “very hands on” in the clinical setting.

Yolanda Paylor is from Hillsborough, North Carolina and has a background in community service, Spanish, and theater. Yolanda stated that she has a rural heart and her biggest concern is providing care for underserved populations. Through a research project she discovered that Western North Carolina showed a serious disparity in the number of available physicians and this is what made her interested in the program. Yolanda brings a positive and jovial energy to group settings and was held in high regard by her rural preceptor.

Lindsey Rose is from Winona, Minnesota, a small town along the Mississippi River and has a background in public health and elementary education. Before attending medical school Lindsey worked as an elementary school teacher in Rocky Mount, North Carolina and this experience made her extremely passionate about this program. Lindsey is compassionate, focused, and dedicated to providing medical care in rural communities.

Katy Sims is from Carthage, North Carolina and has a background in outdoor activities, biology, and Spanish. Katy stated that her life was dictated by the rooster’s crow, since she grew up in a very rural setting. This childhood experience of living in a rural area fostered Katy’s desire to practice medicine in rural a community. She is very dedicated to increasing the amount of healthcare opportunities available to rural citizens in Western North Carolina.

Rivers Woodward is from Franklin, North Carolina. He has a background is outdoor sports, biology, theater, medical clowning, and complementary and alternative medicine. Woodward stated that his dream is to gain the knowledge and tools to work within the current health care system to create a practice that provides personal, high-quality, and integrative services to those in rural communities.