



NAME: CHARRON JOHNSON
DISCIPLINE: PEDIATRICS

Past/current experiences working in the field of disabilities:

The highlight of my pediatric training has been caring for patients with disabilities. I am excited to be a Fellow and focus my training in this area. Some of my experiences outside of work have been volunteering at an early intervention preschool and coaching a Special Olympics women's basketball team (Go Comets!). In medical school, I started an organization called the Special Needs Advocacy Group (SNAG). The purpose of this group was to raise awareness about the issues surrounding care for individuals with unique physical and intellectual challenges and to support community organizations that did the same. Some of our projects included sponsoring a program through the Center of Science and Industry at the Childhood League Center, participating in Walk Now for Autism Speaks, and putting on a workshop about communicating with patients with special needs.

Goals for your LEND training experience:

My goal is to gain skills which will help me become a better leader, advocate and practitioner in the field of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. I am also looking forward to learning more about other disciplines and forming relationships with my fellow LEND trainees. Lastly, since I am new to Chicago I am excited about learning about disability resources in the area so that I can better serve my patients.

What you wish to contribute, in the future, as a professional/family member in the field:

I plan to dedicate my career as a Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrician to providing optimal care for patients with disabilities, being an advocate for these patients, and raising community and provider awareness of issues that face those with disabilities. I am specifically interested in resident and medical student education, racial disparities among individuals with disabilities and developing accessible resources for children with disabilities who live in underserved communities.