San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium (SAUSHEC)

Pediatric Residency Program
The Program Director’s Perspective

There is no greater honor than to care for the children and adolescence of our nation’s military members. By extension, the ability to craft military pediatricians here in San Antonio at SAUSHEC (San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium) Pediatrics Residency Program is no mere job, it is a calling. We are deeply proud to share this training and enthusiasm with you. Our task at hand is one of balancing the demanding training of both a military officer and a pediatrician. This forms the basis of our primary core vision: “training exceptional officers and creating compassionate physicians in the art and science of pediatric medicine for the betterment of our nation’s children”.

Our goal as a program is to take a group of diverse individuals with a shared passion for children and help each to develop into a world-class military pediatrician. We view all of our trainees as potential future leaders in their chosen areas of interest. Our program serves as the launching pad for your career. After completing our program you will be both qualified and well prepared to provide the highest-quality medical care to pediatric patients and/or to pursue a career in medical investigation, education, or military medical leadership.

Here are things our residents and graduates tell us that they appreciate most about this program:

- **Devoted and approachable staff** – residents work directly with staff physicians every day. The structure of our program allows us to get to know each other very well, and this leads to a very friendly and collegial atmosphere in which to work and learn. We have more than 50 military pediatric and adolescent physician specialists in more than 20 specialty areas that provide world-class care that want to share their skills with you. Added to this is the faculty at our civilian sister institutions (representing Texas Children’s Hospital – Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas Health Science Center) and we have a comprehensive
set of educators for our residents. Also, the program leaders work frequently with residents and seek out input for improving the program. Our training is reviewed and modified every year by our graduates in the field as the “proof” of an exceptional education.

- **Diversified Training** – by being able to partner with both Baylor College of Medicine/Texas Children’s Hospital at the Children’s Hospital of San Antonio (CHofSA) and University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UTHSCSA) our residency ensures balance between academics and hands-on practical clinical training. Approximately one-third of our resident’s time is spent outside of the military system in these facilities with world renowned teaching staff treating patients of varied backgrounds, means, and disease states. Our residents truly come to appreciate care delivery in multiple settings and the full spectrum of clinical presentations. This training is imperative given the diversity of working environments that the military pediatrician may be exposed to from austere deployed settings to sophisticated tertiary referral centers. Our program is also very procedural and critical care centered due to these demands.

- **Flexibility** – we offer **multiple options within the Military Pediatric Track to include electives** each year. This allows individuals to adapt their training to meet their particular needs and greatly aids in making decisions for those that are interested in fellowship training. Many trainees take advantage of an international health experience. The GEIS Program provides funding support for educational opportunities around the globe. Additionally, by being situated with so many military and civilian staff, our residents are frequently asked to accompany them on humanitarian outreach missions.

- **Opportunities for scholarship via Evidenced Based Medicine Research and Quality Improvement and Patient Safety (QIPS) emphasis** – our residents have opportunities and support to engage in these activities. Faculty mentors will assist residents with these projects which have been presented at national meetings and published in peer reviewed journals. These projects are resident driven, multidisciplinary, and result in effective change in our various units. The direct results are very satisfying. This experience gives our residents a **competitive edge** when applying for fellowships or performance in their post-residency assignments.

- **Family (and life) friendly location** – while south central Texas may seem like a distant place to live, San Antonio and the surrounding communities offer safe and affordable quality of life. Known for its culture and friendly citizens, San Antonio is a rapidly expanding city (7th largest in the nation) with tourism and military its two biggest employers. For those with families, the community is full of **opportunities for children** (young and old) and the educational offerings are excellent. Outdoor activities abound within in and around the city being on the border with the Texas hill country. Additionally, Big Bend National Park on the western border and hundreds of miles of shoreline are within a short drive. **Austin** is also
nearby (many residents make day/weekend trips regularly) and San Antonio has an international airport that will take you wherever you might want to go on a well deserved vacation without the hassles of long security lines and packed parking ramps.

- **Outstanding patients to work with and learn from** – as a major tertiary referral center we see children from all over the nation who come here for expert opinion. You'll learn how to work as part of a multidisciplinary team to provide care for children with complex problems (Exceptional Family Member Program – EFMP members). You'll also have ample opportunities to learn "bread and butter" pediatrics as you help care for the children of the San Antonio Military Pediatric Consortium (Randolph AFB, Ft Sam Houston, Ft Hood, and Lackland AFB) and the surrounding areas in hospital, emergency department, newborn nursery, and as part of your continuity clinic (where you truly are the primary care provider).

I am extremely proud of the dedication of the faculty, staff, and residents within our program. I want to share that unique and rewarding experience with you.

**Brian M. Faux, MD, FAAP**  
Pediatric Residency Program Director
SAUSHEC's three-year Pediatric Residency Program includes extensive clinical training and unmatched elective opportunities.

**Clinical training**

A typical schedule includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year (PL-1)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatric Ward Day Team</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Advocacy/Community Pediatrics</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neonatal Intensive Care Unit</td>
<td>2 months</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nursery Day Team</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pediatric Emergency Department</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adolescent Medicine</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development &amp; Behavioral Pediatrics</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP Ward Night Team</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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A Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification course and a neonatal resuscitation (NRP) course will be held during orientation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Length</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Night Team</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatrics Clinic</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation (taken during elective or outpt wks)</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatric Ward Day Team</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adolescent Medicine/Comm Peds</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Emergency Department</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Clinic</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICU</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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### Second Year (PL-2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Length</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PICU/PIMS</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective (inc. one month cardiology, one month pulmonary)</td>
<td>4 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation (taken during elective or outpt weeks)</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
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### Third Year (PL-3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Length</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatric Ward Senior</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICU/CVICU Senior</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursery Day Team</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NICU/Nsry Supervisor Night</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatric Ward Night Senior</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Transition to Practice Rotation</td>
<td>1 month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Emergency Department</td>
<td>1 month</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Third Year (PL-3)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Pediatrics Clinic</td>
<td>2 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives (inc. one month Peds Anesthesia)</td>
<td>4 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vacation (taken during elective or outpt weeks)</td>
<td>3 weeks</td>
</tr>
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The Continuity Clinic serves as the backbone of the curriculum and takes place one-half day each week. Each resident serves as the primary care provider for his/her Continuity Clinic patients with graduated supervision from staff general pediatricians. Our Continuity Clinic is fully integrated into the SAMPC Clinic Community Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine primary care practice with the Patient Centered Medical Home format.

While on a hospital team, you will receive supervision and daily teaching from a faculty member assigned to the team. While on service, the team is that faculty member's primary responsibility, and the faculty member acts as both the attending-of-record and the teaching attending for the service. Subspecialty services also contribute to the teaching experience.

**Unique Rotation Offerings**

*Resident as Teacher (RAT) Curriculum (longitudinal)* – given the importance of the future pediatrician’s skill in educating other healthcare providers and patients/families the RAT curriculum develops resident’s teaching skills along with providing the longitudinal development in Evidence Based Medicine (EBM) and Quality Improvement/Patient Safety (QIPS). As a three pronged curriculum, residents are given long term projects to complete prior to graduation in each of these areas (e.g., QIPS project over there PGY2/3 yr under the guidance of faculty mentor, EBM exercises such as Journal Club).

*June Transition to Practice (block)* - each June, the PGY 3 class is given required instruction in Military Unique Curriculum (MUC), Humanitarian Medicine, Setting up Your Pediatric Clinic, Military Specific Administrative Duties, Out-processing, Business of Medicine, Clinical Effectiveness Module, and MedStudy Board Review Course. The other classes are promoted...
earlier in the month to the next level to allow for all graduating PGY3 to have this protected time

**PIMS (Procedure, ICU, Monitoring, and Sedation) rotation (block)** – focusing primarily on the didactics and hands-on preparation for PICU rotations to include PALS and Sedation simulations in multi-disciplinary formats. Our dedicated PICU staff are able to spend additional time with learners on these fundamentals of critical care.

**Military Pediatrics Track (MPT)** – six individualized curriculum units derive from the MPT = PIMS + Peds ER (at Ft Hood) + June Transition to Practice rotation + 3 resident chosen electives in their desired track (Primary Care, Subspc, ICU). After these rotations are chosen based upon the individual resident’s career plans and educational needs, there are another five possible curriculum units for electives. Our resident Advisors work hard to optimize the development of these future military pediatricians in this area.

![Camp C.A.M.P.](image)

**Camp C.A.M.P.**

The Children’s Association for Maximum Potential (C.A.M.P.) began when a group of Air Force physicians realized how important a camping experience could be to their pediatric patients with special needs. Children and adults with disabilities and special health care needs (the majority from Texas, from across the U.S., and beyond) attend week-long camping sessions held each summer from May through August in a specially designed campground. Residents attend one of these week long sessions as one of the many camp Docs attending to the needs of the campers. With both didactics and hands-on experiences, physicians come to recognize the unique medical and psychosocial aspects of children and families dealing with chronic disabilities.

**Outside Rotations**

**Pediatric Critical Care** – two educational units are spent outside our facility with our sister, affiliated programs at the Children’s Hospital of San Antonio (CHofSA) and University Hospital. These rotations allow exposure to a varied patient population and a multitude of disease states
to include pediatric cardiovascular surgery care. The faculty sponsoring these rotations have been awarded our annual teaching awards regularly.

**Pediatric Emergency Medicine** – exclusively at CHofSA, these two rotations emphasize the care and stabilization of acutely ill children. With over 80,000 pediatric and young adult ER visits annually, this ER is the busiest in the city of San Antonio.

**Neonatal Intensive Care** – one educational unit during the intern year is spent at University Hospital to augment the experience in our military NICU

**Inpatient Pediatric Unit** – one educational unit during the intern year at University Hospital

**Pediatric Anesthesia** – one educational unit at CHofSA used to augment procedural competency in intubations, IV starts, central line placement, patient pre-operative screening, recovery, and sedation skills

**Outside Rotations at Ft Hood**

**Newborn Nursery** – one unit is spent running the nursery in the PGY-3 yr of training as a “pre-attending” with staff pediatricians and neonatologists. Residents work closely with the Nurse Practitioners to largely run the unit nearly autonomously providing a capstone rotation to their education

**Emergency Medicine** – one unit in the PGY-2 yr. With about 1/3 of the patients pediatrics and 2/3 young adults this rotation focuses on the military unique aspects of providing care in a community hospital setting. Staffed by Pediatric and Adult EM specialists, the faculty are routinely presented with our teaching award.

**Elective rotations**

The following pediatric subspecialty electives are available at SAUHEC of with our affiliated institutions:

- Pediatric Allergy and Immunology
- Pediatric Cardiology
- Pediatric Endocrinology
- Pediatric Gastroenterology
- Pediatric Genetics
- Pediatric Hematology/Oncology
- Pediatric Infectious Diseases
- Pediatric Nephrology
- Pediatric Neurology
- Pediatric Pulmonary
- Pediatric Rheumatology
- Child Abuse Specialist

A wide array of electives is available in related medical areas, including, but not limited to:

- Anesthesia
- Child Psychiatry
- Dermatology
- Ophthalmology
- Ortho/Sports Med
- ENT
- Radiology
- Surgery
- Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
**Didactic training**

Clinical conferences, seminars, evidence-based medicine journal clubs, and one-on-one instruction are an integral part of our Pediatric Residency Program. You will participate in the following didactic opportunities:

**Educational Programs**

The residency program has a very active education conference schedule including evidence-based medicine, chief resident board review course, management conferences, board review sessions, grand rounds, and mock-codes, in addition to a core curriculum that provides a didactic experience across all the ACGME core competencies and milestones.

**Simulation Center Experiences**

All residents participate in state-of-the art teaching and learning at the SAMMC (San Antonio Military Medical Center) Simulation Center. Faculty experts have implemented a pediatric case-based curriculum. Residents participate in simulation cases and debriefing without on-call responsibilities.

**Conferences**

Educational conferences and small-group teaching sessions are offered:

- **Daily**: nearly 1 ½ hrs of dedicated didactics and active learning (morning report and lecture)
- **Mondays**: Continuity Care Clinic/Primary care topics
- **Tuesday – Thursday mornings:** rotating schedule of primary care and subspecialty topics
- **Fridays:** Multiple program “modules” rotate on a weekly basis to include Journal Club, QIPS Meeting, M &M, Ethics Mtg, Chief Resident Board Review, Grand Rounds, Business of Medicine, Class Mentor Mtg, and Town Hall (PD-Chief-Resident Mtg).

**Grand Rounds**

Grand Rounds are presented at least monthly every Friday morning at 7:30 a.m. at SAMMC, where our entire pediatric practice is invited to assemble for a CME quality conference. Visiting clinicians and SAMPC faculty speak on a variety of clinical, educational, and research topics.

**Ward Teaching**

During inpatient assignments, the attending physicians facilitate small-group teaching sessions on various pertinent topics as part of teaching rounds.

**Journal Club**

As part of the RAT curriculum and using the *McMaster University Pediatric EBM module*, two residents (PGY2, 3) take the audience in an interactive fashion through a topical research article applying it to a patient or community population.

**Additional Training**

At the conclusion of your residency training, you may wish to continue training at SAUSHEC. Fellowships are currently offered in:

- Neonatology
- Adolescent Medicine
**Evaluation**

To ensure that you acquire adequate knowledge and develop technical skills, your performance will be monitored carefully during the course of the program training. You will be evaluated formally by your supervising faculty member after each clinical rotation and will meet with your faculty adviser (Training Officer or TO, for short) and program leadership to review these evaluations.

In addition, you will regularly evaluate the faculty to ensure that your educational needs are being met. This program has integrated the ACGME outcome project ("Competencies and Milestones") measures as a routine part of the evaluation process.

**Practice Examinations**

SAUSHEC Pediatrics Residency Program includes annual American Board of Pediatrics in-training examinations to help you assess your progress toward board certification.

**Teaching Opportunities**

Residents are responsible for teaching UT, USUHS, and HPSP scholarship recipient medical students through bedside instruction and formal didactic lectures. Formal instruction in teaching skills is included in our RAT curriculum.

**Career Development**

Periodic meetings with faculty members and program directors are conducted to discuss the achievement of each resident's professional goals.
Committee Assignments
You have the opportunity to gain experience in a number of administrative capacities. For example, residents serve on our department's policy & curriculum committee.

Textbooks and Journals
Each PL-1 receives the latest edition of the board review manual MedStudy and a subscription to Pediatrics.

A collection of over 40 electronic medical texts, MD Consult, can be accessed from any of the workstations throughout the medical center, or from home when connected to the SAMMC or USUHS electronic reference network. Textbook collections are available at multiple sites in the hospitals for reading and reference while on duty. The library provides access to a variety of Web-based texts and databases and access to UpToDate, PubMed, and Medline.

Resident Retreat (Boondoggle)
An annual resident retreat to develop camaraderie and esprit de corps led by the senior residents at an offsite location over an entire weekend is conducted. Staff coverage of clinical services honors and acknowledges residents time and contributions to the department.

Jeopardy (Back-up) Call
A backup call system consisting of residents on elective rotations provides coverage in event of illness or family emergency. The SAUSHEC Pediatric Residency compiles with all applicable ACGME Duty Hours requirements.

Advisors and mentors
Our graduate education advisory system is designed to provide you with comprehensive educational advice and personal support. During the first year of training, you are assigned a general adviser/mentor (Training Officer). As training progresses, you may identify other faculty to serve in a mentoring capacity.

Visiting professors
The Department of Pediatrics hosts a number of guest lecturers each year. They present information on timely topics and have designated meetings with faculty, residents, and fellows, so you can have informal discussions with them. You are encouraged to take full advantage of these opportunities.
GME Team Highlights

Brian M. Faux, MD, FAAP - SAUSHEC Program Director

Medical School
MCP Hahnemann (Drexel) School Of Medicine,
Philadelphia, PA

Residency
David Grant Medical Center Pediatric Residency in Affiliation with
University of California Davis School of Medicine
Travis AFB, CA

2nd Residency/Fellowship
Stanford University Medical Center Neurology Residency/Child Neurology Fellowship
Chief Resident, Dept of Neurology, Stanford School of Medicine
Palo Alto, CA

Certifications
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics
Diplomate, American Board of Psychiatry & Neurology with Special Qualifications in Child Neurology
Fellow, American Academy of Pediatrics

**David Harford, MD - SAUSHEC Army Associate Program Director**

**Medical School**
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
Bethesda, MD

**Residency**
MAMC Pediatric Residency
Madigan Army Medical Center
Tacoma, WA

**Fellowship**
Pediatric Hematology Oncology
USUHS - Walter Reed Army Medical Center
Washington, DC

**Certifications**
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics
Board Certified Pediatric Hematology Oncology

**Courtney Judd, MD, MPH - SAUSHEC Air Force Associate Program Director**
Medical School
University of Virginia School of Medicine,
Charlottesville, VA

Residency
SAUSHEC Pediatric Residency
San Antonio, TX

Fellowship
General Academic Pediatric Fellowship,
University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine
Tampa, FL

Certifications
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics

Blaine Tuft, DO - SAUSHEC Clinical Competency Committee Chair

Medical School
Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine
East Lansing, MI

Residency
David Grant Medical Center Pediatric Residency in Affiliation with
University of California Davis School of Medicine
Travis AFB, CA

**Fellowship**

Pediatric Gastroenterology
Walter Reed Army Medical Center
Washington, DC

**Certifications**

Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics
Board Certified Pediatric Gastroenterology

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**Jeri Garrison - SAUSHEC Program Coordinator**

8/5/2007 to Present

Program Coordinator to the largest Pediatric Residency Program in the DOD with over 41 Army, Navy and Air Force residents.


Social Services Assistant for the Exceptional Family Member Program

**Achievements**

Program Coordinator of the Year
Commander’s Award for Civilian Service
Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
Delta Company Certificate of Appreciation
Dept of the Army Commendation for Service
Brooke Army Med Center Cares Award
Chauncey Tarrant, MD - SAUSHEC Pediatric Residency Graduate & Chief Resident

Why did you want to serve in the military and become a pediatrician?
There are few careers in which one is able to offer the ultimate form of service to another, while simultaneously growing and learning daily as a professional. Medicine offers that experience and that has always inspired me. Not because physicians are all-powerful, but because I’ve always felt that they possessed the knowledge and skills needed to play an integral role in affecting the outcome of another person’s life. Although physicians don’t win every battle, I think it noble to want to try. In my pursuit to embody the elements of an exceptional physician, I learned to push myself beyond my personal limits and that humility would be the key to my success. Once I began this journey, the question then became, in which specialty I would most effectively provide the type of service that would allow me to use my knowledge to “do no harm” and still maintain my happiness. A child at heart, I decided that I could most successfully use my gifts as a Pediatrician. I resolved that I wanted to be a part of a specialty that treats those who are unable to tell us where it hurts, and are the type of patients who are sometimes sick, before they ever take their first breath. It is this mystery of diagnosis that I believe allows Pediatricians to maintain their diagnostic accuracy and tenacity that is learned on the wards: to first seek out the problem; and systematically develop a management plan that will lead to a solution.

Why did you choose the SAUSHEC Pediatric Residency for your training?
Although all military training programs boast an array of accolades, SAUSHEC presented a learning environment that I felt stood well above the rest. The largest of the DoD’s Pediatric Residency Programs, the culture is one of scholarly learning and rigorous training that produces some of the best Pediatricians anywhere: Military or Civilian. I had met a Pediatrician while doing a rotation at Vanderbilt Children’s Hospital in Nashville who I thought was poised, knowledgeable, and a VERY effective teacher. Upon getting to know this physician better, I learned that she had done her residency training at SAUSHEC, and had nothing but good things to say about the program. Another big thing that brought me here was location. San Antonio is a city that puts you in the middle of the largest state in our nation, with ready access to a vast collection of cultural activities, restaurants, and so many different types of entertainment. I never thought that a place that brought me so far from all that is near and dear to me, would allow me to grow so much.
**Anything unique about the SAUSHEC Pediatric Residency?**
SAUSHEC is unique in that it is large enough and busy enough to gain so much knowledge in three years of training, but its faculty is what makes it shine. The individuals that come to this program as faculty have a vested interest in expanding the minds of future Pediatricians. They take the time to give didactic lectures and one-on-one teaching when necessary. They are never abrasive in their approach, but instead enlist a Socratic style of teaching residents, that promotes critical thinking and long-term retention of critical concepts.

**Anything surprise you about SAUSHEC's program?**
I was surprised by the level of commitment that the faculty had to teaching and that the GME leadership had to making sure each resident met their full potential. These positions are more than “CV fillers” to the people who take them on; it’s a calling. They create an environment that feels like a home away from home while you continue your professional education.

**How is it living in San Antonio?**
San Antonio is definitely a different cultural experience for a girl that was raised in the Southeast United States. But it has been amazing living here to say the least. It is a major metropolitan city with a small town feel. There is amazing dining, shopping, and multiple things to do on any given day or night. And for those who want the TOTAL Texas experience like me, you can travel to any of the other nearby major cities (Austin, Dallas, Houston) and experience what they have to offer as well. I’ve been very happy here.
San Antonio Uniformed Services Health Education Consortium (SAUSHEC)  
Pediatric Residency  
Department of Pediatrics  
3551 Roger Brooke Drive  
JBSA-Ft Sam Houston, TX  78234-6200  

www.bamc.amedd.army.mil/saushec/gme/residency/pediatrics  
www.sampcpeds.org  

Opportunities currently exist for USUHS and HPSP students to rotate through multiple venues and subspecialty services. Interested students may schedule rotations by calling or emailing:  

Dr. Shelly Martin  
Medical Student Clerkship Coordinator  
(210)916-9145  
sampcchief@gmail.com  

Come and see what SAUSHEC, San Antonio, and Texas have to offer!