



Creighton University Phoenix Family Medicine Residency Faculty

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

Arizona Health
Education Alliance



Marie Oberst, DO, FAAFP
Program Director
Inpatient Service Director

- **Undergraduate:** Loyola University Chicago
- **Medical School:** Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Residency:** Creighton/St. Joseph's Family Medicine
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, Creighton University
- **Practice Interests:** Hospital Medicine, Academic Medicine
- **Interests outside of Medicine:** running, hiking, traveling, hanging out with my dog
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** I picked this program because of the people. I did my residency here and the atmosphere and general feel of the program are welcoming
- **Best things about Arizona:** Phoenix has wonderful hiking trails and outdoor activities. The food/restaurants here are fantastic!





Jenessa Hill, DO
Associate Program Director
Clinic Medical Director

- **Undergraduate:** University of Arizona
- **Medical School:** Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, South Carolina
- **Residency:** Danville, Virginia
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development Creighton University
- **Practice Interests:** Academic medicine, women's health and contraception management, pediatric care, urgent care, outpatient procedures
- **Interests outside of Medicine:** Love to cook and try new restaurants, play with my dog Opal (French Bulldog), travel to whatever beach I can find, spend time with family and friends
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** I always wanted to work with an underserved population and practice evidence-based medicine. The residency program was a bonus to working at an FQHC.
- **Best things about Arizona:** Love the weather and authentic Mexican food!





Douglas Jones, MD, FAAFP
Core Faculty Member
Associate Dean for Student Affairs



- **Undergraduate:** Brigham Young University
- **Medical School:** Wake Forest University School of Medicine
- **Residency:** Good Samaritan Medical Center, Phoenix.
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, University of Arizona Tucson
- **Practice Interest:** Chronic disease management, quality improvement, hospital medicine, outpatient procedures
- **Interests outside of medicine:** cycling, hiking
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** I love working with the patient population here at the South Central Clinic.
- **Best things about Arizona:** Warm weather all year



Rex Ragsdale, MD, MBA

Core Faculty Member

- **Undergraduate:** University of Evansville
- **Medical School:** St. Louis University
- **Additional Degree:** Masters in Business Administration
- **Residency:** St. Mary's Medical Center
- **Practice Interest:** Clinical Informatics, geriatrics, treatment of opioid and alcohol use disorders (MAT), global health, and rural medicine
- **Interests outside of medicine:** Aviation, agriculture, carpentry, and travel
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** the cohesiveness of the residency leaders and faculty
- **Best things about Arizona:** Surrounded by mountains and wide-open spaces!





Anna Mathew, DO

Core Faculty Member

- **Undergraduate:** University of Arizona
- **Medical School:** AT Still College of Osteopathic Medicine - Arizona
- **Residency:** Creighton University Phoenix
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, Creighton
- **Practice Interest:** preventive medicine, OMT, women's health, academic medicine
- **Interests outside of medicine:** spending time with family/friends + church community, hiking/running, creating art
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** patient population/FQHC based practice, variety in rotations, Arizona-based location (close to my family/friends!)
- **Best things about Arizona:** sunsets/sunrises, outdoor activities (mountains everywhere and the beach/snow within driving distance), and amazing food





Hana Alkahlout, DO

Core Faculty Member

- **Undergraduate:** Arizona State University
- **Medical School:** Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Residency:** Creighton University Phoenix
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, Creighton
- **Practice Interest:** research, quality improvement, academics
- **Interests outside of medicine:** baking, indoor plants, Islamic studies, personal development
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** the population we serve and the amazing folks I have the privilege to work with and learn from
- **Best things about Arizona:** Phoenix is **d**iverse, delicious restaurants serving a wide variety of high-quality options, a lot of beautiful nature worth exploring





Michelle Huynh, DO

Core Faculty Member

Medical Student Associate Clerkship Director



- **Undergraduate school:** University of Southern California
- **Medical School:** Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pomona, CA
- **Residency:** University of California, Irvine
- **Practice Interest:** I am committed to underserved communities to provide comprehensive, equitable care. My interest are academic medicine, incarcerated medicine, inpatient / high acuity care
- **Interests outside of medicine:** I love being with my dogs and I rescue stray dogs in Phoenix with my partner. I also love to travel!
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** As an NHSC scholar, I relocated to Arizona to fulfill my service commitment and ended up finding my second home with Creighton
- **Best things about Arizona:** Great cost of living, fun foodie scene, many opportunities to advance in my career and life

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Mena Metias, MD

Core Faculty Member

- **Undergraduate school:** University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
- **Medical School:** St. George's University in Grenada, West Indies
- **Residency:** Indiana University School of Medicine Family Medicine Residency Program in Indianapolis, IN
- **Practice Interest:** Women's Health and Prenatal Care, Preventative Medicine, Gynecologic and Dermatologic Procedures, COPD and Diabetes management
- **Interests outside of medicine:** Hiking, exploring the state with my family and two dogs, Swimming, Travelling, trying new restaurants
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** Creighton Phoenix met my personal career mission of providing high quality full spectrum medicine to my community. I strive to continue to expand and update my medical knowledge and skills to provide the most up to date medicine for my patients, and Creighton provides me with the access to care for and learn from this community.
- **Best things about Arizona:** The warmth! (Growing up in Canada, I craved this), The people, the landscape and travel opportunities, the hiking trails.





Brant Thayer, MD
Psychiatrist
Core Faculty Member

- **Undergraduate:** Oregon State University
- **Medical School:** Oregon Health and Science University
- **Residency:** Creighton University Phoenix
- **Practice Interest:** Perinatal and Women's Mental Health, determining Behavioral Health training needs for Family Medicine residents
- **Interests outside of medicine:** Rowing, supporting my wife and daughter at roller derby bouts, watching the Portland Trailblazers
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** I appreciate the opportunity to provide care in a team-based environment to the underserved. I also enjoy the opportunity to teach residents.
- **Best things about Arizona:** Sunny weather!





Merima Bucaj, DO, MBA, FAAFP

Academic Chair of Family Medicine

Adjunct Faculty

- **Undergraduate:** University of Arizona, Tucson
- **Medical School:** Midwestern University Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Residency:** Mike O'Callaghan Military Medical Center, Nellis AFB, NV
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, Zuckerberg San Francisco Hospital; National Institute for Program Director Development (NIPDD) Fellowship, Leawood, KS.
- **Practice Interest:** Academic Medicine, Teaching students and residents, Community outreach and service/Full spectrum FM care
- **Interests outside of medicine::** Hiking, Traveling, spending time with my family, friends and my dogs
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** The mission which drives others both learners and faculty making the environment and excellent place to work. Enjoy the community and the comradery.
- **Best things about Arizona::** Love the outdoor options and the beautiful weather 10 months out of the year! Big city options with major sports teams, excellent food options, theater, cultural events and college sports while offering open spaces and diverse climates within a 2-4hr drive from mountains/snow/beach/red rocks... it's a beautiful state





Ed Paul, MD

Adjunct Faculty

- **Undergraduate:** Illinois State University
- **Medical School:** Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
- **Residency:** St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
- **Fellowship:** Faculty Development, University of Arizona
- **Practice Interest:** Teaching medical students and residents, integrative medicine, chronic pain, preventive care.
- **Interests outside of medicine:** I enjoy listening to acoustic music and playing stringed instruments. I enjoy golf when I have the time to play.
- **Why did you pick Creighton Phoenix:** I was a graduate of this program many years ago when it was based at St. Joseph's Hospital, and I have worked with several of the exceptional faculty physicians in the past.
- **Best things about Arizona:** The diversity and beauty of the outdoors across Arizona is extraordinary. Phoenix offers all the things that are great about big cities including sports, recreation, restaurants, and entertainment.

