

University of Washington School of Medicine Targeted Rural and Underserved Track (TRUST)

Ferndale, WA

June 2013

Hello Ferndale! My name is Patrick Callahan and I am excited to be joining Dr. Bertha Safford at the Ferndale Family Medical Center in the fall of 2013!

For the past five years, I have been serving as Clinic Director at the Free Clinic of Southwest Washington, a clinic that utilizes more than 600 volunteers to provide medical and dental services to uninsured, low-income residents living in Vancouver, Washington. I also manage our clinic's Project Access program which connects patients needing specialty care to 300 specialists volunteering their time in the community. From these experiences, I have learned that all patients need a team to advocate for them in navigating the healthcare system. Your team should include your provider, family members, and other support systems in the community.

My path to medical school has been quite non-traditional in every sense of the word. Before working at the Free Clinic, I managed educational programs at two separate non-profit agencies that focused on Parkinson's disease and asthma. After obtaining my undergraduate degree several years ago, I also worked in clinical research and outreach focusing on low-income populations at two different universities on the East Coast. Most recently, I completed a fellowship through the Robert Wood Johnson foundation's Ladder to Leadership program, an exciting opportunity that addressed leadership characteristics necessary in today's community health environment.

In my free time I enjoy running, hiking, biking and traveling to new places with my wife Havilah, a family practice physician. I also enjoy getting together with friends to play chamber music since my undergraduate degree is in piano performance. Before starting medical school in the fall, we are excited about taking a month-long road trip across the United States. Look for us in the many parks and trails around Ferndale!



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