

# SPENCER PECHA

## Targeted Rural Underserved Track

WWAMI  
**TRUST**  
UW MEDICINE

**DOUGLAS, WYOMING**

**Entering Class of 2017**

*TRUST seeks to provide a continuous connection between rural, small city underserved communities, medical education, and health professionals in our region. Our goal is to create a full-circle pipeline by guiding qualified students through a special curriculum that connects continuity communities in WWAMI to the University of Washington School of Medicine and its network of affiliated residency programs in an effort to help meet the workforce needs of the region.*

Hello Douglas Community! It is with pleasure that I introduce myself as a new University of Washington School of Medicine TRUST Scholar. I was born and raised up Highway 59 in Gillette, and as a native of the Powder River Basin, I am grateful to have the opportunity to learn and train within your community..

As a former competitive distance runner, exploring and understanding human biology and physiology struck a chord with me and led me to become interested in biomedical sciences. While at first this interest was in part to help improve my performance on the track and cross-country course, it was natural for this to lead me on the path toward medicine. Further, in growing up within Campbell County – surrounded by miles-upon-miles of coal mines and oil fields – I became intrigued with thinking about how peoples’ personal health could be affected by the environmental, social, and economic conditions of their lives. This is something that has really drawn me into medicine.

I completed my undergraduate studies at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, studying and doing research in Environmental Chemistry. Additionally, my time was spent as a Division I student-athlete competing for the Blue Devils in indoor/outdoor track & field and cross-country. At Duke I truly developed a love for public service and community involvement through volunteer work tutoring disadvantaged youth at Durham’s Emily Krzyzewski Center.

I have since migrated back to Gillette and have been happily working in primary care as a nationally certified Medical Assistant for Dr. Landi Lowell. Volunteering with Gillette’s hospice organization – visiting patients with terminal illnesses – has also kept me busy.

Outside of medicine I am a passionate (borderline obsessed) rock climber. In my free time it is safe to say I’m either out rock climbing, thinking about rock climbing, or feverishly checking weather apps (for climbing). I also really enjoy spending time at my family’s home in Jackson, skiing good powder, and going running (old habits die hard!).

Without a doubt, I think of Wyoming as home, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to learn more about your community and to be a part of a program that trains Wyoming’s future physicians.

I look forward to meeting you!



### Contacts:

James Morgan, MD  
Primary Preceptor and  
CMO, Memorial Hospital of  
Converse County  
111 South 5th Street  
Douglas, WY 82633  
(307) 358-2122

Larry Kirven, MD  
Assistant Clinical Dean,  
Wyoming WWAMI  
122 East 17th Street  
Cheyenne, WY 82001  
(307) 432-9264

