



Past Resident Testimonials

Los Angeles Medical Center





Lanie Mendoza, Pharm.D.

2023-2024 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center's (KP LAMC) PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program has met and exceeded all of my expectations for a residency program. The program's commitment to a comprehensive pharmacy experience across multiple service lines allowed me the opportunity to strengthen my clinical, leadership, collaboration, and professional skills. In addition to individual rotation experiences, longitudinal experiences such as the pharmacist CE Series: Lunch and Learn, volunteer opportunity with Saban Clinic, and research with Western States Conference, further developed my communication, time management, and adaptability skills. I appreciated the challenging nature of KP LAMC as it is a tertiary care center with multiple specialty clinics. The team at KP LAMC are kind, supportive, and always willing to help. I am grateful for all the pharmacists who shared their knowledge with me. The success of this program can be credited to the amazing preceptors, mentors, residency program coordinator, and residency program director. If it was not for their dedication, support, and guidance throughout the year, I would not have achieved my goal of becoming an ambulatory care pharmacist. I am very thankful for my experience at KP LAMC!



Katherine Gyurdzhyan, Pharm.D.

2023-2024 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Throughout my pharmacy residency at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center, I had the privilege to embark on a transformative journey that has shaped both my professional growth and personal development. I am especially grateful for the unwavering support and encouragement I received from my residency program director and coordinator throughout the year.

This residency program has provided me with invaluable opportunities to expand my clinical knowledge, enhance my patient care skills, and cultivate essential attributes that define a competent pharmacist. From the beginning, I was immersed in a dynamic learning environment where evidence-based medicine and patient-centered care were the cornerstones of daily practice. Under the guidance of skilled preceptors, I had the opportunity to actively participate in comprehensive medication management, therapeutic decision-making, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Moreover, the residency program provided ample opportunities for professional development and leadership. Our longitudinal learning experiences such as preparing CE presentations, precepting APPE students, and engaging in community service at the Saban Clinic, challenged me to refine my communication and organizational skills. All on all, these experiences equipped me with the confidence to navigate diverse healthcare settings and advocate for patient-centered care.

Beyond the clinical and professional aspects, the residency program at KP LAMC fostered a supportive and inclusive community that encouraged personal growth and resilience. Through reflective practice and mentorship, I have gained a deeper understanding of my strengths and areas for improvement, allowing me to evolve into a more compassionate and competent caregiver.

As I reflect on my residency journey, I am profoundly grateful for the guidance, encouragement, and opportunities that have shaped me into the pharmacist I am today. The knowledge and experiences gained during this residency have laid a solid foundation for my future career aspirations, and I am eager to continue making meaningful contributions to the field of pharmacy. I feel so lucky to have been a resident at KP LAMC!



Nathania Barrios, Pharm.D.

2022-2023 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Completing the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency Program will always be among my most cherished and proudest accomplishments. Given the program's commitment to integrating pharmacists across service lines, KP LAMC granted me the comprehensive clinical experience needed to meet my goal of becoming a well-versed clinical pharmacist. The opportunity to strengthen leadership and professional skills, alongside clinical skills was the icing on the cake. The longitudinal experiences, such as piloting the CE Series: Lunch and Learn, presenting at the Western States Conference, and volunteering at the Saban Clinic, etc. allowed me to strengthen personal skills such as communication and time management. My gratitude to the program lies not only within the unique professional opportunities that LAMC had to offer as a tertiary care center and regional specialty referral site, but more importantly in its people. The KP LAMC pharmacy residency program emphasizes a healthy work culture, one that prides itself in the relationship between residents, preceptors, physicians, and colleagues. The unwavering support from our Residency Program Director, Residency Program Coordinator, Residency Steering Committee, and preceptors made all the difference throughout the year. I can't express enough how grateful I am for their guidance and support. They demonstrated what it means to be a true leader, and their commitment and dedication to the profession and the residency program is inspiring.

I strongly believe that the KP LAMC PGY1 residency program prepared me to become a well-equipped leader in the rapidly expanding field of pharmacy. Regardless of where my career path takes me, I will cherish the memories made, relationships established, and take everything I've learned both personally and professionally forward. I will be forever thankful for completing my PGY1 pharmacy residency at KP LAMC!



Brooke Pigneri, Pharm.D.

2022-2023 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

The residency program at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) has trained me to be a competent clinical pharmacist in various service lines, including ambulatory care, inpatient, outpatient, and drug education. My residency program director and coordinator tailored my year based on my practice interests and were key players in the growth of my leadership and research skills. What sets LAMC apart is its specialty clinics and dedicated, proficient preceptors. By the completion of each rotation, I felt confident enough to staff the clinic or service area due to the clinical judgement instilled in me by my preceptors. In addition, I enjoyed all the longitudinal experiences such as community service at Saban Clinic and the guidance from the mentorship program. Also, I received a lot of support for my Western States project from my project preceptor, program director and coordinator, and KP biostatisticians. Overall, this residency program provided me with the well-rounded experience I was hoping to get out of the year and has helped me achieve my goal of being an ambulatory care pharmacist!



Tina Vu, Pharm.D.

2021-2022 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

The residency training that I received at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center has challenged me to become a well-rounded, confident pharmacist. This past year, I gained clinical knowledge, leadership skills, and precepting opportunities. The Program Director and Coordinator tailored the residency year towards my interest and supported me throughout my Western States Conference research, various projects, and leadership development.

I am grateful for the opportunity to train in a variety of specialty ambulatory care clinics, a tertiary care inpatient hospital, and a high-volume outpatient pharmacy. What makes the program special is the many electives it offers, allowing me to select those which catered to my interests and goals. The preceptors are very knowledgeable and well respected within their clinics. They took their time to explain clinical pearls, which proved to be valuable and provided me with autonomy to grow and learn. Each rotation was unique and the experiences that I gained have strengthened my clinical knowledge. In addition, since LAMC is an academic medical center, I was also able to learn from physicians and medical residents during patient discussions on rounds and in the different clinics.

Overall, my residency year has been memorable and rewarding. I am thankful to have matched with and be part of the LAMC pharmacy family!



Christine Min, Pharm.D.

2021-2022 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

Kaiser Permanente LAMC is the best place to be! I am grateful for the opportunity I had to train in this institution for a year and to spend my time surrounded by amazing pharmacy preceptors and leaders. This PGY1 program gave me the chance to explore various ambulatory clinics such as Congestive Heart Failure, Transplant, and Nephrology. LAMC is unique in that it houses many specialty clinics where pharmacists can perform at the top of their license! In addition, I spent several months in the acute care setting, rotating through different shifts such as the cardiac care unit, ICU, sterile compounding, and much more. I was able to truly grow and become an independent clinical pharmacist. This program also incorporated leadership roundtables and meetings with various Area Pharmacy Directors which helped residents understand the KP framework and management side of pharmacy. My favorite aspect of this program is that everyone was so supportive, whether it was my preceptor for any given rotation, other staff pharmacists and technicians, and especially my RPD and RPC. The support was most evident from my experience with my complex Western States research project. My preceptors guided me through every step of the research process and connected me with the resources I needed. Overall, I cherish all the interactions and relationships I have made through this program and am excited to take all my learnings and clinical skills into the future.



Tracy Ho, Pharm.D.

2020-2021 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

The Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center Residency Program has trained me to be well rounded in all pharmacy service lines: ambulatory care, inpatient, and outpatient. My Residency Program Director and Coordinator were tremendously supportive of my pharmacy interests and provided me with the resources to excel in my Western States Conference research project. The preceptors are fantastic, and they challenged me to be a competent clinical pharmacist. KP LAMC's mentorship program was also invaluable. My mentor was a great resource and provided immense support throughout my residency year. In addition, I enjoyed all the longitudinal experiences such as leadership development, community service at Saban Clinic, and quality improvement projects. Lastly, I am thankful for the opportunity to pilot a new pharmacy service with family medicine providers to conduct a pre-visit pharmacy visit to address potential care gaps and provide comprehensive medication management. Overall, this residency program is well structured and has fully prepared me to be a competent clinical pharmacist in all aspects of pharmacy.



Jubair Hussain, Pharm.D.

2020-2021 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

This past year as a PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (KP LAMC) provided me with an amazing residency experience and has contributed significantly to my growth as a clinical pharmacist. The experiences, challenges and relationships created with everyone at KP LAMC has made this past year such a memorable and rewarding experience. The residency program allowed me to become a more confident and proficient clinical pharmacist capable of practicing independently in a variety of settings.

The comprehensive program requirements challenged me to develop my clinical skills as well as my leadership and practice management skills. Each rotation provided me with valuable learning experiences and the diverse set of clinical rotations allowed me to tailor my experiences to my interests. More importantly, program director, coordinator and the preceptors were dedicated to teaching and demonstrated enthusiasm in my success as a resident throughout the year. The longitudinal leadership experience provided the opportunity to learn from our Area Pharmacy Directors, incorporate leadership skills to our everyday practice and collaborate with other residents.

Overall, I am very thankful for the opportunity to have been able to work alongside amazing pharmacists, our distinguished pharmacy leaders and my fellow colleagues from the Quad-Central Kaiser Permanente Medical Centers. Training at a tertiary care center like KP LAMC and during COVID-19 provided me with a breadth of unique opportunities and an invaluable residency experience. I am so grateful for the program and its outstanding preceptors for their support, guidance and helping me achieve my professional and personal goals.



Marina Boulos, Pharm.D.

2019-2020 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

I am grateful to say that this past year as a PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center was an excellent experience. This program paved my way to advance in all areas of my profession. I am particularly thankful for the wonderful preceptors that refined my clinical skills. Not only were the preceptors consistently educating me with their wealth of knowledge, but their dedicated mentorship impacted me in ways I never imagined.

Some of my favorite experiences in residency occurred during the longitudinal leadership rotation. This rotation served as a platform to discuss and learn more about leadership development. I was also glad to have the privilege of collaborating with the Tri-Central Kaiser Permanente pharmacy residents and corresponding Area Program Directors (APDs) during this rotation.

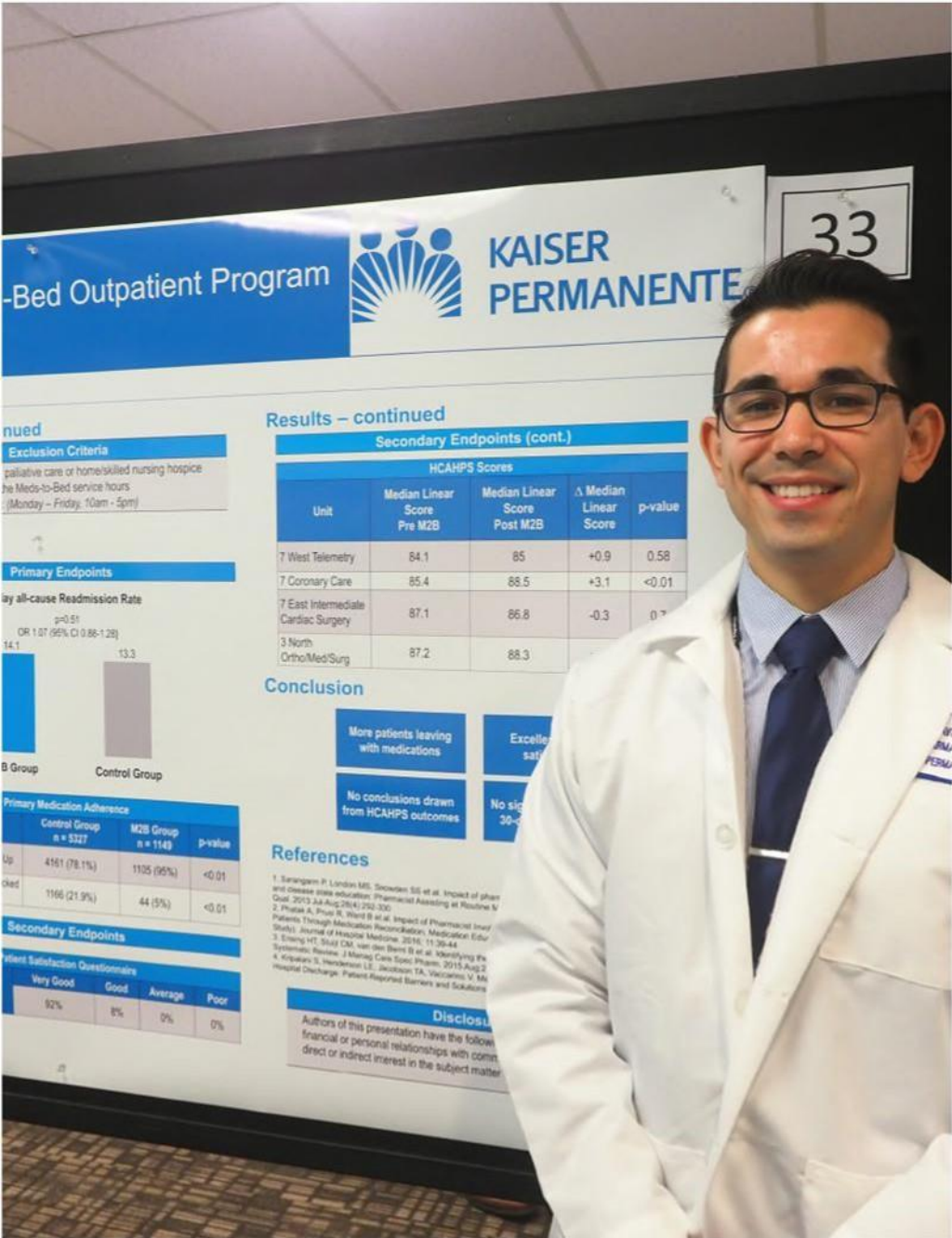
The diverse and comprehensive nature of this program helped mold me into a well-rounded clinical pharmacist. Working in a tertiary care hospital and rotating through various unique clinics has challenged me to think holistically and to develop a better clinical approach to patient care. I have grown into a more confident and proficient pharmacist from this program; and the experiences, relationships, and memories I have built throughout this past year will last with me for a lifetime.



Nicole Kleinman, Pharm.D.

2019-2020 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

I am beyond grateful to have completed my PGY-1 Pharmacy Practice Residency at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (KP LAMC). This residency year gave me the autonomy and confidence to become a skilled clinical pharmacist in a variety of practice settings including ambulatory care, inpatient, outpatient, and home infusion service lines. The Residency Program Director and Coordinator supported my interests in my Western States Conference research project and provided me with other related opportunities to further my learning and growth. The preceptors for each rotation are dedicated to teaching and give their 110% effort to facilitate resident learning within this tertiary care center. Each day in the clinic, pharmacy, and hospital were filled with an abundance of clinical knowledge and new skills gained. Lastly, the longitudinal leadership experience consistently encouraged me to practice and implement my refined leadership skills in various activities such as the National Drug Take Back Day and precepting pharmacy students. The residency year goes by extremely fast, and I am thankful for the opportunity to have worked alongside such talented pharmacy leaders and a staff who were invested in my growth as a clinical pharmacist. KP LAMC's combination of being a tertiary care medical center and having renowned preceptors and inspiring pharmacy leaders are what made this year a truly invaluable experience.



Ivan Chavez, Pharm.D.

2018-2019 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

I've had an incredible journey over the last year completing my PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency experience at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center. The program initially drew me in with the wide array of learning experiences it had to offer. In the end, the program exceeded my expectations and delivered much more than I would have ever imagined.

The Los Angeles medical center is a tertiary care facility and this unique setting helps set the stage for interesting, unique, and challenging rotation experiences. Each rotation was extremely valuable and memorable; however, the learning experiences are strengthened by all the amazing and top-tier preceptors. You'll have the opportunity to learn and work alongside preceptors who were not only top experts in their fields, but also great educators that help guide you through your career goals.

I think future residents would be most surprised by the unexpected or lesser known experiences that are offered by the program such as the leadership development meetings and the collaboration with Tri-Central Kaiser Permanente pharmacy residents. You'll network with colleagues across various medical centers and make many friends with similar goals and passions. In short, due to the quality of the program and all the people I have had the pleasure to meet along the way, I am grateful to have had carried out my journey as a pharmacy resident here at the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center.



Hao Dieu, Pharm.D.

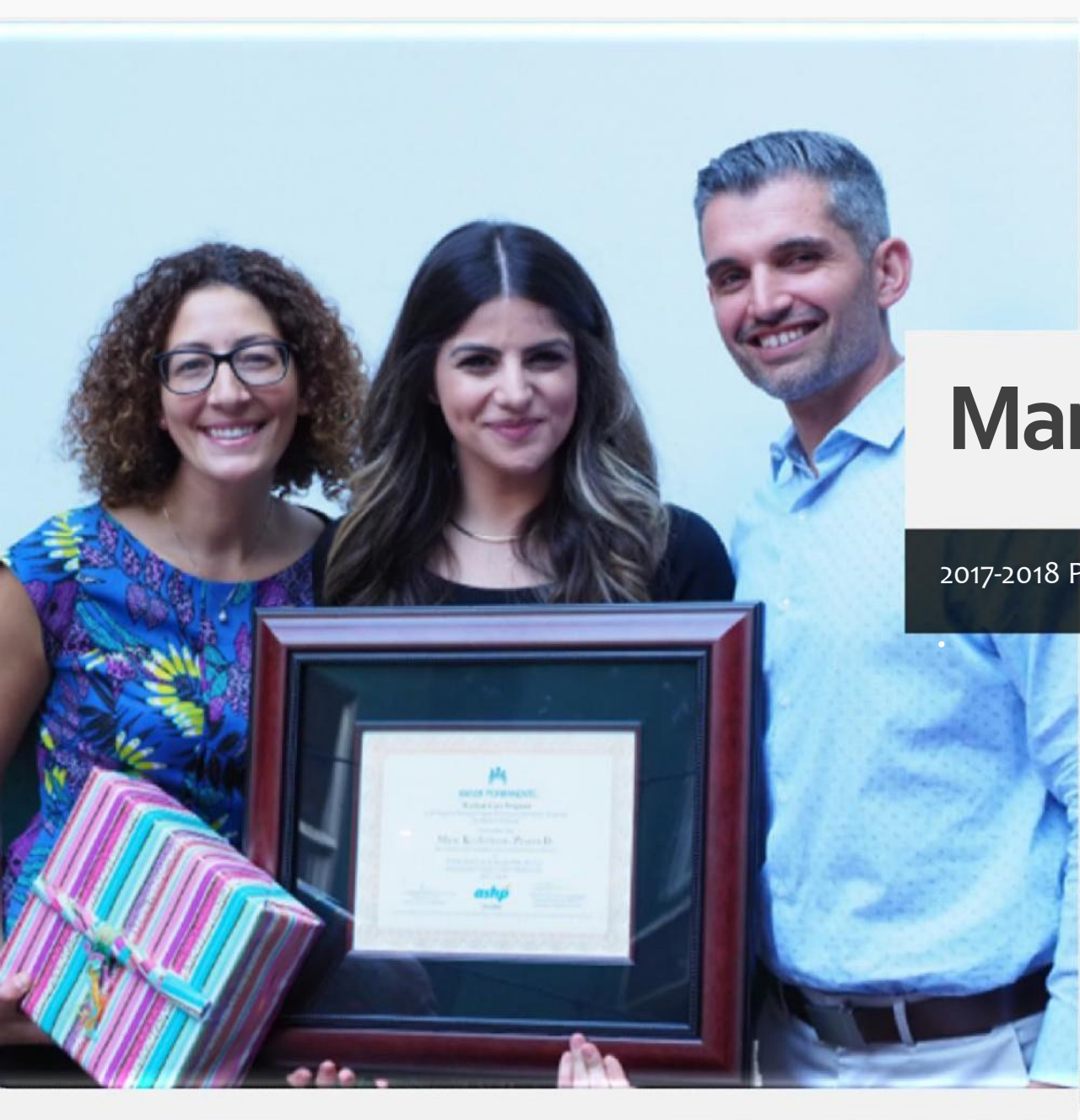
2018-2019 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

I had grown into a better clinician thanks to the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (LAMC) PGY1 residency program. I came into the residency hoping to solidify my clinical knowledge and I had got more out of the program than what I expected.

The preceptors in the program are exceptional. They taught me not only clinical knowledge but also effective communication and how to think outside the box. They dedicated many hours of their time despite their busy schedule to teach and prepare me to be a successful pharmacist. I gained a lot from each rotation during my residency thanks to these amazing preceptors.

I also enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate with other Kaiser Permanente residents during our monthly and quarterly leadership meetings. These meetings showed me other aspects of pharmacy and leadership that I would not have learned in school. I also had the opportunity to network with the pharmacy leadership team not only in LAMC but also in other medical centers as well.

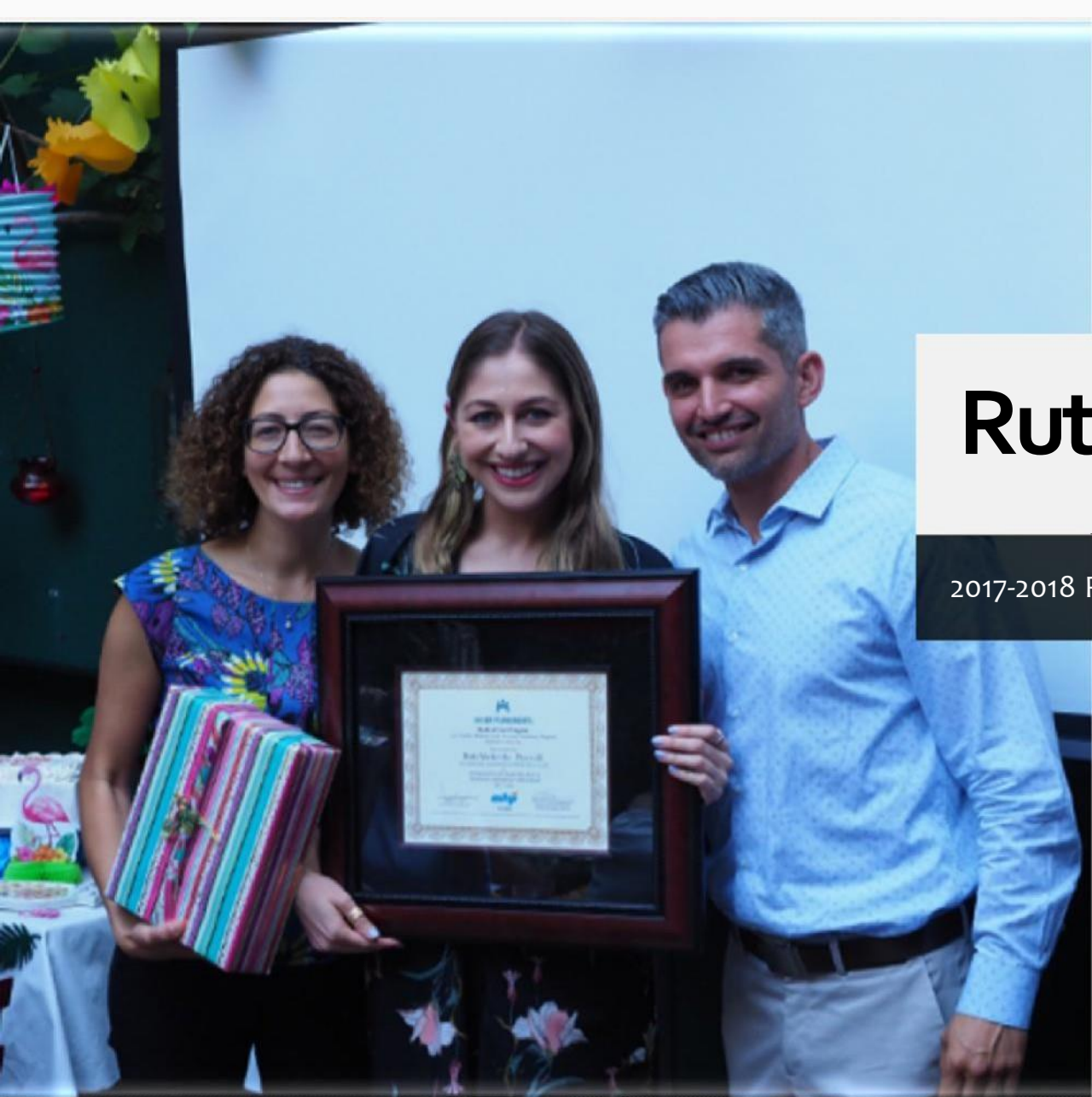
Overall, it was a challenging, memorable, and incredibly rewarding year for me. I am grateful for all the opportunities that the Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center PGY1 residency program had offered.



Mane Keshishyan, Pharm.D.

2017-2018 PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident

The Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center PGY1 pharmacy residency program significantly advanced my professional and clinical development. I have become a well-rounded pharmacist who is competent in inpatient, home-infusion, and ambulatory care services. My learning experiences have allowed me to feel well-prepared to work in any clinic. One exceptional quality of the program is its long history as the oldest Kaiser Permanente Southern California pharmacy residency. The residency director, coordinator, and many of the preceptors are graduates of the program. This allows for a sense of family and preceptors who are dedicated to the resident's development because they were once in the resident's shoes. The history of the program also ensures that the policies and procedures are well established. Throughout the year, there are always changes to help improve the program but the program has a solid foundation which provides a diverse range of opportunities. The program also has excellent preceptors who are receptive and tailor the experiences to each resident's learning needs. I am grateful for their guidance and support throughout this exceptionally memorable year!



Ruth Madievsky, Pharm.D.

2017-2018 PGY-1

The Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center provided me with an incredibly rewarding PGY-1 Pharmacy Residency experience. My goals were to attain strong clinical training in both inpatient, ambulatory care, drug information, and administrative arenas, and I feel that the program more than delivered. 3 things in particular make this program stand out:

1. The preceptors – I can't imagine a better group. LAMC's preceptors are great teachers, caring mentors, and kind and approachable people dedicated to ensuring that each resident is able to function independently as a clinical pharmacist by the end of each rotation.
2. The electives – LAMC is an academic, tertiary care center, which allows for several specialty pharmacy electives unavailable elsewhere. HIV, nephrology, and transplant medicine are 3 such electives that provide unique and exciting learning opportunities.
3. Western States – LAMC is dedicated to ensuring that residents undertake a research project that is exciting to them and has the potential to make a clinical impact. If this appeals to you, and if you are interested in publishing your research, LAMC is a great place for you.

I am extremely grateful for the training and mentorship I received as a PGY-1 resident at KP LAMC. I know that I will utilize the skills I've honed this year for the rest of my career.