

working with UC Davis School of Medicine to establish psychiatry training locally—aiming for year-long rotations. This dovetails with an overarching residency program UC Davis recently launched for rural communities between Sacramento and Portland. Additionally, California Northstate University College of Medicine in Elk Grove has committed to partnering with BGMS.

“If we could get that residency here, I think it would be awesome,” Wassermann said. “I think we have a good hospital for that [in Chico], a good inpatient setting to get experience off of.”

MaKieve said 14 medical residents per year “would be helpful” in Butte County, between Enloe and Oroville Hospital, and 10-15 in Redding. The numbers, attainable once the program hits “full stride,” depend on the specialties involved: Should surgeons not participate, Chico might accommodate only a handful in primary care and a couple in mental health. (Neither Enloe nor Oroville Hospital responded to requests for interviews.)

Residency info:

Visit bgmsonline.org and go to the “For Our Community” tab to learn more about the Northern California Medical Education Program.

Wassermann noted several logistical considerations, such as how a teaching physician’s pace and workflow would be impacted by instructing and supervising residents. Yet, he added, “I think most of us are happy to teach; we feel it’s kind of an honor to be asked to help nurture, teach, pass along our experience.”

Meanwhile, BGMS members are sowing seeds at home. The nonprofit converted its investment fund into an endowment for scholarships to pre-med students—one a high school senior in Butte County or Glenn County, one a Chico State senior—and physicians will start mentoring and outreach in junior high and high schools.

“The goal [of these drives is] that if you’re from this area, you’re more likely to come back and be a physician if that’s the path you choose,” MaKieve said, “so let’s encourage more youth to pursue that.” □

WEEKLY DOSE

Love your brain

After professional snowboarder Kevin Pearce suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI), he found that practicing yoga and meditation improved his quality of life. Pearce is the founder of the Love Your Brain Foundation, an organization that teaches caregivers and those with TBI how to put “mindfulness, yoga, and community” to work in transforming the well-being of those suffering. Learn how it can help by attending a free **Love Your Brain** seminar **Wednesday (March 11)**, 1-4:30 p.m., at **Enloe Conference Center** (1528 Esplanade), where there will be guided participation in yoga and meditation and a showing of a documentary on Pearce’s life called *The Crash Reel*. Pre-registration required. Contact the Brain Injury Coalition at 342-3118 or visit braininjurycoalition.info



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