Legislation enabling a statewide medical education system was enacted by the Iowa legislature in 1973. The Code of Iowa assigns to the Dean of the Carver College of Medicine the responsibility of administering this statewide program. The backbone of the statewide system is a network of community-based family medicine residency programs. The College provides administrative, educational, and technical support to the individual residency programs, all of which are formally affiliated with The University of Iowa. This report summarizes activity and outcomes for FY 15.

RESIDENCY PROGRAMS

The statewide residency network comprises eight family medicine residencies in seven Iowa communities: Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines (2), Iowa City, Mason City, Sioux City, and Waterloo (See Figure 1).

Figure 1.

UI-AFFILIATED RESIDENCY SITES (8)

ENROLLMENT

The current combined enrollment across the three years of residency is 156. Fifty-four residents are anticipated to complete their final year of training in 2016.

STUDENT INTEREST

870 applications were submitted from U.S. medical students for the 51 first-year residency positions offered in the statewide network. This creates a ratio of 17.1 U.S. medical student applications for every family medicine residency position in Iowa. Residents currently enrolled in the eight programs represent 52 medical colleges. During the past five years, 12% of UI medical graduates have entered a family medicine residency, which remains above the national average for USMDs during that period. Student interest in family medicine careers has declined across US medical schools in recent years. As a result, recruitment of medical students for residency positions is extremely competitive in Iowa and across the nation.

PATIENT CARE

A significant number of Iowans receive their family medical care at the offices of the UI Affiliated Family Medicine Residency training programs. The total number of patient visits at the family medicine residency programs across the state was 186,206 in FY 15.
PRCTICE LOCATIONS

Fifty-two percent of the 2015 residency graduates entered practice in Iowa. During the past 41 years, more than three out of five graduates (61%) have entered practice in Iowa. Forty-four percent of the graduates selecting Iowa sites have chosen communities with populations under 10,000. One-fourth of the total graduates have located in the metro areas where the training programs are based. Iowa towns where graduates are currently practicing are shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2.

VISITING PROFESSOR PROGRAM

Seventy-three (73) Carver College of Medicine faculty conducted 103 teaching visits at the sites of the affiliated community-based family medicine programs in FY 15. These teaching visits supplement instruction by full-time residency faculty and volunteer community physicians at each site.

PROGRAM COSTS AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT

The aggregate costs of the Statewide Family Medicine Training Network were $45,801,376 in FY 15. The 2014-15 appropriation for family medicine education was $1,788,265. From that appropriation, individual training programs received a total of $1,430,612 in training grants and $357,653 in education support and administrative services. The principal sources of support for the training network (and the broader statewide medical education system) are funds from the sponsoring community hospitals and from patient services, which in combination pay 89% of the cost.