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Washoe Med board votes to support med school residencies

In a move that will strengthen the affiliation between Washoe Medical Center and the University of Nevada School of Medicine, the medical center's board of directors voted Tuesday night to spend \$221,071 in support of the school's internal medicine residency training programs.

The residents, who are medical school graduates taking advanced training in a specialty, divide their time among the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Washoe Med and various ambulatory clinics. These funds will pay their salaries for the time the residents spend at Washoe.

The expenditure was approved earlier by the hospital's executive committee and its department of medicine.

"This is a milestone," commented medical school dean Dr. Robert Daugherty. "With the hospital supporting our training program, we can schedule more of the residents' time at Washoe Med. This means their training will be more broad based and they'll see a patient mix--by age, sex and complaint-- that's not typical of the VA facility. This is something our accrediting bodies will view very favorably."

"Also," the dean continued, "Washoe Med has excellent facilities, excellent physicians and nursing staff, and technology that will truly enhance our teaching program."

According to Pat Coward, chairman of Washoe Med's board, three board members are serving on a task force with medical school leaders to develop a five-year plan for collaboration between the two institutions. "We need to evaluate the needs and the goals of both institutions," Coward said, "and decide where we can work together to assure that our community has quality medical services and quality medical education programs. I think a strengthened affiliation can help both of us reach those goals."

According to the dean, Washoe Med has also made a commitment to pay stipends for family practice residents in the hospital beginning July 1, 1990.

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