Residency Program Leadership

Shannon E. Scott-Vernaglia, MD, has been the Residency Training Director at the MassGeneral Hospital for Children since 2009. Originally from Long Island, she first came to Boston to attend Harvard College. She returned to New York for medical school at SUNY Stony Brook. Deciding that she wanted to work with a pediatric population within a larger general hospital system that also cared for adults, Dr. Scott-Vernaglia chose MGH for her pediatric residency training. The warmth and welcome she felt from the program, its faculty and residents, made her decision to choose MGHfC as her home away from home. She stayed on with the program after her training to serve as a Pediatric Chief Resident and subsequently joined the Residency administrative team. She maintains an active general pediatrics practice in the Yawkey-based MGHfC Pedi Group Practice, where she loves caring for patients and families in a setting that also allows for the teaching of medical students and residents. Her academic interests include simulation, building resiliency in trainees, medical errors, narrative medicine and faculty educator development. Outside of her MGHfC extended family, she has a wonderful husband, Brian. Together they are engaged in their own adventure in parenting, with two delightful school-age daughters, Marina and Rebecca.

Ariel Frey-Vogel, MD, MAT grew up in Acton, MA, and went to Harvard University for her undergraduate degree. She then spent two years teaching third grade in Baltimore City with Teach for America while obtaining her Masters in the Art of Teaching at Johns Hopkins University. She returned north for medical school at Yale and did her residency in combined internal medicine and pediatrics at MGH, acting as chief resident for the program in her fourth year. She was thrilled to be asked to stay on after residency and spends half of her time as an Associate Program Director for the MGHfC Pediatric Residency Program and the other half practicing primary care med-peds at an MGH community site in Everett. Her professional interests lie in medical education, where she is currently focusing on using simulation for education and evaluation. She enjoys spending time with her med student husband and two young children.

Kate Sparger, MD is originally from the Midwest and grew up in Wisconsin and Ohio. She attended Miami University for her undergraduate degree in biochemistry and the University of Chicago for medical school. She was a pediatric resident and chief resident in the Boston Combined Residency Program. Kate subsequently pursued neonatology training in the Harvard Combined Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program where she served as chief fellow. Post-fellowship, Kate was invited to stay on as faculty in the neonatal intensive care unit at MGH. Kate joined the MGHfC Pediatric Residency Program as an Associate Program Director in 2014. She is also the MGH NICU Site Director for the Harvard Combined Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program. Professionally, she is interested in medical education and is currently working on enhancing research and other scholarly opportunities for residents. Outside of work, Kate enjoys spending time with her husband and 2 year old daughter.