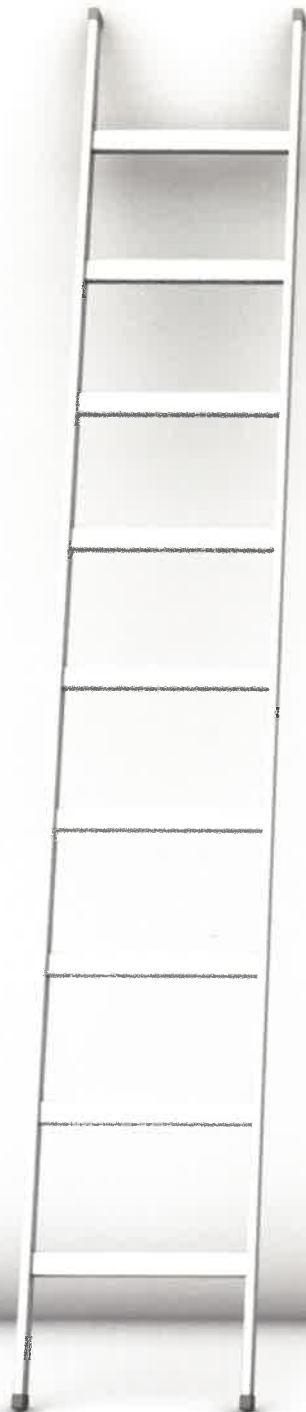


CLIMBING THE LADDER to success

Renee Volny, D.O. (COM '06)



Renee Volny, D.O. (COM '06), has always known she wanted to choose a career path that would allow her to help others. In fact, that's what drew her to attend KCUMB in the first place.

"My choice to go to KCUMB was very deliberate," she said. "KCUMB really stuck out to me. The urban location of the school really appealed to me. A school's location speaks volumes. KCUMB values its surrounding community. For me, it was important to be in a place where I could help the underserved population."

During her time at KCUMB, Dr. Volny gravitated toward the student clubs and organizations that focused on serving the neighborhood surrounding the University. She teamed with others to provide back-to-school checkups and sports physicals for area children, and readily volunteered for other worthy endeavors in the community.

"KCUMB creates an environment that fosters a sense of community," Dr. Volny said.

She carried that sense of service throughout her residency in obstetrics and gynecology and into a fellowship in health policy leadership at the prestigious Satcher Health Leadership Institute at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta. During her fellowship experience, Dr. Volny participated in the International Healthcare Volunteers (IHCV) program and traveled on medical mission trips to Ghana, Africa, where she and a team of volunteers focused on providing health care for women.

Following completion of the fellowship, Dr. Volny took a position at a critical access hospital in Idaho. She persuaded the hospital to donate an old mammography machine to IHCV, so that it could be delivered to Ghana.

Ten months later, David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., former surgeon general, asked Dr. Volny to return to the institute that bears his name to act as interim associate director.

"Dr. Satcher knew my interest in global health, and that is the focus of the institute," she said. "I just want to continue on this trajectory of helping others."

Do you know of a KCUMB graduate who is accomplishing great things? Let us know his or her story by emailing editor@kcumb.edu.