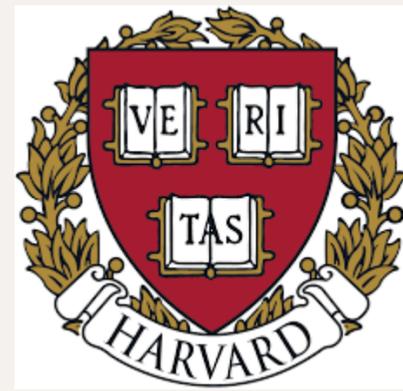


The Value of Training Medical  
Students in Rhode Island: And  
How to Keep them Here.



## Background

“Eugenio Fernandez, A Providence kid who somehow quadruple-majored at the University of Rhode Island, then got a graduate degree from Harvard, and came back to start a community pharmacy called Asthenis...”



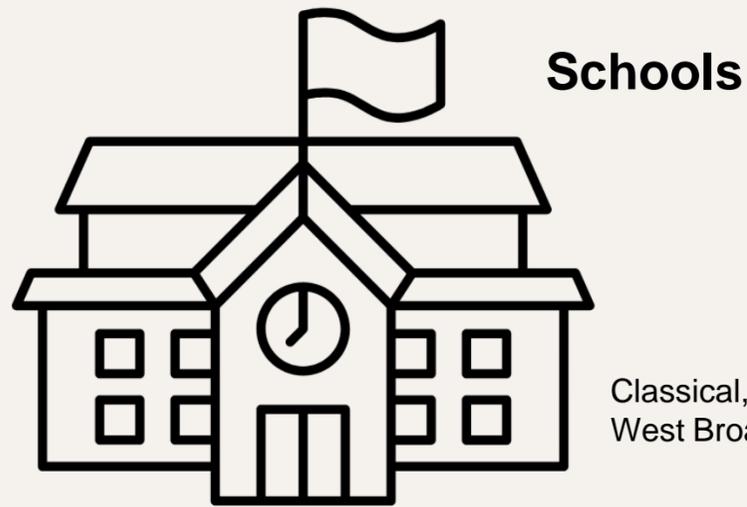
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# The Boston Globe

Classica High School  
Doctor of Pharmacy '13 URI  
Master of Business Administration '13 URI  
Bachelor's Psychology '13 URI  
Bachelor's Biology '13 URI  
Master of Public Health '16 Harvard

First/only in school's history.

# About Asthenis: Public Health Ecosystem



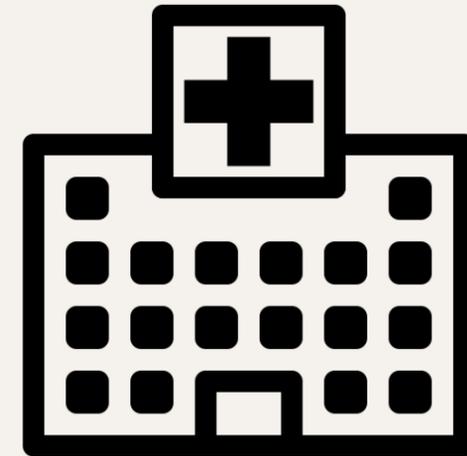
**Schools**

Classical, Central, Asa Messer,  
West Broadway



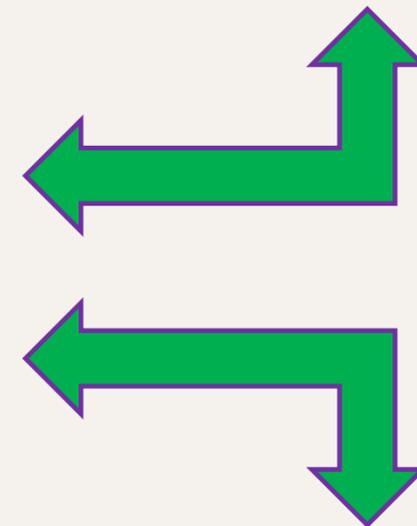
**Housing**

Wiggin Village, Crossroads,  
Coddin Court



**Healthcare**

Asthenis, PCHC, clinics

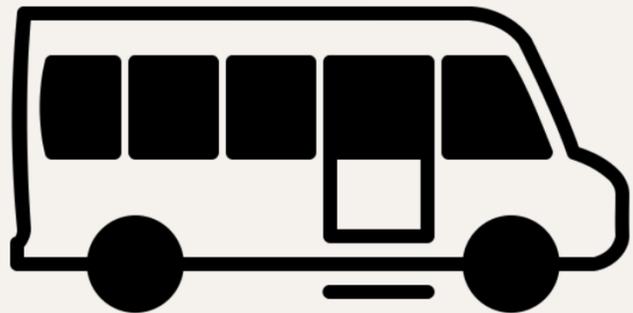


**Food**



Amos House, Urban Greens,  
various fast-food establishments

**Transportation**



RIPTA, multiple bus stops and  
routes

Public Health is **Preventative health**

- 1) Vaccination
- 2) Health Screenings

# Providence: PCTA

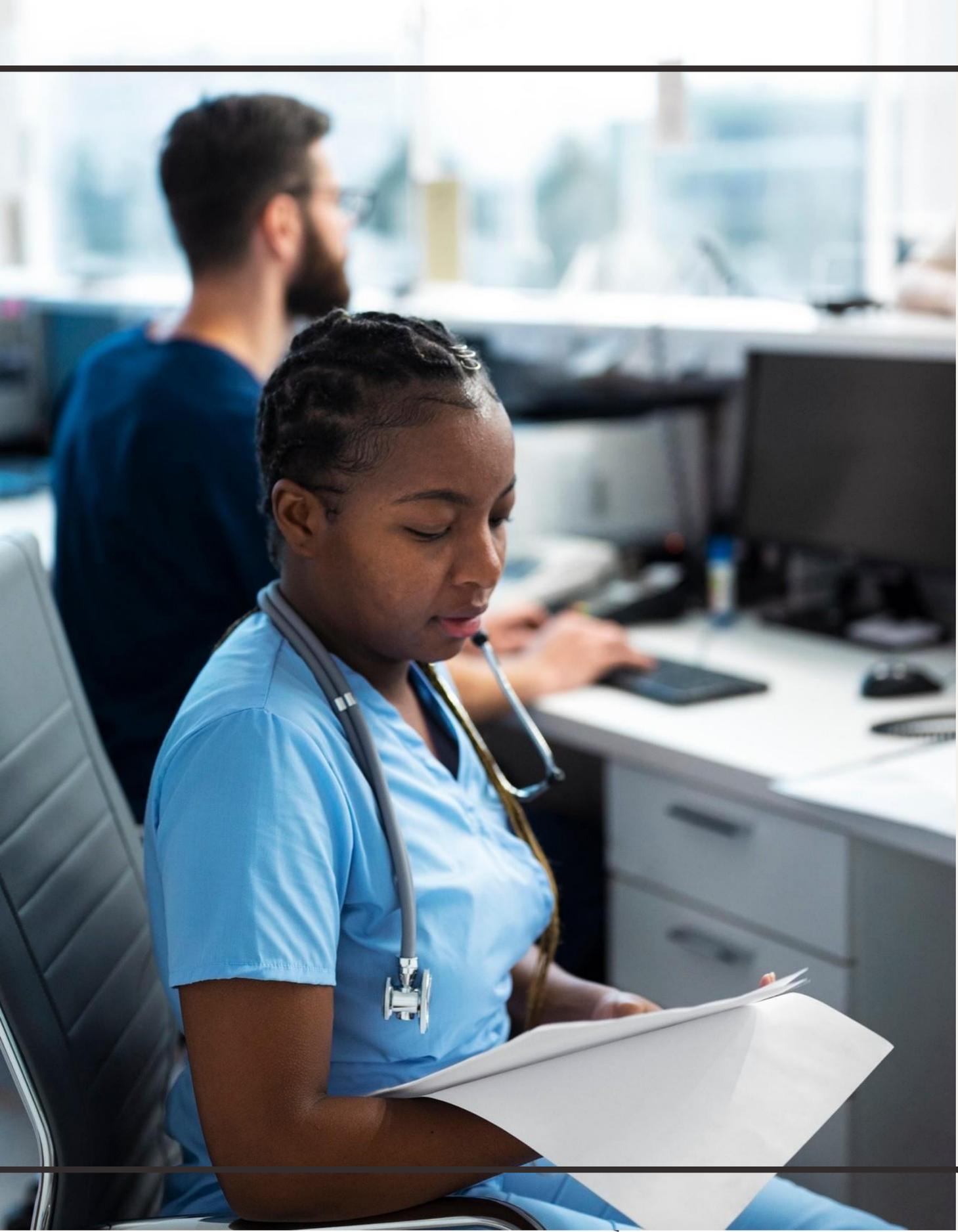


5%

“United States of America is the best country in the world,

**Our Healthcare System is Not.”**





# One Part of the Issue is the Primary Care Crisis

RI Primary Care Providers: **641**

Defined by provider's holistic care- not training/license (obgyn/hospitalist).

Patient Case load (Panel)

If **1.5K** then RI needs **90 more** Providers

If **1.2K** then RI needs **270 more** Providers

**KIDS:** *Watch this space*

Don't forget the kids – empirical observation: an area to watch; (vaccine access).

# New Medical School is Great for Rhode Island



## Value:

Directly provides the trained professional workforce we need to address shortages in primary care.

## How to keep them in Rhode Island:

It **starts** during their time in Medical School.

# Keeping Doctors in Rhode Island

- 1) Attractive: Financial reimbursement and student loans.
- 2) **Manageable** – distribute the workload
- 3) Trust: Racial composition of class (JAMA Study). (5.7 (B) -6.9% (H) – school match population.
- 4) Research: Interest to study interactions b/w people and Public Health ecosystem. **Modify curriculums** by incorporating local **ongoing** impacts on healthy living.





# Manageable primary care

Interdisciplinary component delegates easy tasks and test to treat for primary care providers.

- **Providers are not overburden** by easy to test and treat office visits.

URI has a special opportunity to leverage pharmacists, nurses, and medical school's interdisciplinary **collaboration to make primary care more manageable.**

- Colleges of Pharmacy, Nursing, Health Sciences, et al.

How does that look like in practice?



# Let's Look at What Countries Outside the US do

## The Pharmacy First Model

**Test to Treat** are delegated to pharmacists:  
Drug changes, Diabetes, vaccines etc.

Allows providers to work collaboratively with pharmacists **rather than in silos**

Unlike other school's – URI's pharmacy and nursing schools are in great position for reducing the workload and making primary care more manageable through collaboration.

People come from other countries in our community.

# Keeping Primary Care Providers in RI

- 1) Attractive:** Financial reimbursement and student loans.
- 2) Manageable:** Reducing the amount of burden through Interdisciplinary teaching methods and collaboration with public health providers, pharmacists and nurses.
- 3) Trust:** Racial composition of class.
- 4) Research:** Study interactions with Public Health ecosystem. Ongoing influence on curriculum.





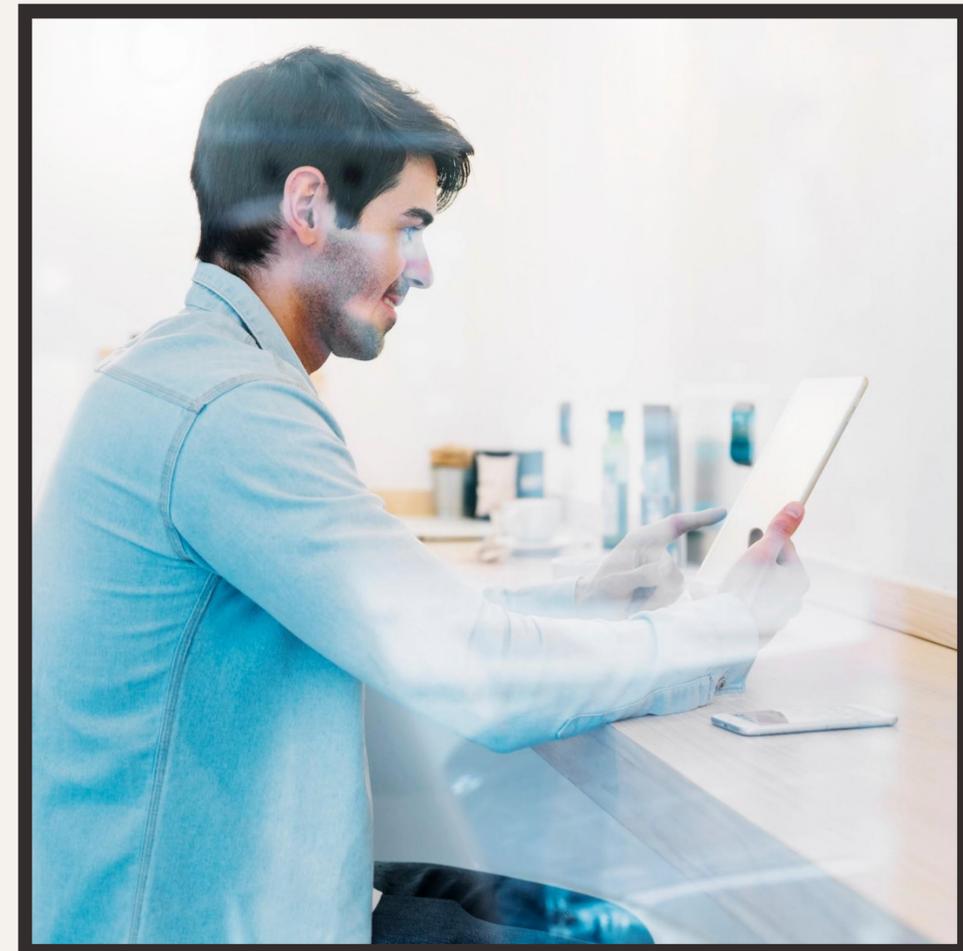
**Dec. 12, 2021**

Leanna Arcila, 7, is licked by Watson, a therapy dog with the Pawtucket police department, as she receives her COVID-19 vaccination from Dr. Eugenio Fernandez at Nathanael Greene Elementary School in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, on Dec. 7, 2021.

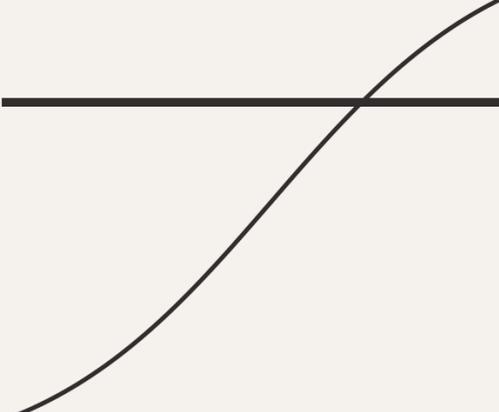
— David Goldman / AP

Think Big – The University of Rhode Island

**“Big thinking precedes great achievement”** – W. Peterson

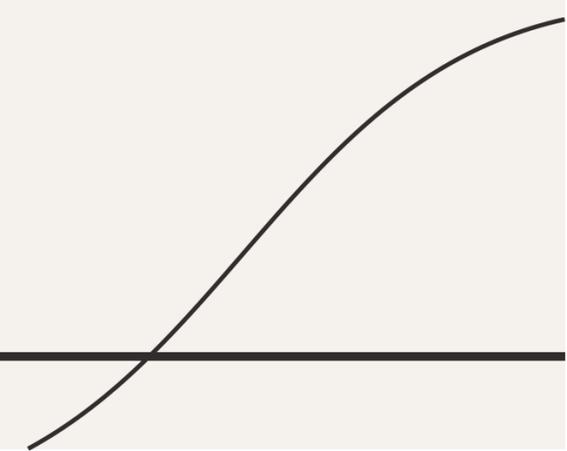


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# Thank you!

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[www.Asthenis.org](http://www.Asthenis.org)



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