

Lauren Cookingham Beene, MD

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

As a dedicated Community Pediatrician, my core mission revolves around advocating for my patients both individually and within the community. I am deeply committed to ensuring that every child under my care receives unobstructed access to the highest standard of medical care. I believe in fostering lasting and trusted relationships with children and their families, understanding that such bonds are crucial in delivering personalized, effective, patient-centered healthcare.

EMPLOYMENT:

2019 – present General Pediatrician – *Suburban Pediatrics, Shaker Heights & Solon, OH*

2018 – present Pediatric Rapid Care Physician – *Univ. Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, Cleveland, OH*

EDUCATION / TRAINING:

2018 – 2019 Chief Resident, Pediatrics, *Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, Cleveland, OH*

2015 – 2018 Pediatrics Residency, Advocacy Track, *Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital, Cleveland, OH*

2010 – 2015 Medical Doctor, *Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH*

2007 – 2010 Master of Science in Biology, Cellular Track, *Oakland University, Rochester, MI*

2003 – 2007 Bachelor of Arts in American Studies, Concentration in Law and Society, *Cornell University, Ithaca, NY*

LICENSE: Sept. 2018 – present, Board Certified in Pediatrics

HONORS / AWARDS:

2023 Women Faculty CWRU SOM Gender Equity Award, *CWRU School of Medicine*

2023 Jane B. Sheats Community Impact Award, *presented by Ohio Senator Kent Smith, "For your strategy, skill and zeal to restore reproductive freedom in Ohio."*

2017 PL-2 Resident Teacher of the Year Award, *Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital*

2016 Resident Research Award, Potential for Clinical Impact, *Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital*

2015 Alpha Omega Alpha, *CWRU of Medicine*

2012 Knights Templar Eye Foundation Career-Starter Grant, *Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute*

2012 Fight For Sight Summer Student Fellowship, *Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute*

2011 Summer Genetics Scholars Award, *American College of Medical Genetics Foundation*

2011 – 2015 Donald R. James Scholarship Award for Medical Education, *Valley of Cleveland Foundation*

2009 Student Commencement Speaker, Fall Graduation Ceremony, *Oakland University*

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE / INSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEES:

2023 Executive Committee Member, *Ohio United for Reproductive Rights (OURR)*

OURR was the coalition of statewide reproductive health, rights, and justice organizations working to ensure Ohioans, not the government, have control over their own reproductive freedom. This campaign successfully passed Issue 1 in the Ohio constitution.

2022 – present Executive Director and co-Founder, *Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights (OPRR)*

In my role as Executive Director and Co-Founder of OPRR, I spearheaded the movement to safeguard reproductive freedom in the Ohio constitution. As the leader of OPRR since its inception in 2022, I have dedicated my efforts towards advocacy, development, and organizational leadership, ensuring a lasting impact on reproductive healthcare rights in Ohio. My key achievements include:

- **Drafting Key Legislation:** *co-authored the amendment "The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety."*
- **Building Strategic Coalitions:** *Formed and led Protect Choice Ohio, a broad coalition of community organizations, and secured endorsements from prominent medical societies statewide.*
- **Leading Signature Campaigns:** *Successfully oversaw a campaign that gathered over 710,000 signatures.*
- **Collaborative Fundraising Leadership:** *Worked together with our fundraising team in raising approximately \$7 million for the Issue 1 campaign.*
- **National and Governmental Liaison:** *Played a pivotal community-facing role, engaging with national media and government officials.*
- **Post-Issue 1 Legislation Strategy:** *Continuously advocating for reproductive healthcare access in Ohio.*

2022 – present	Board Member <i>Early Childhood Enrichment Center, Shaker Heights, OH</i>
2021 – 2022	Rainbow Primary Care Institute Clinical Practice Guideline Committee, <i>Rainbow Babies & Children's</i>
2015 – 2018	Resident Advisory Council and Resident Form, <i>University Hospitals Cleveland</i>
2017	GME Annual Institutional Review Committee, <i>University Hospitals Cleveland</i>
2015 – 2018	Antibiotic Stewardship Initiative, <i>Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital</i>
2014 – 2015	Leader of team-based learning group for 1 st and 2 nd year medical students, <i>CWRU School of Medicine</i>
2015	Student Review Committee for New Health Education Campus, <i>CWRU School of Medicine</i>
2011 – 2012	Ohio State Medical Association, Chapter Founder and Alternate Delegate, <i>CWRU School of Medicine</i>
2010 – 2012	Physicians for Social Responsibility, Chapter Co-Founder, <i>CWRU School of Medicine</i>
2004 – 2007	Voices Magazine, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, <i>Cornell University</i>

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

Beene, LC, Traboulsi EI, Seven I, Ford MR, Sinha Roy A, Butler RS, Dupps, WJ, "Corneal deformation response and ocular geometry: A new diagnostic strategy in Marfan syndrome." *American Journal of Ophthalmology*. 2016 Jan;161:56-64.e1.

Beene LC, Xin B, Lukas C and Wang H, "Mutations in *ELANE* and *COH1 (VPS13B)* genes cause severe neutropenia in a patient with Cohen syndrome." *Journal of Clinical & Cellular Immunology*. 2015 Dec;6:378.

Beene LC, Wang LW, Hubmacher D, Keene DR, Reinhardt DP, Annis DS, Mosher DF, Mecham RP, Traboulsi EI and Apte SS. "Non-selective assembly of fibrillin-1 and fibrillin-2 in the rodent ocular zonule and in cultured cells: Implications for Marfan syndrome." *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*. 2013 Dec 23;54(13):8337-44.

Beene LC, Halluer J, Yoshinaga M, Hamdi M, and Liu Z, "Pentavalent Arsenate Transport by Zebrafish Phosphate Transporter NaPi-IIb1." *Zebrafish*. 2011 Dec;8(3):125-31.

McDermott JR, Jiang X, **Beene L**, Rosen B, Liu Z, "Pentavalent methylated arsenicals are substrates of mammalian AQP9." *BioMetals*. 2010 Feb;23(1):119-27.

Hamdi M, Sanchez M, **Beene L**, Liu Q, Landfear S, Rosen B, Liu Z, "Arsenic transport by zebrafish aquaglyceroporins." *BMC Molecular Biology*. 2009 Nov 25;25;10:104.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

Beene, L, Et. al., "Issue 1 will not remove parental consent for abortions. Here's how we know.," *The Columbus Dispatch*, 1 November 2023.

Beene, L, Et. al., "Ohio Pediatricians Support Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety Amendment," *Ohio Pediatrics*, Fall 2023.

Beene, L, Et. al., "Another reason why Crain's got it wrong with DeWine endorsement," *Crain's*

Cleveland Business, 7 November 2022.

Beene, L, Et. al. "Doctors Say Early Pregnancies Harm Girls." *Ms. Magazine*. 23 August 2022.

Beene, L, Et. al., "Ohio attorney general's further victimized 10-year-old girl," *The Columbus Dispatch*. 15 July 2022.

Beene L, Et. al, "Using Letters to the Editor to Advocate for Pediatric Issues." *Ohio Pediatrics: A Quarterly Newsmagazine of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics*. Fall 2016.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS:

Schwartz Rounds, University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's, Cleveland, OH 26 April 2022.

"Amish Around Us." Medical Genetics Grand Rounds. Department of Genetics and Center for Human Genetics, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH, 20 January 2017.

"The Eye in Marfan Syndrome." Medical Genetics Grand Rounds. Department of Genetics and Center for Human Genetics, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland, OH, 14 March 2014.

"Fibrillin-2 is a component of the rodent ocular zonule." International Society for Genetic Eye Diseases & Retinoblastoma Annual Conference, Ghent, Belgium, 22 Aug. 2013.

ACADEMIC POSTERS:

Beene L, Bhakta H, Dell M, Desai A, Frank E. "Avoiding tunnel vision in the sexually active adolescent with labial ulcers." Pediatric Hospital Medicine Annual Conference. Nashville, TN. 22 July 2017.

Bhakta H, **Beene L**, Wyllie, Boutry M, Desai An Frank E. "Unusual presentation of Kawasaki Disease Resembling Retropharyngeal Abscess." Pediatric Hospital Medicine Annual Conference. Nashville, TN. 22 July 2017.

Kim E, **Beene L**, Azok J, Desai A, Kang E, Kim A, Li H, Stephans A. "A Retrospective Chart Review to Assess Factors Contributing to Inpatient Admission of Pediatric Patients with Skin and Soft Tissue Infections (SSTIs)." Pediatric Hospital Medicine Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. 31 July 2016.

Beene L, Wang L, Mecham R, Reinhardt D, Traboulsi E, Hubmacher D, Apte S. "Fibrillin-2 is a component of the rodent ocular zonule." Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. 5 May 2013.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

American Academy of Pediatrics
Ohio State Medical Association

REFERENCES:

Peter Catanzaro, MD, Suburban Pediatrics
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Matthew Mascioli, MD, Suburban Pediatrics
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Personal Statement:

I am a dedicated Community Pediatrician, and my core mission revolves around advocating for my patients both individually and within the community. I am deeply committed to ensuring that every patient under my care receives unobstructed access to the highest standard of medical practice. I also firmly believe that individuals should have the right to make medical decisions that are best for them and their families with the guidance of their physician; and that physicians' rights and abilities to care for their patients must be protected. I recently had the opportunity to advocate for my patients' right to reproductive health care, as well as doctors' right to provide that care, by founding Ohio Physicians for Reproductive Rights and its nonpartisan grassroots coalition Protect Choice Ohio. Through these organizations I was at the forefront of the successful effort to put reproductive freedom on the ballot as Issue 1 in Nov. 2023. This experience was eye opening for me - both to the vast work that still needs to be done in order to protect healthcare in Ohio, as well as the tremendous power that physicians bring as voices in these undertakings-- whether it is through advocating for their patients within their local communities, at the state government level, or on a national scale. Through this work I learned a great deal about building an organization from the ground up, establishing that organization as a sustainable non-profit, fundraising and the power of small and large contributions, and the art of coalition building, as I was able to form relationships with people from all walks, including local community organizers as well as some of the most powerful people in Ohio. I learned to not be afraid to speak up publicly for what is right, and that through persistence, I can make a positive difference. The OSMA has a critical role in advancing the quality and accessibility of healthcare in Ohio as we move further into the 21st century. Being an engaged member of the OSMA with a leadership role would provide me with an invaluable opportunity to continue advocating for my patients and for my profession— with the support of the most well respected medical organization in the state. I plan to bring all that I have learned through my unique experiences over the past several years to my role within the OSMA, and appreciate this chance to continue this work together.