

## Current Pharmacy Residents (Class of 2025)

### PGY1

**Gianna Castro** is from Westampton, New Jersey. She graduated from Rutgers University's Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy and moved to Tucson in June. The part of pharmacy she appreciates the most is the direct patient care and the VA felt like a perfect fit for her goals as a pharmacist. During her PGY1 residency, she is looking forward to defining her interest, learning under the guidance of amazing preceptors, and exploring Tucson. Outside of work, Gianna likes to take care of house plants, hike, and go to concerts!

**Karishma Deshpande** is a current PGY-1 Pharmacy Resident at SAVAHCS. After living in Chandler for 20 years, Karishma decided to move to Tucson to attend the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy. Prior to earning her PharmD in 2024, she earned her B.S. in Biological Sciences from Arizona State University. Karishma was absolutely thrilled to start her residency at SAVAHCS due to the warm environment of the employees and the friendly patient population. Her current professional interests include critical care, acute care medicine, pain management, emergency medicine, and academia. After residency, Karishma hopes to either complete a PGY-2 or search for a position within the VA healthcare system! She also hopes to learn how to eventually become a preceptor one day. In her free time, Karishma loves to spend time with her loved ones, practice yoga, watch re-runs of her favorite TV shows, and is a major foodie/dessert lover!

**Ashley Dougherty** is a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at SAVAHCS. She was born and raised in Pennsylvania then moved to Nashville, TN to attend Lipscomb University where she earned her B.S. in Health Sciences and Doctorate in Pharmacy. Her areas of professional interest include oncology and critical care. After residency she wants to pursue a PGY2 in oncology and work within the VA. Ashley enjoys spending time with her family, hiking with her dog Booker, trying new restaurants, and hanging out with her co-residents. Her goal is to hike every major national park and is excited to cross Saguaro National Park off her list soon.

**Erica Sawires** is a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at SAVAHCS. Erica is from Pasadena, California and earned a B.S. degree in Animal Science from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She moved to Phoenix, AZ to attend Midwestern University and earned a Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 2024 before then moving to Tucson, AZ to enter the PGY1 residency at SAVAHCS. Some professional interests include mental health, geriatrics, and ambulatory care. Post-residency, Erica is considering pursuing a PGY2 in psychiatric pharmacy. Outside of work, she enjoys trying new restaurants, yoga, watching movies, and spending time with friends and family!

**Izzy Santos** is a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at SAVAHCS. Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona and earned her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree from the University of Arizona R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy. Her professional interests include mental health and ambulatory care, but she is excited to gain experience in other fields of pharmacy during her residency. In Izzy's free time, she enjoys going to barre and spin classes. She loves trying new restaurants and spending time with family and friends.

**Nhi (Heather) Tran** is a PGY1 Pharmacy Resident at SAVAHCS. Heather was born and raised in Vietnam and moved to Tucson nine years ago. Heather earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Arizona R Ken Coit College of Pharmacy and practice at a community pharmacy prior to residency. Heather's professional interests include ambulatory care and mental health and is looking forward to exploring the variety of rotations provided at SAVAHCS. Heather would love to work as a clinical pharmacist practitioner within the VA after residency. During free time, Heather enjoys spending time with her husband and two dogs. Heather enjoys watching movies, exploring new places, restaurants, coffee shops and traveling.

### PGY2 Oncology

**Ketty Lee, PharmD** was born and raised in Baltimore, MD and moved to Tucson four years ago to complete her Doctor of Pharmacy at the R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy. Ketty completed a PGY1 pharmacy residency at SAVAHCS and is ecstatic to be staying on board for another year to complete a PGY2 residency in oncology with hopes of becoming a VA oncology clinical pharmacist practitioner afterwards. Outside of residency, Ketty enjoys spending time with her husband, daughter, and 2 pups, working out, and trying to conquer the next hike.