

I Am Abel Foundation's Physician Mentor of 2019



JOY ELION, MD I Am Abel Foundation Founding Board Member

Few words can adequately describe the warmth, brilliance and humanitarian spirit of Dr. Joy Elion. Dr. Joy, as she is affectionately called by the students, is a founding board member of the I AM ABEL FOUNDATION. She is also one of our most passionate physician mentors.

Dr. Joy Elion grew up in the south suburbs of Chicago. She graduated from Rich Central High School in Olympia Fields, IL. She obtained her BA Degree in Microbiology from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio in 2001. Upon graduation, she attended Pritzker School of Medicine at the University of Chicago graduating in 2005. She then began her Pediatric Residency at Northwestern University's Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago. She is currently working at the Comer Clinic at the University of Chicago. She discovered her true passion when she stepped out of her comfort zone to travel and work abroad in medical missions. Ever since, she has been hooked and each year she takes countless high school, college and medical school students to Haiti and Kenya to serve.

She is the pediatric consultant for Chances for Children, an organization that takes a multifaceted approach to serving children in Haiti through feeding programs, medical care, women's empowerment and other programs. She travels to Kenya with the Hyde Park Vineyard church.

Dr. Joy exemplifies what it means to serve. She has a quiet spirit but her legacy is huge. For as much work as she does abroad, she equally leads with compassion and service right here in Chicago. Every year she manages to find room for one more mentee as her heart always answers "yes."

Dr. Joy, you are a humanitarian and tireless advocate for the voiceless. Your spirit of excellence as well as your relentless commitment to serve the underserved embodies our motto of **Excellence Period. Serve Always.** It also made you are unanimous choice for our first ever, **Physician Mentor Of The Year 2019.** Your facebook tagline **#JoyInTheJourney** suits you well. Thank you Dr. Joy for aspirational mentorship to our mentees and for being a living example of what it means to serve.