

BROADCAST- OSF STEAM program gives medical resident early inspiration and confidence

ANCHOR LEAD-IN

According to new projections by the Association of American Medical Colleges, the United States will face a physician shortage of up to 86,000 physicians within 10 years. OSF HealthCare is working on building a pipeline through OSF STEAM programs – classes and experiences offering interesting ways to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. One such program is helping *potential* medical school enrollees decide if they are ready to make the commitment.

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Twenty-nine-year-old Gabe Koch (pronounced Cook), a native of Tremont, Illinois said just a short time into his OSF STEAM Pre-Med Immersion Experience he knew – as he put it – he had found his people. He was invigorated by watching a surgery, learning to read an electrocardiogram, and practicing suturing on a cadaver. Koch even appreciated hearing a medical resident giving some hard truths ...

"It wasn't all rainbows and lollipops. And we saw real life examples of that by that resident coming and speaking to us and saying, 'You know, very bluntly, like, it's hard. Residency is hard, medicine is hard. And so, you really have to be committed.' So that was, that was something that really stood out." (:18)

Koch is now a first-year medical resident at OSF HealthCare Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, preparing for a career in Emergency Medicine.