The RARE Compassion Program is designed to:

a) help the next generation of medical professionals better understand and appreciate the complexities of life with a rare disease,

b) improve their abilities to better identify, diagnose and treat rare diseases, and

c) encourage students, including those from diverse backgrounds, to pursue careers in medical specialties or clinical research relevant to rare disease.

In the program, students and individuals living with a rare disease meet virtually over the course of 8 months. Throughout the program participants have the opportunity to hear from experts in the rare disease space and connect with each other and Global Genes staff via our RARE Portal (online community platform).

Past student participants said they learned

- a better understanding of the patient-physician relationship in navigating rare diseases
- the importance of language in coloring patient interactions
- a holistic understanding of the challenges patients face, from navigating insurance to finding the right doctor.

“*The discussions really made what I was learning in school feel real. It’s easy in medical school to get stuck behind books memorizing the details of “rare” conditions, but there are indeed people living with these diseases. This knowledge now that I am learning could help make a rare disease diagnosis in the future.*”

- Erin Kim, 2022 Student Participant

For more information about the program please visit our website at [globalgenes.org/compassion](http://globalgenes.org/compassion)

If you are interested in being notified when applications go live please fill out [this interest form](http://globalgenes.org/compassion).

If you have any questions or want more information to share with your peers or students, please email [compassionprogram@globalgenes.org](mailto:compassionprogram@globalgenes.org)

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**About Global Genes®**

Global Genes is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating the burdens and challenges of rare diseases for patients and families globally. In pursuit of our mission, we connect, empower and inspire the rare disease community to stand up, stand out, and become more effective on their own behalf – helping to spur innovation, meet essential needs, build capacity and knowledge, and drive progress within and across rare diseases. We serve more than 400 million people around the globe and nearly 1 in 10 Americans affected by rare diseases. If you or someone you love has a rare disease or are searching for a diagnosis, contact Global Genes at 949-248-RARE or visit our [resource hub](mailto:resourcehub).