

**Derrick S. Haslem, MD**

Dr. Haslem moved to Southern Utah as a teenager. He comes from a family filled with farmers, ranchers and blue collar workers, and he says, it was their example of hard work and dedication that inspired him to pursue a career in medicine.

Before attending college at Southern Utah University, Dr. Haslem spent two years living in the Dominican Republic, where he became fluent in Spanish. "I worked side by side with members of a third-world nation and witnessed the meaning of real need and poverty," he said.

While studying at the University of Utah School of Medicine, Dr. Haslem volunteered at a community health center, where he served as a translator for Spanish-speaking patients. He also traveled to various high schools as part of the Utah Rural Outreach Program, to encourage students to pursue careers in health care.

Upon completing his fellowship at the Huntsman Cancer Institute at the University of Utah in June 2009, Dr. Haslem will work at the nonprofit Intermountain Medical Group in southern Utah, where he will provide cancer services to patients regardless of their insurance status. Dr. Haslem describes the people of Southern Utah as very hardworking and diverse including many Hispanic immigrants, Native Americans, Mormons, and retired elderly people.

"I consider myself lucky to have the opportunity to come back to my roots and treat cancer patients in an area that is sorely in need," Dr. Haslem said.