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Thanks To Our 2017 Sites and Interns:

Bethany House.....Colleen O'Neil and Amanda Beyer
Bethesda North Ob/Gyn Center.....Ridhima Vemula
Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio.....Jessica Smith
Center for Addiction Treatment.....Cody VanLinge
Cincinnati Children's Pediatric Primary Care Center.....Caroline Hensley
City Gospel Mission.....Evan Onusko
Crossroad Health Center – OTR.....George Adly and Bradley Pearson
Division of Community Women's Health – UC Dept. of Ob/Gyn.....Laura Bess
First Step Home.....Alyssa Lucas
Good Samaritan Free Health Center.....Julie Luna-Torres
Lighthouse New Beginnings.....Michela Carter
Lighthouse Youth Development Center.....Aaron Linn
Off the Streets® – Cincinnati Union Bethel.....Maria Radzwion
Project Connect.....Logan Borgelt and Roxanne Rezaei
Tender Mercies.....Omar Saqr
UC Department of Family and Community Medicine.....Anthony DeMarco
Welcome House of Northern Kentucky.....Roxanne Rezaei



Urban Health Project

2017 Summer Summary



As the 31st summer of Urban Health Project comes to an end, we would like to commend an excellent group of interns for their hard work this summer. 19 interns served at 17 community sites with 16 partner organizations throughout the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky area. Over the course of eight weeks, our interns provided over 5,800 hours of service, directly impacting over 1000 individuals. Each intern approached their position, whether it be clinical, social, or research-based work with passion. Examples of projects included quantitative analysis of Electronic Medical Records to evaluate reasons for ED visits, a photo project documenting homes of immigrant families to better inform new mothers of infant safe sleep, and teaching classes on mental health and wellness to men, women, and children experiencing homelessness, recovering from substance abuse, or recovering from human trafficking.

Weekly reflections consistently indicated that interns gained a foundation of service, understanding, humility, and compassion through their summer experiences. We believe this will guide them to serve all individuals equally their future practice of medicine. We again want to thank our site partners, board of advisors, funders, and all those who have directly or indirectly supported our interns this summer and over the past 31 years. We would not be able to do this work without your help. We look forward to continuing our community partnerships for many years to come!

Jenna Barengo and Molly Leavitt
2017-2018 UHP Co-Directors

Summer 2017 Events

June 5th: Internships Began

June 21st: OTR Tour

Interns traveled to the Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless to take a tour of Over-the-Rhine. The tour highlighted the changes that have occurred in the neighborhood over the past 15 years, and focused on the challenges faced by underserved populations. The tour was followed by lunch at Venice on Vine, an organization that hires individuals with barriers to employment.

July 24th: Service with TriHealth & People Working Cooperatively

As part of a yearly tradition, UHP again partnered with TriHealth and People Working Cooperatively (PWC) to build access ramps for the homes of two patients. Interns spent the day working with Bethesda Family Medicine residents, learning patient stories and working side-by-side.

August 1st: Committed to Community Event

Site supervisors, UCCOM faculty and staff, UHP Board Members, UHP Funders, and members of the community were invited to celebrate the work of our 2017 interns through a poster session and short program. Dr. Phillip Diller, Chair of the UC Department of Family and Community Medicine and Fred Lazarus Jr. Professor of Clinical Family Medicine attended as keynote speaker. Evan Onusko, intern at City Gospel Mission, also gave a personal reflection.

2017 Award Winners

2017 Continued Excellence Award

Caroline Hensley



Caroline worked at Cincinnati Children's Primary Pediatric Care Center. While there, she conducted research on the effectiveness of a community resource liaison, an Avondale community member who counsels parents of pediatric patients on social needs. Caroline went above and beyond by taking on many additional projects such as evaluating reasons for disproportionate prescription pickup in underserved areas of Cincinnati, and gathering patient and family stories for the Ohio AAP 100 stories project. Dr. Andrew Beck nominated Caroline for this award because of her passion for public health and her accomplishments this summer.

2017 Committed to Community Award

Alyssa Lucas



Alyssa Lucas worked at First Step Home with women recovering from addiction. She constantly went out of her way to provide for her clients by leading sessions on barriers to recovery, working in the medication room, and taking the time to get to know each person who walked through the door. She worked extra hours to make sure every session she led was well polished and useful for clients. Alyssa's passion and empathy shined throughout her internship, gaining recognition from her supervisors and fellow interns.

2017 Outstanding Service Project Award

Michela Carter



Michela worked at Lighthouse New Beginnings, a group home for girls ages 12-18. For her project, Michela worked with each girl to recreate their favorite meal with healthy alternatives so that they could learn about nutrition. She also worked to make the girls' rooms feel like home by helping them construct macramé curtains. Her project was specifically designed out of a desire to make the girls feel welcomed and loved. Michela's supervisor spoke highly of her, specifically pointing out her consistent bubbly personality and dedication to the girls. She was chosen for this award through a vote by her intern peers.

Excerpts of Weekly Reflections

"In my future career as a physician, I hope to internalize these kids' struggles to become a more patient person. I will take my time explaining medical concepts, even if they may seem basic to me. Further, I will not assume what the patient's life is like. My time at YDC so far has taught me to cherish the personal details anyone chooses to share with me. These boys have every right to be wary of adults, yet choose to trust me, as my future patients hopefully will."

-Aaron Linn, Lighthouse Youth Development Center

"I believe that this experience has made me realize that being a physician puts me in a position where I can assist with so much more than the immediate medical complaint. Small things like getting someone connected to a therapist can help, and sometimes, when people are experiencing all of the hardships that come along with homelessness, it can be difficult to know where to look. Working at Bethany House made me a bit more comfortable at knowing what warning signs and underlying causes to look for."

- Amanda Beyer, Bethany House Services

"Through research involving Crossroad's EMR, I've seen the financial and health struggles that CRHC patients live with every day. The fact that there are so many people in this country living in similar conditions truly drives me to become a physician with a conscience, a physician who loves his patients, and most importantly, a physician who can help conquer the health gap in this country."

- Bradley Pearson, Crossroad Health Center- OTR

