Community Health Scholarship Track
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Promoting Population Health:
The University of Chicago Medicine is situated in the culturally rich South Side of Chicago – an area of 34 neighborhoods with around one million people, primarily African American with a large Hispanic and immigrant population, many impoverished, with significant health disparities. A community health needs assessment sponsored by UCM in 2012 prioritized access to care for all, diabetes and cancer care for adults, and obesity and asthma care for pediatrics, as well as STIs and violence.

University of Chicago faculty and trainees partner with community leaders and organizations to promote health through research, advocacy, and community development.

The Community Health Track connects students participating in the service learning opportunities of the Pritzker School of Medicine with the community outreach of the Urban Health Initiative and community engaged research of the Institute for Translational Medicine. Medical education is situated within and with the community, allowing students to develop necessary skills in establishing community partnerships for research and advocacy, public speaking, fundraising, consensus building, community organizing, organizational management, team building and inter-professional collaboration. The Community Health Track prepares students to promote population health.

Core Components of the Community Health Scholarship Track
- Pritzker service-learning activities: student-run free clinics (SRFC) and community education outreach, including Days of Service
- Pritzker Community Service Fellows (PCSF): mentorship, gatherings and lecture series
- Community Health Elective: 10 week spring elective introducing key community members and faculty while exploring principles of population health and community engaged scholarship
- Summer Service Partnership (SSP): intensive training in community engagement, inter-professional team leadership/mentorship, project management and advocacy
- Summer Research Program (SRP): training in community-based participatory research
- Mentored projects: community engaged scholarship presented regionally and nationally
- Fourth-Year Service Learning Elective (SERVE): longitudinal elective with 8 service sessions in SRFCs and community education groups, monthly reflections, and an independent Community Health service project
Recent Student Examples from the Community Health Track

Class of 2015

- The Effect of a Reproductive Life Plan on Preconception and Contraceptive Counseling, Katlynn Adkins, MS3
- Identification and validation of a brief, prospective screen for food insecurity experienced by family and caretakers of pediatric patients in the in-patient hospital setting, Meghan Daly, MS3
- Psychiatric diagnoses, high risk behaviors, and chronicity of homelessness in Chicago youth, Anne Lauer, MS3
- Creating a Healthy, Budget-Friendly Cookbook for the South Side of Chicago, Joanna Perdono, MS3
- Medical Students in Middle Schools: Evaluating an afterschool program to boost science and health education in a Chicago Public School, Alisha Ranadive, MS3
- Attitudes and Outlooks among Medical Students Participating in Service-Learning Trips to Underserved Regions of the United States, Hannah Wenger, MS3

Class of 2014

- Adolescent HIV/STI Project Development at the Chicago Department of Public Health, Alex Chiu, MS4
- The Impact of a Center Based, Group Intervention for Toddlers with Autism, Stephanie Gove-Yin, MS3
- Knowledge and Perceptions of Contraception Use Among Latina Women, Jessica Portillo, MS4
- Factors that contribute to a successful and sustainable Summer Service Partnership (SSP) project, Vanessa Rivas-Lopez, MS4
- The Feasibility and Acceptability of Photovoice as a Tool for Diabetes Self-Management in the Picture Good Health Intervention, Matthew Stutz, MS4
- Church-based diabetes self-management intervention in a Mexican-American community: an assessment of lay health diabetes leaders' experiences, Helio Zapata, MS4

Class of 2013 Publications

- Tackling The Weight Of The World: What One African American Woman Taught Us About Global Obesity, Laura Blinkhorn, Health Affairs April 2013 vol.32 no. 4 813-816
- Team Woodlawn: How to Use a Condom, Toussaint Mears-Claire
  - YouTube video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cTtpe2yk7ZY
  - Project Brotherhood testimonials: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zi3ZoUkAmNI&list=PLBF19C961B32B770C

Community-based participatory research is a "collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community, has the aim of combining knowledge with action and achieving social change to improve health outcomes and eliminate health disparities."

WK Kellogg Foundation Community Health Scholars Program