Support the Fellowship

You Make it Possible
What your $ contributes to, when you donate today!

We are a donation-driven non-profit and we rely on your generosity to keep our programming running. Here’s what our supporters make possible:

- Provide stipends for Fellows
- Provide training for Fellows
- Recruit diverse and unique fellows
- Provide stipends for community sites
- Provide seed grants to sustain community projects

$25
$50
$100
$500
$2000

Make your tax-deductible contribution today.
Checks may be made out to Health & Medicine Policy Research Group Attn: Schweitzer Fundraising and mailed to 29 E. Madison, Suite 602, Chicago, IL, 60602 or visit www.hmprg.org to make a gift online today!

JOIN US!
Are YOU a passionate service-minded graduate student in the Chicago Area?

Applications Due
February 1, 2018
Read more at hmprg.org

We thank the following for their generous support:
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The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine,
The University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, Anonymous

Inside:
-Fellow’s HIV prevention outreach project provides valuable learning experience
-Schweitzer Fellow For Life supports inter-disciplinary volunteer teams
Get to know our Current Fellows

On the Cover: Inter-professional Team Holds Microagressions Workshop

Art Therapy, Nursing, Periodontics, and Medical student fellows teamed up to produce a workshop this September in the style of the Theater of the Oppressed entitled “Thinking Through the Body: Exploring Microaggressions in Healthcare” held at Rush University. Microaggressions are indirect, subtle, or unintentional discrimination against members of a marginalized group. The two and a half hour interactive workshop featured experienced practitioner Neha Baht, and drew a crowd ranging in age, experience, and background.

Notes From the Field

“‘The Schweitzer Fellowship has become an irreplaceable part of my medical school education. I was drawn to the Fellowship not only to integrate my passion for service into my life as a student, but to be a part of a community of like-minded individuals that I can work with and learn from throughout my career.

My Schweitzer project is focused on increasing access to healthcare for injection drug users and sex workers in the Chicago area. I have the privilege of partnering with Community Outreach Intervention Projects (COIP) for my community project. COIP was founded in response to the HIV epidemic in Chicago and part of their mission is to prevent the spread of the virus by working within communities to reduce the risky behaviors that may lead to transmission.

I work primarily on a mobile unit that does outreach into the communities most at risk. I designed my project to consider systems-level interventions to provide health care for individuals who would not traditionally interact with the healthcare system. To engage these individuals, I have developed pop up clinics at high trafficked locations in the community. We have had very encouraging results with one pop up clinic leading to 32 community members getting tested for HIV, 18 people receiving an Hepatitis C virus (HCV) test, and over 30 people getting primary care screenings. I feel so fortunate to be able to do this work while I am still a student. So many of the lessons I am learning cannot be taught in a classroom. Ultimately, this project has challenged my preconceived notions about addiction, drug use, and sex work. Under the guidance of COIP staff, I hope to continue working with this population for the next three years as I complete my medical education.’

Molly MacInnes is a medical student at the University of Illinois Chicago and a 2017-18 Schweitzer Fellow.

Support a Project

More than half of our 2017-18 Schweitzer Fellows have chosen to raise extra funds for their community projects. Fellows are seeking funds for books to teach literacy, trips for immigrants to expand their capacity and autonomy, trauma-informed workshops for refugees and volunteers, and so much more. It’s not too late, you can still help to support this year’s projects.

Visit hmprg.org/Events/FellowsFest2017 to find all the participating project’s wish lists!

Next Year’s Fellows: YOU? Someone you know?

Each year we recruit remarkable applicants from the Greater Chicago Area to apply for the Schweitzer Fellowship. Is the Fellowship right for you or someone you know? These are the things we look for in a Fellow, and these are the things you GET as a Fellow, if selected:

SEEEKING:

- 2018-19 graduate student in the Greater Chicago Area
- Service-minded
- Compassionate and driven
- Ready to provide 200 hours of service
- Interested in joining a multi-disciplinary cohort of like-minded, ambitious change agents

Sustaining the Schweitzer Impact

The Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows for Life alumni program supports past Fellows who continue to engage in community-based service work. This summer, four Fellows for Life were selected to receive seed grants for projects around Chicago that will help to mitigate the social determinants of health. One is Ayasha Khan, PharmD, BCPS, Schweitzer Fellow for Life (Class of 2012), who mentors pharmacy, medical, and nursing students in the adult medicine setting as a clinical professor at Chicago State University/Rush Medical Center.

The New Life Volunteering Society clinic provides health services to uninsured and underinsured patients in the Chicagoland area. Many of the patients have risk factors for osteoporosis, diabetes, and hypertension. With the recent Illinois state budget cutbacks, providing sustained services has been challenging. Fortunately, through the Schweitzer Fellows for Life Seed Grant we’ve been able to expand our efforts in health screening and prevention.

The grant funding has allowed our volunteer team to purchase various point-of-care testing supplies and support more student volunteers to participate in the patient screenings, education sessions, and other pharmacy services. The involved clinical faculty and students look forward to continuing these efforts over the next year!

The Schweitzer Fellowship is a year-long service learning program for graduate students in health-related professions who design and implement innovative direct-service projects, aimed at improving the health and well-being of underserved Chicago Area communities. Each year 30 outstanding Fellows are selected from Chicago’s top graduate programs. Visit hmprg.org for more information and to apply.

The Next Class of Fellows

The Next Class of Fellows for Life alumni network...