

Community Health Clinics

We live our mission to improve human health beyond the individual patient. This means making a genuine commitment to meeting the needs of the diverse neighborhoods and populations we serve. The Feinberg MD program encourages our students to use their expertise to build healthier, happier communities. Through opportunities for volunteerism at community clinics, students learn while they provide a vital community service.

A lot of schools I interviewed at would talk at length about their social programming, but then when I dug into it, the initiatives were pretty surface level. At Feinberg, people were really excited to talk about opportunities available in the community and how the school is working to shape the city and make it a better place all around."

JORDAN COLEMAN CLASS OF 2021 Students at Feinberg have a wealth of opportunities to do community outreach and help care for the underserved by volunteering in community health clinics. Students staff primary care and specialty clinics (cardiology, endocrinology, obstetricsgynecology and pediatrics) in various Chicago neighborhoods, working one-on-one with individuals with diverse needs. Feinberg student volunteers serve members of under-resourced communities, including members of African-American, Asian, Latinx and Polish populations, some of whom are recent immigrants. In addition, Feinberg's Department of Family and Community Medicine works through federally qualified health centers to coordinate and provide care and assistance to the uninsured and underserved communities, as well as individuals who are homeless. Physicians working in these community settings are all primarily Northwestern University faculty with research and teaching responsibilities. Feinberg students have the opportunity to rotate through these clinics, working side-by-side with communitybased faculty physicians.

Student Organizations Send Volunteers to the Following Clinics:

CHICAGO YOUTH PROGRAMS (CYP)

ClinicCYP was founded by Northwestern University medical and law students over 35 years ago under the name Cabrini Green Youth Program. Today, CYP partners these same Northwestern student groups with more than 125 youths ages 3-18 from Cabrini Green, Washington Park and the Uptown community, for weekly mentoring, tutoring, recreation and healthcare activities. The overarching goal is to get children out of poverty because of its negative effect on health and wellbeing. CYP strives to have every participating child graduate from trade school or college. Feinberg medical students must volunteer in another CYP activity to be able to work in clinic. Patients, many children of the original youth program participants, are picked up from their homes by a CYP bus.

CHINATOWN CLINIC

The Chinatown Clinic seeks to provide medical services to the Chicago Chinatown community, help students gain a greater understanding of the needs of this community, and cultivate culturally competent care. The organization's goals align with the core competencies of Community Engagement and Service, Medical Knowledge and Scholarship, and Patient-Centered Medical Care.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC (CHC)

CHC is a free outpatient medical clinic located on the west side of Chicago that has served primarily Latinx and Polish populations since 1993. The clinic provides medical care to more than 6,000 uninsured and underserved patients a year. CHC treats patients Monday through Saturday mornings and has four evening clinics run by various Chicago-area medical schools. CHC serves as a site for Feinberg's Education-Centered Medical Home. The specialty clinics (cardiology, endocrinology, OB/GYN and ophthalmology) are staffed by Feinberg student volunteers.

HEPATITIS B ALLIANCE

Hepatitis B Alliance aims to provide culturally, socially and linguistically appropriate care to the underserved population of Chicago Chinatown with chronic hepatitis B infection. In addition, we will provide medical students and undergraduate students valuable experience in working with a unique patient population in order to develop the competencies of Patient-Centered Medical Care, Community Engagement and Service, and Continuous Learning & Quality Improvement.

INDIAN AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FOUNDATION CLINIC – "THE DEVON CLINIC"

Working with community physicians, residents and students from other Chicago medical schools, Feinberg students help provide care to uninsured and underserved patients at the Devon Clinic weekly. The clinic provides treatment, preventive care and health education to a South Asian population. Physicians from the Indian American Medical Association (IAMA), as well as nurses, technicians, interpreters and other volunteers, staff the clinic from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays, treating approximately 40 patients each week.



NEW LIFE VOLUNTEER SOCIETY CLINIC (NLVS)

In collaboration with the IAMA Charitable Foundation, NLVS operates a free health clinic on Peterson Avenue. It is open each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., providing basic medical care and preventive services to the underserved and uninsured. The clinic sees 25-30 patients weekly. Services provided include blood pressure testing, basic blood work (CBC, CMP, Lipids, HgbA1c, U/A), blood sugar tests, EKGs and physical examinations. X-rays and ultrasound services are offered through an associated hospital. The clinic also provides free prescription samples, based on availability.

CLINICS AFFILIATED WITH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE

Erie Family Health Center
Northwestern Medical Group Grayslake
Northwestern Medicine Family Medicine Geneva
Erie HealthReach Waukegan
Heartland International Health Center
Northwestern Medical Group South Loop
PCC Community Wellness Center
Heartland Health Outreach
Northwestern Medical Group Gurnee
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