Co-Directors’ Reflection

Another year of Urban Health Project (UHP) has come and gone and we now have the opportunity to reflect on what has been an exciting, fulfilling year for the program. On a more personal level, we also are able to look back with gratitude at our term as Co-Directors. The privilege that it has been to work with our interns and sites and to gain an understanding of the remarkable impact of the work from this summer cannot be overstated. We truly admire the dedication to service and the kindness and compassion demonstrated by our interns this summer. It was amazing to see the work that they completed and the enthusiasm with which they approached their internships. During our visits to each site, we had the opportunity to gain a strong understanding of the impact each of our community partners has and to see what it looks like to truly dedicate oneself to serving others through their examples. We recognize that the opportunity to work with such wonderful organizations is not something to be taken lightly and we are grateful for it.

During Summer 2015, 19 interns were placed at 17 sites with 14 partner organizations in Greater Cincinnati and completed over 5,300 hours of service collectively. Over the course of their summers, our interns completed on numerous valuable projects such as the design and synthesis of educational modules on topics such as diabetes, nutrition, and smoking cessation; the planning of a health fair for transient workers; the compilation of an art therapy curriculum for women working to escape prostitution; and many other strong initiatives. At the same time, our interns were able to gain direct experience that equips them to increase their awareness of the challenges faced by specific patient populations and of the resources they can use to best serve these groups of individuals. Intern reflections provided clear evidence of the impact of their summer experiences and the continued role of this program in developing compassionate, service-minded future physicians. This ability to both impact the community directly and to shape our interns as they move into medical practice is the defining feature of our program and this past summer served as another reflection of our success in achieving this goal.

Through the contents of this report, we are able to reflect upon this past year’s program and to celebrate the fruitful relationships between our interns and their partner sites. Participation in UHP has the potential to transform the careers and lives of future physicians and we recognize that UHP could not exist without the support of our funders, board members, interns, and community partners. As we enter our 30th summer, we sincerely thank all of these groups for their support that has made the sustainable success of this program possible and we look forward to another great summer in 2016!

Sincerely,

Jessica Hwang and Andrew Frankart
Program Description

Mission
To educate, inspire, and challenge medical students through their service to marginalized populations in Greater Cincinnati to produce more socially responsible physicians who have a greater understanding of the many factors that impact health.

Objectives
- To improve the health of the community by providing motivated and highly competent medical student interns to local organizations serving marginalized populations without any cost to the agencies.
- To develop socially responsible physicians who are adequately prepared to face the challenges associated with providing quality care to underserved populations.

History
Urban Health Project was founded in 1986 when medical students at the University of Cincinnati decided they needed to supplement their rigorous medical studies with lessons in humanity. The program was intended to allow the students to begin interacting with various patient populations during the summer after their first year of medical school. The hope was that these students would learn to see the patients they interacted with first and foremost as people rather than merely as having diseases that needed treatment. Beginning with eight sites during the first summer, Urban Health Project has grown to provide internship opportunities for over 20 medical students each year. In line with its founding ideals, Urban Health Project continues to teach students valuable lessons about working with the underserved and recognizing the complex social factors that impact their health. Through their dedicated service each summer, UHP interns have become a powerful force in improving health care for the underserved in Cincinnati.

2015 Community Partners
Breast and Cervical Cancer Project
Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio
Center for Addiction Treatment
Crossroad Health Center - OTR
Crossroad Health Center- West
Division of Community Women’s Health - University of Cincinnati Department of ObGyn
First Step Home
Good Samaritan Free Health Center
Lighthouse New Beginnings
Lighthouse Youth Crisis Center
Lighthouse Youth Development Center
The Ob/Gyn Center at Bethesda North Hospital
Off the Streets® - Cincinnati Union Bethel
Project Connect
Tender Mercies
University of Cincinnati Department of Family and Community Medicine
Welcome House of Northern Kentucky
Intern Reflections

“I was reminded of the privilege it is to practice medicine and consequently the responsibilities that come with it. This experience made me more aware of how I interact with patients and challenged me to prepare myself in order to offer the best of care to patients whom I will have the honor of serving.”

- Mildrede Bonglack, *The Ob/Gyn Center at Bethesda North Hospital*

“I have gained such an appreciation for the difficulties that come along with homelessness that will translate into my career as a physician. Tender Mercies, in just the first week, has already given me numerous valuable experiences in this regard...With them, I hope to cater to my patients on a deeper level and be able to treat them with more understanding, respect, and compassion instead of just treating their disease...My time with Tender Mercies has done a wonderful job of making sure that I stay aware of a person's circumstances when considering a plan for them. I'm thankful for that and hope to use this experience when discussing conditions with my future patients.

- Sean Lawson, *Tender Mercies*

“Urban Health Project has enlightened me on the ways we can get these patients [in the homeless population] the continuous care they require so they don’t have to wait for their disease to become an emergency. I now understand how to help these patients and direct them to the correct resources.”

- Adrian Acosta, *UC Department of Family and Community Medicine*

In seeing and hearing their stories, it made me realize even more the bravery and power these women had in taking their lives into their own hands and entering this program to recover. It made me realize that as a doctor, we need to understand how much social factors determine a person's life outcomes, and subsequently health, and also the power of recovery programs that look at healthcare in multiple aspects.

- Thara Nagarajan, *Off the Streets* - *Cincinnati Union Bethel*
Thank You to Our Funders for 2015-2016!

**Patrons ($15,000 and above)**
- Bethesda Foundation, Inc.
- Johnson Family Foundation
- Cincinnati Children’s Hospital & Medical Center Medical Executive Committee
- University of Cincinnati Physicians, Inc.

**Partners ($500—$4,999)**
- Western & Southern Financial Group
- Dr. Jennifer K. Grogan

**Sponsors ($5,000—$14,999)**
- Bethesda Hospital Medical/Dental Staff Fund
- Charles H. Dater Foundation
- Academy of Medicine of Cincinnati Foundation
- Good Samaritan Hospital Medical/Dental Staff Fund
- University Hospital Medical Staff

**Donors (Up to $499)**
- Dr. Daria J. Hopkins
- Dr. Robin J. Shapiro
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- Dr. Jennifer P. Swenson
- Dr. Julie M. Thistlethwaite Yung
- Dr. Matthew S. Pugliese
- Dr. Mathias A. Kolleck II

### Urban Health Project Budget FY16-17

**Personnel**
- Summer - 21 Interns, 2 Project Co-Directors
  - Student Interns $73,500.00¹
  - Project Co-Directors $7,000.00

  **Academic Year**
  - Former Project Co-Directors $4,000.00²

  **Personnel Total** $84,500.00

**Non-personnel**
- Intern Project Fund $2,100.00
- Special Events and Meetings $3,000.00
- Web and Design Development $300.00
- Endowment Fund $6,000.00
- Fund Management Fees $7,700.00

  **Non-personnel Total** $19,100.00

**Total** $103,600.00

1. 21 interns @ $3500
2. Following a yearlong term as Co-Directors, the two organizational leaders from a given year serve Urban Health Project as Financial Advisors and then as members of the Board of Advisors over the next two years.

### 2016-2017 Budget*

![Pie chart showing budget allocations]

* Figures represent amount not covered by TriHealth, Inc. In-kind donations including: office space, desks, a telephone, office supplies, and postage as well as access to a computer, printer, copier, and fax machine.

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