Thanks To Our Generous Funders:

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Thanks To Our 2016 Sites and Interns:

Bethany House .................................................. Shannon Clay
Bethesda North Ob/Gyn Center .................................. Amber Young
Breast and Cervical Cancer Project ........................... Zoe Walters
Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio .......................... Grace Lambert
Center for Addiction Treatment ................................. Nithin Banda and Joe Weethee
City Gospel Mission ........................................... Michael Adams
Crossroad Health Center – OTR ............................... Salima Sewani and Christopher Kanner
Crossroad Health Center – West ................................ Christina Lee
Division of Community Women’s Health – UC Dept. of ObGyn ............. Neha Ray
First Step Home ............................................... Rebeca Wuestefeld-Morris
Good Samaritan Free Health Center ......................... Andrea Rosado
Lighthouse New Beginnings .................................... Tessa Benanzer
Lighthouse Youth Crisis Center ................................ Nick DePriest
Lighthouse Youth Development Center ........................ John Duchak
Off the Streets® – Cincinnati Union Bethel ......................... Helen Mulcahy
Project Connect .............................................. Scan Bloom and Kevin Polacek
Tender Mercies ................................................. Brandon O’Malley and Nirguna Thalla
UC Department of Family and Community Medicine .............. Heather Peterson
Welcome House of Northern Kentucky ........................ Zoe Walters

Urban Health Project

Two thousand sixteen marks Urban Health Project’s 30th year working with many wonderful community organizations in the Greater Cincinnati area. This summer, we had 22 interns at 18 sites with 15 partner organizations. Our interns logged an impressive 6050 hours over the course of eight weeks and directly helped more than 1500 people. The individual experiences of the interns ranged from clinical to research-based to social work and each approached their responsibilities with vigor and compassion. Projects completed by the interns included quality improvement aimed at providing patients information on screenings and setting up screening appointments; nutrition and exercise programs tailored to the site’s population, including homeless men, women, and children, and women recovering from substance use or prostitution; mental health or sexual education sessions; integration of clinic iPad translators; and research aimed to reduce no-show rates. Many of the projects started by our interns can be easily carried on by the site or another group there to lend a helping hand.

Our interns left lasting impressions on our partner sites, but what may be more important is the impression of the experience on the interns. Weekly reflections indicated how they had each been moved by the clients at their sites, how they had learned something new about a marginalized population that led to a de-stigmatization of those people, how the personal relationships they built during their work would impact and in the future improve their work as physicians. Urban Health Project has provided a space for medical students to further grow into open-minded and caring individuals and we believe this will guide them to a practice welcoming to all in need. We are indebted to our board, funders, site partners, and all the others who have helped us this summer and through our many years as an organization. We are looking forward to continued partnership for many years to come!
Summer 2016 Events

**June 6th: Internships begin!**

**June 22nd: OTR Tour –**
The Urban Health Project Interns took a tour of the Over the Rhine neighborhood, led by the Homeless Coalition of Cincinnati. We learned about how the neighborhood has been changing in recent years and how that has impacted its residents. We also were shown important resources for marginalized communities in the area. We finished with lunch at Venice on Vine, a restaurant that hires individuals trying to reintegrate into society.

**July 13th: Tri-Health Volunteering Event –**
Urban Health Project partnered with the Injury Prevention Department at Tri-Health to build ramps at Tri-Health patient homes. With the help of PWC, we constructed two ramps that allow ease of access into the patient’s homes. This offered an opportunity for our interns to work with people inside and outside the medical profession and learn how many fields can work together to enhance our community.

**July 28th: Committed to Community –**
At the Committed to Community Event, interns presented their projects to site supervisors, UCCOM faculty and staff, UHP Board Members, UHP Funders, and many other members of the community. Dr. Victor Garcia, trauma surgeon and founder of the department at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, founder of the first children’s weight loss center, and co-founder of Core Change, a multidisciplinary non-profit looking to provide living-wage work to marginalized peoples, attended as keynote speaker.

2016 Continued Excellence Award

**Neha Ray**
Neha spent the summer with the Division of Community Women’s Health and the University of Cincinnati Department of OB/GYN. While there, she conducted research on no-show rates at the many health department clinics throughout the city. The work aimed to help patients overcome barriers preventing them from attending their appointments by first identifying these barriers. This study will be ongoing at the health department in an effort to provide better care. She also gained new insight into the populations served at the health department and stated that her work with these women will help her address barriers for her future patients.

2016 Committed to Community Award

**Grace Lambert**
Grace worked to resettle refugees with Catholic Charities Southwestern Ohio. She displayed commitment above and beyond expectations of her job description by picking up refugee families at all times of day at the airport, creating a women’s support group, providing job and culture training, and working with the Cincinnati Metro system to provide the refugees with little-to-no English with a more comfortable experience getting around the city, to name only a few. Her emotional investment in the families she worked with was apparent both in her reflections and in her work throughout the summer.

2016 Distinguished Service Award

**Zoe Walters**
Zoe was globally adored by the residents at the Welcome House of Northern Kentucky. The children there were always asking after her and the women trusted her enough to ask any question that came to their mind, no matter how personal it may have been. The connections she made to the people of Welcome house allowed her to encourage them to try new things like meditation and guided imagery. She also organized a talent show to help the children focus on their special talents and take their minds off of life in a shelter house.

“I definitely have a better perspective on the struggles patients face while managing disease, which I hope will allow me to be more empathetic and helpful as a physician. Difficulties with insurance, transportation, running out of phone minutes, and many other potential problems can prevent patients from arriving to appointments, staying in contact with their physician, or adhering to treatment.”

Christopher Kanner, Crossroad OTR

“As I take the women at Off the Streets to various appointments and pharmacy visits, I can see how some people treat them very differently. Compassion is not assumed in a lot of these situations. I want to be a doctor that is advocating for all my patients one day, in a similar way that I am beginning to advocate for the women at my site now.”

Helen Mulcahy, Off the Streets with Cincinnati Bethel

“This summer UHP experience has strengthened my passion for underserved medicine. More than ever, I feel drawn to family medicine so that I may coordinate complicated care for my patients and support them through their experiences. The future is so far away, but I hope to have the privilege of working in a health center that provides this level of care for the whole person with such care.”

Andrea Rosado, Good Samaritan Free Clinic

“I think the most important influence this internship will have on my future career as a physician is changing my view towards drug addicts as a population. Many people--myself included--hold certain preconceived notions about drug addicts, ranging from assumptions about their socioeconomic class to their race/ethnicity to why they "choose" to keep doing drugs. However, over the course of meeting and learning the stories of many addicts at CAT, it's become apparent that many of the commonly held stereotypes are false.”

Nithin Banda, Center for Addictions Treatment