



HEALTH-RELATED RSOs AND COMMUNITY SERVICE IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE Opportunities On UChicago's Campus And In Surrounding Communities

While a strong academic background is essential for application to professional schools, students preparing for a career in health and medicine are also encouraged to not only cultivate research and clinical skills, but to also participate in their community. Hands-on experiences better inform your decision to pursue a career in health and medicine, and they also demonstrate that you have an in-depth understanding of your career choice. You have chosen to enter professions dedicated to service, and there are numerous opportunities to serve on campus and throughout Chicagoland. An array of community organizations and RSOs welcome student involvement at UChicago.

The following are examples, but by no means a comprehensive listing of opportunities found to be of great value by UChicago students. The University of Chicago Community Service Center (<http://ucsc.uchicago.edu/>) can help direct you to valuable opportunities to serve. There are also over 55 community service RSOs that provide in-depth experience serving diverse needs and populations (<https://studentactivities.uchicago.edu/php/public/search.php>). These are in addition to several health-related RSOs that also provide service experiences.

Active Minds

The national purpose of Active Minds is to empower university students to speak openly about mental health in order to educate others and encourage help-seeking behavior. The purpose of Active Minds on the University of Chicago campus is to connect students with the appropriate resources to better manage the rigors of the University, create a safe and welcoming space on campus to discuss mental health, inform students of the prevalence of mental health issues nationally, and provide a forum for those passionate about these issues to make a community impact.

Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP)

The purpose of the Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) program is to reduce the use of commonly-abused drugs by middle school students on Chicago's South Side. ASAP accomplishes this by educating students on the anatomy and physiology of the target organs particularly affected by drug use: the brain, the liver, the heart and the lungs. Through the presentation of the basic pharmacology of commonly-abused drugs and the visual presentation of real human organs, both healthy and diseased, the ASAP group works to persuade students that their decisions about drugs will have a tangible impact on their immediate and future health. Furthermore, recognizing that the actions of peers have a large impact on teenage drug abuse, the ASAP group holds an open discussion about peer pressure at the conclusion of each organ presentation.

Alpha Phi Omega (Gamma Sigma chapter)

APO, a national coeducational service organization, provides service to the community by working with a variety of different organizations, providing leadership to the campus by organizing campus activities and cleanups and by providing friendship to the members of the organization through game nights, parties, and mentorship programs.

The American Red Cross of the University of Chicago (ARCUC)

The American Red Cross of University of Chicago (ARCUC) is a collegiate club of the American Red Cross of Greater Chicago (ARCGC) chapter. As the first American Red Cross collegiate club of Illinois, the organization seeks to take a strong leadership role in recruiting support for the Red Cross and surrounding communities. Consequently, this is a club dedicated to supporting the cause of the American Red Cross in helping people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

Calvert House Tutoring

The volunteer coordinators and tutors of the Calvert House Tutoring Program feel a responsibility to utilize academic talents and privileges in a way that benefits the learning experience of grade school and high school students who need help with their education. The learning environment at Calvert House allows tutors to give their students one-on-one tutoring in a large group setting, which not only fosters productive tutoring sessions, but also establishes a sense of community. Since each student in the program is assigned to work with the same tutor each week, the program allows for lasting friendships between each tutor and student.

CHAMP: Chicago Adolescent Mentorship Program

CHAMP seeks to establish an ongoing relationship between the UChicago and the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club (HPNC), a local community center. CHAMP is currently collaborating with the HPNC by offering one-on-one tutoring to area elementary and middle school students Mondays through Thursdays as well as art classes twice a week. CHAMP also has the aim of increasing dialogue among the university community regarding the relationship between the university and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Chicago HOPES

Chicago HOPES is a community service RSO that focuses on increasing publicity, volunteering, and resources for the various children in homeless shelters that Chicago HOPES serves. By providing educational support and cultural enrichment activities for the city's K-12 homeless children, the organization hopes to create a positive, welcoming environment, and motivate and provide students with the academic support necessary to break the cycle of homelessness.

Colleges Against Cancer (CAC)

American Cancer Society Colleges Against Cancer is a nationwide collaboration of college students, faculty, and staff dedicated to eliminating cancer by volunteering for, initiating and supporting programs of the American Cancer Society in college communities. Examples of such programs include, but are not limited to: Relay for Life, Daffodil Days, survivorship programs, advocacy measures, and more.

Comer Tutors

Comer Tutors organizes and trains tutors who will provide academic services to inpatients at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital. During their stay at the hospital, school-age patients have limited or no access to academic resources for weeks and months at a time. Through tutoring, the organization aims to keep patients at pace with their assigned schoolwork so that they can continue to achieve academically when they return to school.

Community Health Initiative

An organization to help facilitate student assistance for physicians and medical students providing medical access and medical service to residents of the Maria Shelter, a woman's shelter in Englewood, and patients at the Community Health Clinic.

Diabetes Prevention Management

This organization provides community based glucose and blood pressure screenings. Community based screenings with community based diabetes and health related education programming are provided to expand the knowledge base of the community as well as to empower individuals to take charge of their own health. A referral to the South Side Health Collaborative will also be provided for any individual who is

Friends of the Washington Park Youth Program

UChicago students are partnered with the city-wide Chicago Youth Programs to offer tutoring and mentoring programs for youth from Washington Park, adjacent to UChicago's campus.

GlobeMed

GlobeMed aims to strengthen the movement for global health equity by empowering students and communities to work together to improve the health of the impoverished around the world. GlobeMed aims to meet this challenge by engaging and training students to work with grassroots organizations across the world to improve the health of the impoverished. By partnering students and communities to combat poverty and poor health, GlobeMed improves the lives of thousands of impoverished people across the world today and shape tomorrow's leaders across all professions who will share a deep commitment to health equity and social justice.

Habitat for Humanity

The UChicago chapter of Habitat for Humanity raises awareness for housing issues and provides opportunities for students to contribute directly to the affordable housing cause. It organizes build trips to housing affiliates every weekend, and also organizes larger scale domestic and international trips which take place over student breaks (winter, spring, summer).

MEDLIFE

The MEDLIFE chapter at the University of Chicago is comprised of 5 separate committees: Education, Events Coordination, Publicity, Clinics Coordination, and Community Service. Each member of our chapter takes an active role in a specific committee in addition to attending chapter meetings and participating in chapter activities which include local community service trips, fundraising for MEDLIFE Mobile Clinics, and speaker panels that talk about important global and local health policies.

Mission for Vision

Mission for Vision is dedicated to the betterment of vision in the Chicago community through volunteering at the Princeton Eye Clinic; raising funds for eye health organizations including the Chicago Lighthouse; collecting pairs of eye glasses in our ongoing drive for donation to the Lions Club; hosting information sessions for careers in vision care with representative optometrists and ophthalmologists; presenting visual health curricula to students; participating in visual acuity screenings with OneSight; and other activities deemed important in promoting visual health and closing the gap between access and lack of access to eye care.

NEURO Club

NEURO is committed to expanding public knowledge about the brain sciences in an understandable and applicable manner in both the campus and surrounding communities. At the University of Chicago, NEURO aims to connect undergraduate students with University resources in order to keep them current regarding advancements in neuroscience, and get them involved in the field. Just as importantly, NEURO focuses on extending its resources (through involvement with a variety of organizations and events) into the greater Chicago area in order to expose students and community members to neuroscience and raise awareness of how important it is to their lives.

On a Mission for Nutrition

This organization develops and implements an after-school nutrition programs to improve the nutrition knowledge of children and adolescents in South Side communities and to empower them to make healthy choices.

Peer Health Exchange (PHE) gives teenagers the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions. PHE accomplishes this by training college student volunteers to teach a comprehensive, fact-based health education curriculum in Chicago Public Schools.

Pharmakon

Pharmakon was established to discuss, study, develop, and progress the scientific, legal, and corporate framework of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.

Phoenix Undergraduate Biological Sciences Organization

Phoenix is the undergraduate biology organization at the University of Chicago. Because it is affiliated with the Biological Sciences Collegiate Division (BSCD), it is able to provide extensive resources and fun experiences for undergraduates who are or may potentially become concentrators in Biology or bio-related fields. Phoenix presents quarterly events that allow undergraduates to network with and seek advice from its selected group of peer mentors, graduate students, professors, and laboratory principal investigators (PIs).

Pre-Dental Students Association (PDSA)

The mission of the University of Chicago's Pre-Dental Students Association is to promote student awareness and exposure to the field of dentistry, provide students with the information and resources to find opportunities such as jobs, internships, and community service work in the field of dentistry, socially connect students who have a potential interest in dentistry with dental students/alumni, and dental school admission council, and provide aid to students in their endeavors to successfully gain admission into dental school by informing/advising them about prerequisites, the dental admissions test (DAT), the application process, and various dental schools.

Pre-Medical Students Association (PMSA)

The University of Chicago Pre-Medical Student Association (PMSA) aims to provide academic, extracurricular, social, and support resources to students interested in pursuing medicine and the health professions. Its goal is to develop well-rounded physicians in aspects outside of academics, and to provide opportunities for pre-health students to connect with medical students, doctors, and other health and non-profit organizations.

Remedy

Remedy provides supplies collected from the University of Chicago Hospital System to organizations that deliver such supplies to a number of developing countries, wherever they are most needed, it promotes the work of University of Chicago students as medical aid volunteers in developing countries through discussions and fundraising events, and it organizes a large donation project for the benefit of medical personnel in a specific country.

Society of Physics Students

The Society of Physics Students (SPS) provides a forum for the interaction of students interested in physics. SPS maintains weekly meetings as an opportunity for undergraduates to present their interests with their peers. The topics of these presentations range over all aspects of physics. The presentation may be about research in which the student is participating, current topics in physics, or anything else related to physics. SPS may also visit laboratories and observatories, allowing students an opportunity to further indulge their enthusiasm for physics. Finally, to encourage youth interest in physics, SPS hosts a tutoring service and a science club.

Society of Women in Physics

The purpose of the Society of Women in Physics is to provide an encouraging, fun, and supportive environment for women interested in physics at the University of Chicago while spreading awareness of the exciting opportunities physics has to offer.

South Side Free Music Program

The South Side Free Music Program is an all-volunteer organization providing free music education in schools and community centers in south side Chicago. The program's lessons teach both an instrument and music theory, taking time to show students that these lessons can help them understand themselves.

South Side Science Scholars

Believing that human life may be enriched through the growth and dissemination of knowledge, this group is committed to developing, creating, and delivering a sustainable afterschool science curriculum to under-served Chicago grade schools, particularly those of the South Side. It aspires to positively impact children's scientific thinking, elements of health education, communication skills, and overall school preparedness.

South Side Scribblers

South Side Scribblers has been teaching creative writing in Hyde Park since 1994. This is a community service organization within the University of Chicago's University Community Service Center. The program mission is to get kids excited about being creative, excited about writing, and excited about creative writing! Volunteers instruct creative writing activities to groups of students ranging from 2nd grade to 6th grade in local Hyde Park elementary schools' after school programs.

Splash! Chicago

Splash! Chicago is dedicated to offering experiential learning opportunities to students of the University of Chicago, in the form of educational encounters with high school students from the Chicagoland area. Splash! Chicago works towards the creation of an annual event, as well as additional events throughout the year. These events are motivated by the desire for students to teach students, so that the bridge of friendship can be created between the students of the University of Chicago and the students of Chicago.

STRIVE Health Mentoring

STRIVE provides intensive one on one academic tutoring, mentoring, peer support, and disease management education to minority teenagers in Chicago living with sickle cell disease. The four main facets of STRIVE are: 1) academic support and college preparation, 2) mentoring and psychological support, 3) disease management education, and 4) medical empowerment and self-advocacy.

Strive Tutoring

Strive Tutoring connects University of Chicago volunteers with local students in need of extra academic help. Tutors have the opportunity to make a tremendous impact by providing free one-on-one tutoring, developing enrichment activities, and forging relationships with young scholars.

Student National Medical Association – Minority Association of Premedical Students

The purpose of the University of Chicago Minority Association of Premedical Students (MAPS) is to provide students of color a variety of information resources necessary for the pursuit of a career in medicine and health related occupations. MAPS seeks not only to provide relevant information to the premedical student, but to also promote participation in community service activities in the under-served communities of Chicago. MAPS works closely with the Pre-Medical Students Organization (PMSA) as well as UCIHP, the SNMA Medical School Chapter at The Pritzker School of Medicine, and campus organizations that represent students of color. Through this network, MAPS hopes to provide students at the University of Chicago with information pertinent to the pursuit of a career in the health professions.

Students Teaching at Ray School (STARS)

STARS provides one-on-one tutoring and mentoring to students in grades 1-6 at the William H. Ray Elementary School.

United Against Infectious Diseases (UAID)

UAID is a student-run non-profit whose goal is to expose students to the fight against infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, Malaria, TB, and others at a local, national, and international level. UAID provides volunteering opportunities, faculty seminars, and other opportunities for students to learn about infectious diseases and to become active in the fight against these diseases.

University of Chicago First Responder Corps (UCFRC)

The primary mission of the UCFRC is to improve the health of the University of Chicago community by training students as emergency medical responders and serving as a professional emergency medical services agency providing professional emergency medical care to the community. The secondary mission is to enhance emergency preparedness and public health by educating the community.

Women and Youth Supporting Each Other (WYSE)

WYSE is a national mentoring organization which works to empower young women with the information and resources they need to make healthy, informed decisions and become leaders in their communities. The UChicago branch works at Madero Middle School in Little Village.

Women in Science

The mission of Women in Science (WIS) is to bring together women at all levels of science, enhancing their educational and professional experiences and providing a forum for discussion of the issues they face.

Woodlawn After School Kids Program

WASKP provides volunteer tutors to the Woodlawn neighborhood Monday-Friday afternoons. The goal is to provide a safe environment for kids to study after school as well as to assist with homework and promote educational growth.