



THE ALBERT SCHWEITZER FELLOWSHIP®
*Addressing Health Disparities
 by Developing Leaders in Service*



passion • idealism • action • impact

The Boston Schweitzer Fellows Program®

It's easy to see that health and health care are filled with disparities. During these tough economic times, when there are even greater needs to be met throughout Greater Boston and Worcester, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship® (ASF) is doing something about it.

Since 1992, ASF's Boston Schweitzer Fellows Program has supported graduate students who wish to follow in Dr. Albert Schweitzer's footsteps. Translating their passion and idealism into action, these Schweitzer Fellows partner with community-based organizations to develop and implement yearlong service projects that improve the health and well-being of Boston and Worcester's most underserved populations. In the process, Fellows undergo a mentored, reflective, and multidisciplinary leadership development program that enhances their ability to successfully carry out health interventions.

Innovative Projects Meet Diverse Health Care Needs

Since 1992, Boston Schweitzer Fellows have addressed a wide variety of health needs through sustainable projects with direct service at their core. Examples include the following initiatives:

- Establishing a long-term community-based effort to reduce morbidity and mortality related to chronic kidney disease in Boston's Asian and Pacific Islander populations
- Developing a homelessness prevention program for at-risk individuals with mental illness
- Launching a free health clinic that delivers culturally competent care to Worcester's African immigrants
- Increasing community participation in social and service networks for LGBT elders
- Creating a curriculum for adults with developmental disabilities who have been diagnosed with diabetes
- Addressing the obesity epidemic by providing nutritional counseling and physical activity programs for underserved children

The Boston Schweitzer Fellows Program not only provides services today to those in need, it invests in the students who will be caring for these same communities throughout their careers as professionals.

our mission
 To develop Leaders in Service:
 individuals who are dedicated to and skilled in addressing
 the health needs of underserved communities
 and whose example influences and inspires others.

Service That Makes a Dramatic Difference

Schweitzer service projects are not "band-aid" approaches to today's most pressing health issues; they're designed to have long-term impact on the health of underserved people and to create lasting relationships between professional schools, social service agencies, and communities in need. In carrying those projects from concept to completion on top of their usual academic responsibilities, Schweitzer Fellows—chosen on a competitive basis from graduate student applicants in a variety of disciplines—come away with a hard-earned blueprint for consistently integrating service into their lives.

Boston is the oldest of 13 Schweitzer sites across the U.S. Since the Boston Program's inception, its nearly 500 Fellows have provided more than 90,000 hours of community service in partnership with over 250 Boston and Worcester social service agencies.



Schweitzer Fellow Michelle St. Fleur (left, with her mentee) developed a program delivering interactive health and nutrition education to children living in Worcester public housing.

in their own words...



"The Schweitzer Fellows Program is an amazing and life-changing experience. First, it expands students' health horizons and perspectives by exposing them to a broad range of other students from different schools. Second, it brings together a group of people who want to serve others, and gives them the opportunity and encouragement to act on their instincts to reach out and make a real difference in people's lives."

- Tufts-Schweitzer Fellow Elly Stout

"Valuable and inspiring."

*- Schweitzer Fellow Tobin Abraham,
UMASS Medical School*



"Being a part of the Fellowship has unquestionably served to reinforce my commitment to public service, as well as further increased my interest in working with the homeless population. I feel very fortunate to be a Fellow for Life, and am grateful that my connection to other Schweitzer Fellows extends far beyond this year"

- Schweitzer Fellow Anthony Lim, Boston University

"A fantastic, joyful, and humbling experience."

*- Schweitzer Fellow Janice Turikain,
Cambridge College*



"This Fellowship ... has given me an organized, formal way of maintaining my desire to serve while being in the midst of one of the most difficult years of medical school. I loved this experience, and would recommend that any person with a passion and commitment to service become a Schweitzer Fellow."

- Schweitzer Fellow Venis Wilder, Harvard University

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the application process, the Fellows for Life alumni network,
and giving securely online.*

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