



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



passion • idealism • action • impact

The New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows Program

All across the U.S.—and especially in post-Katrina New Orleans—health and health care are filled with disparities. During these tough economic times, when there are even greater needs to be met throughout New Orleans, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship® is doing something about it.

Since 2007, ASF's New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows Program (one of 13 Schweitzer sites across the U.S.) 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 underserved populations. In the process, they undergo a mentored, reflective, and multidisciplinary leadership development program that enhances their ability to successfully carry out health interventions.

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 professional school responsibilities, Schweitzer Fellows—chosen on a competitive basis from student applicants in a variety of disciplines—come away with a hard-earned blueprint for consistently integrating service into their lives. Fellows who complete their initial year become part of the Fellows for Life alumni network, a pipeline of Leaders in Service more than 2,000 members strong.

Innovative Projects Meet Diverse Health Care Needs

The New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows Program developed as a collaboration between Louisiana Public Health Institute, Louisiana State University, and Tulane University. The program serves the greater New Orleans area.

New Orleans Schweitzer Fellows are addressing a wide variety of health needs through sustainable projects with direct service at their core. Examples include the following initiatives:

- Establishing a health literacy program at the Daughters of Charity Health Center
- Improving the oral health of elementary school students through after-school programs with local public schools
- Creating a community-based gardening and nutrition program
- Developing and implementing an education and training program that equips patients and health care providers with the tools to address needs that are specific to the LGBT community
- Providing resources for low-income autistic children and their families

The New Orleans 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.





in their own words...

The Schweitzer Fellows Program is valuable in that it challenges Fellows to create a program that is manageable (on top of a busy schedule) sustainable, and in conjunction with an established community organization. This set-up is probably the best way to get real practical experience in public and community health, and to fine-tune skills necessary in leadership and community involvement."

*Schweitzer Fellow Emily Donaldson-Fletcher
Tulane Medical School*

"Doing this work was extremely rewarding."
Schweitzer Fellow Kaari Riley, Tulane Law School

"The whole Fellowship experience, from planning, developing, and implementing a project, has allowed me to be more determined, to follow through with commitments, and to persevere through hardships."

*Schweitzer Fellow Jonathan Howe
LSU School of Public Health*



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*Visit our website for information about the Fellowship, the application process,
the Fellows for Life alumni network, and giving securely online.*

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