



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



passion • idealism • action • impact

The Greater Philadelphia 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 the Greater Philadelphia area, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship® (ASF) is doing something about it.

Since 2006, ASF's Greater Philadelphia 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 multi-disciplinary leadership development program that enhances their ability to successfully carry out health interventions.

Innovative Projects Meet Diverse Health Care Needs

Greater Philadelphia Schweitzer Fellows have developed and implemented sustainable service projects directly addressing issues including:

- Childhood obesity in Philadelphia's low-income communities (*Alesia Mitchell, Temple University*)
- The lack of Hepatitis B education and screenings available to Philadelphia's Asian communities (*Betty Chung, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey*)
- Homophobia experienced by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ) youth in the Philadelphia area's school systems and workforce (*Noel Ramirez, University of Pennsylvania*)
- The prevalence of SIDS among infants of Philadelphia-area homeless women (*Alana Wright Benton, St. Joseph's University*)
- The Delaware Haitian community's access to cardiovascular disease education, prevention, and treatment (*Sheila Salvant-Valentine, Widener University School of Law*)

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 the underserved and to create lasting relationships between professional schools, social service agencies, and communities in need. In carrying their 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.

Since the Greater Philadelphia Program's inception, its Fellows have provided more than 10,000 hours of community service in partnership with nearly 40 area social service agencies. Fellows who complete their initial year become part of the Fellows for Life network, a pipeline of Leaders in Service now over 2,000 members strong.

The Greater Philadelphia 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.



Greater Philadelphia Schweitzer Fellows held a Service Day offering free health screenings and prevention workshops to underserved Camden residents.



in their own words...

"Being a Fellow has been wonderful because we've been able to interact with 14 other fellows across the Philadelphia area from over five universities and more than six different professions. We have learned a great deal from each other about community needs and have created lasting interdisciplinary relationships."

SCHWEITZER FELLOWS
JILLIAN HECK & MELISSA WARRINER
*Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine &
Jefferson School of Health Professions*

"While we were all involved in different projects and different organizations throughout Philadelphia, we shared a common goal and passion: to serve the people in the city and be a voice for those who cannot be heard."

SCHWEITZER FELLOW SUJUNG PARK
Drexel University, School of Medicine

"Throughout the rest of my nursing career, I hope to engage women in discussions that will enable each of them to better understand their healthcare choices and make informed decisions about their health and the health of their families."

SCHWEITZER FELLOW ASHLEY DARCY
University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing

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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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