The New Hampshire-Vermont 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 New Hampshire and Vermont, The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship® is doing something about it.

Established in 1996, ASF’s New Hampshire/Vermont Schweitzer Fellows Program (one of many Schweitzer sites across the U.S.) has supported over 450 graduate students from diverse disciplines who wish to follow in Dr. Schweitzer's footsteps.

our mission
The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship is preparing the next generation of professionals who will serve and empower vulnerable people to live healthier lives and create healthier communities.

Innovative Projects Meet Diverse Health Care Needs

Over the past 18 years, more than 450 NH/VT Schweitzer Fellows have provided more than 70,000 hours of community service addressing the social determinants of health. Their Schweitzer projects have included:

- Smile-Docs, which has brought UVM medical students into Burlington, VT-area schools to teach science and health for 15 years.
- Bedside Brainiacs, a tutoring program designed to minimize the educational gap caused by childhood hospitalization.
- Teen Court, an alternative to the criminal justice system for first-time juvenile offenders in Merrimack, NH.
- Health Desk, at the Good Neighbor Health Clinic, which provides information to increase patient access to help with basic needs that determine health such as food, shelter, legal support and transportation.
- Free Health Clinic at the Claremont Soup Kitchen in Claremont, NH.
- Patient Navigators, a program which trains Bhutanese refugee elders in Burlington, VT to help their community members within the local health care system.

Service that Makes a Dramatic Difference

Translating their passion and idealism into action, these Schweitzer Fellows – chosen in a competitive process from applicants in a variety of disciplines – partner with community-based organizations to develop and implement year-long, mentored 200-hour service projects that improve the health and well-being of underserved populations. Fellows also participate in leadership development training and guided reflection. Fellows receive a $2,000 stipend. After their initial year, Fellows become part of a network of over 3,000 Fellows for Life, a pipeline of emerging professionals who are skilled in and dedicated to meeting the needs of underserved populations.

Right: Using the format of the TV show “Chopped”, Schweitzer Fellow Laurie Delatour teaches the basics of nutrition while children cook dishes using simple and inexpensive ingredients. Designed to be fun, engaging and interactive, this program aims to help children develop good eating habits that will have a lasting impact on their health.
in their own words...

I have come closer to understanding what is really meant when it is said that poverty is more a lack of opportunity than a lack of money.

— Schweitzer Fellow David Lukofsky, Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth

“When I look back on my years of medical school, I know that what will stand out will not be all the hours I spent in a classroom, but rather my experiences setting up a health clinic at the Claremont Soup Kitchen and working on my Schweitzer project.”

— Schweitzer Fellow Christine Breuer, Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

“I knew that a Fellowship would help me engage in my community, and I knew I would connect with incredible people along the way, but I couldn’t have anticipated the joy that I would get from working with the amazing youth at Outright Vermont. I feel passionate about the importance of advocacy for LGBTQ youth, and am inspired to continue to address their needs throughout my career.”

— Schweitzer Fellow Reiko Sakai, UVM College of Medicine

“I came to law school sure that I wanted to be an immigration attorney and this experience has only reinforced this goal. This fellowship has given me my first real opportunity to work with the immigrant population in NH. As a fellow, I was able to teach advocacy skills and help immigrant women become empowered as they navigate the health care system.”

— Schweitzer Fellow Lina Shayo, UNH School of Law

“Being part of Albert Schweitzer’s legacy with fellow students who share my humanitarian service goals has been an inspirational experience. I have received unconditional encouragement from the Schweitzer network, my peers, and professionals in the community.”

— Schweitzer Fellow Tamar Goldberg, UVM College of Medicine

“My time as a Schweitzer fellow has exposed me to the joys and the challenges of doing work for the good of society at large. I know now that I can go anywhere and with the right motivations, and an enormous amount of energy, I can make positive change.”

— Schweitzer Fellow Karen White, Vermont Law School

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

www.schweitzerfellowship.org/nhvt

Program Sponsors

Byrne Foundation
Couch Family Foundation
Dartmouth-Hitchcock
Emily Landecker Foundation
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Grafton County Medical Society
Lintilhac Foundation

Mascoma Bank Foundation
New Hampshire Charitable Foundation
Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth
Upper Valley Children’s Fund
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of New Hampshire School of Law
Vermont Law School

WWW.SCHWEITZERFELLOWSHIP.ORG/NHVT

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