



Brewing of a Stronger HOP Future

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DUCOM Health Outreach Project (HOP)

- The mission of Drexel University College of Medicine's Health Outreach Project (HOP) is to work in partnership with the community to provide caring, nonjudgmental, and interdisciplinary health services to individuals who have limited or no access to care
- HOP is a student-run free clinic organization that hosts 5 weekly clinics throughout Philadelphia and manages 9 smaller community health projects throughout the year

HOP AFFILIATIONS

- **Salvation Army Rehabilitation Center** serves as a residential program for adults in recovery from drug and alcohol dependence
- **Eliza Shirley House** is as an emergency shelter for homeless single women and their families
- **Streetside Clinic at Prevention Point** works to assist with harm reduction and acute care practices for those struggling with substance use disorders
- **St. Raymond's House** is a permanent housing program for homeless individuals with chronic illnesses in Philadelphia
- **The Arc of Philadelphia** serves as an advocate for children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- **Nationalities Service Center** provides immigrants and refugees in Philadelphia with assistance to overcome challenging circumstances
- **Whosoever Gospel Mission** provides shelter, food, clothing, education, counseling, rehab, and other assistance to men suffering from homelessness

PROJECT

- This summer's HOP-BTG intern provided administrative support and assisted with planning of community outreach events
- Objectives for this summer included:
 - Augment HOP's current projects, including devising strategies to engage in the community safely within COVID 19 Restrictions.
 - Expand HOP programs according to analysis of community-based needs
 - Update data tracking information

PROJECT RESULTS

East Falls Farmer's Market

- HOP-BTG intern set up a table and tent at the East Falls Farmer's Market to represent HOP's Narcan Outreach Project
- 8 individuals were trained on how to recognize when someone is actively overdosing on opioids and how to administer Narcan properly to somebody who needed it
- Free doses of Narcan were also distributed to community members attending the farmer's market

Narcan Training for Bridging the Gap Interns

- 12 interns from Bridging the Gaps were trained on how to recognize an overdose along with how to administer Narcan
- Free doses were also distributed to the interns who attended
- Comparing post-training to pre-training surveys, the interns reported an overall increased desire to help somebody who is overdosing as well as a greater understanding on how to properly do so following the training presentation

HOP Health Screening/Education at Arlen Specter Squash Center

- BTG intern assisted with free health screenings to adults (blood pressure, glucose monitoring, eye exams)
- Educational sessions only- Provided to children by medical students regarding healthy food choices and the importance of finding ways to stay active

Creation of Pilot Database

- Completed independent search on non-profit health organizations in Philadelphia. Information regarding these programs and services were consolidated to an easily accessible database for HOP clinic use
- Master database outlining community organizations and resources was made to be shared with everyone affiliated with HOP in hopes to increase the communication between all HOP clinics and find future organizations to partner with and expand HOP's services

Establishment of New HOP Partnerships

- BTG intern attended meetings with Mutual Aid Network in Manayunk to discuss ways HOP can partner with them during the fall. A tabling event is in the works for late August.

REFLECTION

This summer was rewarding in a couple of different ways. It was very satisfying to get out into the community the couple of times that we did to provide Narcan training, health screenings, and education. Most importantly, it was enriching to finally begin reestablishing connections between members of our community and HOP. This summer I also gained a strong appreciation for the planning that goes into building and sustaining a health organization such as HOP.