



Health Professions Affinity Community

Extra-curricular activities for high school
students interested in health professions with
an emphasis on community outreach and
health disparities.



Why is this important?

Health Professions Affinity Community (HPAC) is sponsored by Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED), in collaboration with the Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics and Dayton Children's Hospital. We offer after-school clubs to high school students interested in working in the health care field. The program emphasizes community outreach and health disparities.

Around 2,000 students each year design programs that engage nearly 15,000 Ohio residents. Not only are the students making a significant impact on the health of their communities, they are gaining valuable experience in the health professions. This creates a valuable pipeline for professional development in health care, which is desperately needed to maintain the health and wellness of Ohio citizens.

Ohio faces an extreme shortage of diverse workers in health care professions. By giving thousands of students across the state valuable real-world experience, we are empowering them through learning while addressing important health issues in our communities.

In the past, HPAC student projects have tackled...

- Anti-Bullying
- Healthy Cooking Classes
- Type II Diabetes Awareness
- After School Exercise Classes
- Teen Depression
- Mentoring



What will students learn?

Community outreach through a service-learning model:

- Build student resumes with health-concentrated community service
- Develop awareness of disparities and other health and social issues
- Understand how health care is implemented in their community

Health field advising and resources for college readiness:

- Discover career opportunities for students interested in health care
- Prepare for college with ACT exam preparation, mentoring, volunteering
- Connect with admissions directors and current health care students

Foster leadership and professional skills:

- Work with others to lead a project
- Plan out goals, develop timelines and budget expenses for a project
- Improve written and oral communication skills through presenting and working with professionals

What is Scholar's Day?

HPAC students from across Ohio come together to present the projects and services they have been involved with throughout the year. During the event, held in April, each HPAC group discusses their projects and the health disparity they chose to address. Other students, families and health care professionals attend.

HPAC is made possible through the effort and support of Northeast Ohio Medical University, Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine Department of Pediatrics, Dayton Children's Hospital along with community partners and sponsors.

**For more information, please see
medicine.wright.edu/HPAC**

