



COMMUNITY-ENGAGED LEARNING

HOPES FREE CLINIC

PATHWAY: HEALTH EQUITY

Initiative Description

HOPES Student Run Free Clinic is an outreach initiative that aims to fill gaps in the healthcare system for underinsured and uninsured individuals. HOPES offers free regular visits, pain management visits, and women's health and other specialty visits. It also has the ability to refer patients to various hospitals, imaging centers and doctors' offices in the area.

Annual Student Activities

- HOPES is the only free clinic in the City of Norfolk
- HOPES offers primary care along with specialty clinics for dermatology, ophthalmology, ENT, women's health, mental health, and orthopedics
- Approximately 600 patients seen annually
- Approximately 45% of HOPES patients speak Spanish primarily
- Approximately 200 patients return & rely on HOPES for primary care
- To date, the clinic has served more than 2300 patients

Community Outcomes/Results

- ↑ Access to affordable health care for the uninsured and underserved population of Norfolk, VA
- ↑ Student awareness of medical challenges of underserved
- ↑ Volunteer leadership experience through promotion of tiered level staffing at HOPES

Facilitator

Jessica Quirk, MD

Partners

- Norfolk Department of Public Health
- Virginia Department of Health
- Department of Forensic Science
- Maryview Foundation Healthcare Center

The Need

- Norfolk has an uninsured rate of 14.6%
- National uninsured rate is 8.8%
- Those who are underinsured and/or underserved are more likely to experience negative health outcomes including later stage diagnosis and death
- Local population without health insurance or access to basic care