

**The Chicago Area
Schweitzer Fellows Program**

Class of 2022

*Celebration
of Service*

Alhambra Palace

Tuesday, April 19, 2022 | 6 p.m.

Health & Medicine
POLICY RESEARCH GROUP

THE ALBERT
SCHWEITZER
FELLOWSHIP®

**We extend our gratitude for support of
the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program to:**

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Anonymous

The Baxter International Foundation

Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation

Erikson Institute

Michael Reese Health Trust

Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine

Rush University

UIC College of Medicine

University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work,
Policy, and Practice

The VNA Foundation

A Tribute to our Beloved Council Members

Health & Medicine Policy Research Group and the Chicago Schweitzer Fellows Program would like to thank Jack Snarr, PhD and Lena Hatchett, PhD for more than 35 years combined of service on the Chicago Schweitzer Fellowship Advisory Council. Their commitment, input, and support has made a difference to our community.



Program

Welcome & Introduction

Steven K. Rothschild, MD

Chair, Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program President,
Health & Medicine Policy Research Group Board

Presentation of the 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Maya A K Bauer

Program Director, Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program

Recognition of Mentors

Special Recognition for Peer Mentor Jasmine Solola, MD,
Site Mentor Jondelle B Jenkins, DPM, and
Faculty Mentor Dana Madigan, DC, MPH, PhD

Critical Service Learning, Making Change

Bonnie Ewald, MA

Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program Advisory Council

Remarks

Rob DiLeonardi or Shirely Stephenson
Executive Director, VNA Foundation

Recognition of Fellows for Life

Oylvia Phillips, MPH, MBA and Berenice Man, PharmD

Closing Remarks

Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program

In 1996, Health & Medicine Policy Research Group and The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship established the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program with the aim of enhancing the training and preparation of leaders in the health professions. For 25 years, the Program has had the dual purpose of developing a cadre of public health professionals who make a life-long commitment to service and improving the health of underserved individuals living in the Chicago metropolitan area. Each year, 28 Fellows are selected. The Fellowship experience involves:

- Completing a minimum of 200 hours with a focus on direct service through an existing community-based organization in the Chicago metropolitan area;
- Accessing guidance from mentors;
- Working with other Fellows in interprofessional learning collaboratives groups;
- Preparing a final report evaluating the impact of their project as well as providing reflections on their service-learning experience.

There are now over 4,500 Schweitzer alumni nationally—over 700 of whom are from the Chicago Area program. In 2006, Health & Medicine launched a Fellows for Life Network which provides Schweitzer graduates continuing opportunities to network and further develop their abilities as leaders in public service.

Health & Medicine Policy Research Group

Health & Medicine is a Chicago-based non-profit working to improve the health of all people in Illinois by promoting health equity. Founded in 1981 by civil rights and public health activist Dr. Quentin Young, the organization works to help fight the factors—poverty, discriminatory public policy, unequal access to healthcare, and other social determinants of health—that lead to poor health. Health & Medicine’s mission is to promote social justice and challenge inequities in health and healthcare. We conduct research, educate, and collaborate with other groups to advocate policies and impact health systems to improve the health status of all people. In the course of carrying out our mission, Health & Medicine has undertaken a myriad of projects, always focused on strengthening the health care safety net in Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois.

Health & Medicine has successfully developed health policy recommendations and implementation strategies for different public and private entities, earning the trust of the legislature, advocates, the media, researchers, and policymakers at all levels of government in Illinois to become the region’s “honest broker” on healthcare policy matters. Our vision is a society free of social inequities, with a healthy population accessing high quality healthcare, delivered in comprehensive health systems by culturally competent, compassionate providers.

The 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Brandon Ansbro, *Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine*

Brandon developed mentorship programs for underrepresented minority premedical college students at MiMedico Clinic to provide immersive and educational clinical exposure and volunteering experiences as well as career mentorship to Black and Latinx students aspiring toward careers in medicine. He also provided medical Spanish interpretation and volunteered as a student at the clinic to eliminate barriers to care and to provide primary care to patients from Spanish-speaking, immigrant, and underserved communities. Finally, he also designed and implemented education workshops on recommended dietary servings and physical activity guidelines for pediatric patients and families to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce rates of overweight.

Shams Azzawi, *Roosevelt University School of Pharmacy*

Shams partnered with the Middle Eastern Immigrant and Refugee Alliance (MIRA) to provide various wellness workshops, social events, and health screenings in service of the Middle Eastern refugee community in the Chicagoland area. Shams worked alongside MIRA to provide mental health workshops to the women's group, a 5k fundraiser run, disease state breakfast discussions, yoga classes, and health screening events. Shams is also working to collaborate with other fellows in her class to provide an online introduction to boxing, yoga, and creative discussion classes. Lastly, Shams partnered with students at the University of Illinois at Chicago to provide a youth engagement program that entails field trips, team-building activities, and a safe environment for the youth to connect.

Teliane Bakala, *University of Illinois Chicago, College of Dentistry*

Teliane partnered with Heartland Alliance Youth and Family Services to increase oral health knowledge for refugees and asylees children, a population at risk for dental decay and caries. She initiated fun, interactive workshops aimed to help the children have a better knowledge on the importance of oral health hygiene. She also mentored young adults in helping them explore potential careers in Dentistry by reviewing resumes and providing them with college and alternative resources.

Jaclyn (Camardo) Darling, *University of Illinois at Chicago, Nursing*

Jackie partnered with WeGrow Chicago to increase accessibility to COVID vaccines, testing, education, and outreach. She assembled a team of volunteers to call over 150 families in the Englewood community to do wellness check-ups and provide updated information.

Paige-Ashley Campbell, *University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine*

Ashley partnered with World Relief Chicago to carry out a health education workshop series for vulnerable immigrant and refugee families in the Chicagoland area. These workshops provided education on topics identified by the families at World Relief as vitally important, such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the COVID-19 vaccine/ booster shot. *Paige-Ashley is the 2021-22 Tarik F. Ibrahim, MD, MS Schweitzer Named Fellow.*

Cori Cafaro, *DePaul University, Clinical Psychology*

Cori partnered with the Marjorie Kovler Center, an organization under Heartland Alliance International, to organize and develop a client advisory council that was responsible for organizing client events and providing feedback to improve program services. She also provided accompaniment and advocacy services for resettled refugees seeking medical and legal services. These services assisted clients in navigating U.S.-based health systems and promoted their self-advocacy skills.

The 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Ariel Crenshaw, *University of Illinois at Chicago*

Ariel B. Crenshaw partnered with UI Health CHAMPIONS and UI Health Urban Health Program's Urban Health Club (UHC) which promoted college readiness and health advocacy through a virtual 6-week summer internship and a virtual after school program. Jointly, both UI Health programs focused on exposure to health career pathways, workforce development, college readiness, and a dive into public health, health disparities, and the importance of serving as youth advocates. She also engaged with students at Benito Juarez's HOSA Chapter to provide a 5-week hybrid training focused on Emergency Preparedness and Clinical Nursing Skills.

Danielle Drinkuth, *University of Illinois at Chicago, Urban Planning + Public Health*

Danielle partnered with Respond Now to connect residents in Chicago Heights to community resources and to increase access to foods that support healthy eating patterns. She used flyers to engage and connect Respond Now's food pantry clients to available rental assistance and eviction prevention programs so that individuals and families could remain housed despite the financial challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. She also initiated a healthy recipe challenge to encourage and inspire food pantry clients to prepare nutritious meals for themselves and their families using food items readily available to them.

Taylor Ellebb, *University of Chicago, College of Medicine*

Taylor partnered with The Young Doctors Club of North Lawndale to increase preparedness and provide mentorship to high school students who expressed interest in pursuing healthcare careers. She facilitated a series of college-readiness workshops whose topics included application completion, personal statement drafting, scholarship hunting, and resume building.

D'Monte Farley, *Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine*

D'Monte partnered with J.B. Jenkins & Associates - a podiatry clinic that serves Chicago's Southside. The aim of his project is to provide education to patients in an effort to raise general health awareness surrounding diabetes and its associated health complications. D'Monte created infographics explaining the diabetic disease process, A1c, and general nutrition information, and provides 1:1 instruction to patients as part of their regular podiatry appointments.

Symphony Fletcher, *University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine*

Symphony partnered with The Provident Foundation to increase access to information and resources pertaining to trauma recovery & violence prevention for at risk adolescents in the Chicagoland area. She helped organize a trauma recovery and violence prevention curriculum tailored to adolescent populations. She also assisted in recruiting specialist and lectures to work with students in their school setting to deliver the multipart curriculum.

Rachel Francis, *National University of Health Sciences*

Rachel partnered with The Bloc Chicago to support their boxing and after-school programming for youth on Chicago's West Side. Assisting in one-on-one and group drills in practice, Rachel aspired to foster confidence and self-expression through physical activity with the fighters. Rachel was also able to initiate art projects and a 3 week yoga curriculum into the after-school program, which aimed to introduce a variety of creative outlets and explore rotating socioemotional learning competencies.

The 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Veronica Gonzalez, *Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine*
Veronica partnered with Housing Forward to facilitate community for people experiencing homelessness in the Western suburbs in a time of isolation for their transitional housing clients. Through new client intake sessions, phone wellness checks, and on site medical clinic visits, she worked with clients to create individualized health management plans and goals. She worked in interdisciplinary teams to help clients build their healthcare network and address their individual chronic health concerns.

Ibraheem Hamzat, *University of Chicago, Pritzker School of Medicine*
Ibraheem established an after school program at Joseph Brennemann Elementary School in Uptown, Chicago. He has organized a weekly interactive education program that teaches students about the intersections of the human body and the environment as well as what that means for the health and well being of a person. This program is a safe space within which students can learn about future careers, have a meal, and feel supported. Ibraheem is a graduate of Brennemann Elementary and finds the opportunity to give back extremely rewarding.

Ivy Hernandez Delgado, *University of Chicago, Master's in Social Service Administration*
Ivy partnered with Chicago Appleseed for Fair Courts to engage in community awareness for immigration policies and procedures. She created Know Your Rights presentations aimed on empowering the immigrant community in Chicago. She developed presentations and conducted them via Facebook live and through zoom by collaborating with immigrant friendly organizations. She also collected resources for legal services and distributed them to all attendees. *Ivy is the 2021-22 Bob and Caryle Perlman Schweitzer Named Fellow.*

Emilie Lacy, *University of Illinois at Chicago, Disability Studies*
Emilie partnered with BACKBONES to organize and create monthly webinars with community guest speakers to increase women's health knowledge among women with spinal cord injuries. Together they partnered with a privately owned gym in Bucktown for, free to the community, weekly fitness classes. Finally, Emilie facilitated monthly small discussion groups specifically for women with SCI/D.

Priyanka Mathur, *Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine*
Priyanka partnered with WINGs to increase chronic health screenings including blood pressure and diabetes screenings, and provided health education for people facing domestic violence in underserved communities in the greater Chicago area. She also developed a referral system with a local health clinic to ensure that patients have access to long term care

Oak Moreno, *Adler University, Clinical Mental Health Counseling*
Oak worked with folkx struggling with substance use utilizing theatre as a therapeutic approach to help community members find healing and closure.

The 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Hana O'Hagan, *Loyola University of Chicago, Stritch School of Medicine*

Hana O'Hagan, a student at Loyola University's Stritch School of Medicine, partnered with the Quinn Center of Saint Eulalia to provide programming, support, and community to senior citizens and their caregivers. Hana and her team held weekly classes via Zoom where homebound seniors could participate in discussion topics, chair yoga, Zumba, and more. She also hosted three musical events, multiple virtual and in-person art therapy classes, and a Christmas care package distribution. Partnering with a different organization, Firehouse Dream, Hana also facilitated the recording of video interviews with seniors living in Maywood, giving these locals a platform to share their stories and lived experiences.

Thwisha Sabloak, *Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine*

Thwisha worked with the Family Planning Department at Cook County Health to spread Reproductive Health knowledge and services to the nearby community. She helped implement a new Application called RepLi for the patients at Cook County Health. Through guided conversations and the use of the App, patients could plan their reproductive goals and outcomes and discuss their wishes with their health care team. Additionally, Thwisha led longitudinal sexual health classes at the Juvenile Detention Center (JTDC) on topics such as Healthy Relationships, Reproductive Anatomy, Pubertal Development, Consent, and more. In these classes, the students at JTDC learned about topics that may have been skipped over in their school's curriculum and built their understanding of these ideas week by week. Lastly, Thwisha partnered with the organization Gyrls in the H.O.O.D and helped set up a program called H.O.O.D Gyrl Summer where participants could come into the family planning clinic, ask questions about reproductive health, and choose the form of the birth control that was best for them.

Natali Smiley, *Rush University, College of Medicine*

Natali partnered with World Relief to support Afghan refugees as they navigate the US healthcare system. She hosted Women's Health discussion groups, taught Healthcare System 101 classes, and accompanied clients to doctor's appointments. Her goal was to help build bridges for refugee clients to feel comfortable in navigating and understanding our complicated system while developing personal health confidence. *Natali is the 2021-22 Leslie Nickles, MS, PhD Named Schweitzer Fellow.*

Isaiah Teixeira, *Rush University, College of Nursing*

Isaiah partnered with Rush University & Alive Faith Network to increase covid-19 vaccination, testing, and decrease vaccine hesitancy within the west and south sides neighborhoods of Chicago. To complete this, he developed a Youth Advisory Board consisting of youths between the age of 14-21y.o. He developed a 20 week plan, with interactive workshops, open discussion sessions and health education. After the first 5 weeks of the workshops and education, the next 15 weeks included health promotion events (Vaccine drives, passing out testing kits, and providing education) in the west and south side neighborhoods driven directly by the Youth Advisory Board. The Youth Advisory Board also contributed to RUSH's social media campaign "Covid is a Test" which will be released in end of March

Meg Tomlins, *University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Nursing*

Meg provided support for the Peoria Public School's Foundation program, LightsOn!, and partnered with a local food pantry to help address food insecurity in the Peoria community. Through her work, Meg was able to connect model community members (nurses, firefighters, etc.) with the students to support students' academic and job interests after high school

The 2021-22 Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows

Ange Uwimana, *University of Illinois, College of Medicine*

Ange Partnered with Deborah's Place to help improve the lives of vulnerable women in Chicago. She taught healthy eating to prevent hypertension among women who experience homelessness in East Garfield Park and Old Town, using Mediterranean-based vegetable recipes to provide simple and healthier nutritional options. She also introduced a course on how women can grow green vegetables locally to increase access and lower the cost.

Jennifer Vu, *Rosalind Franklin University, Chicago Medical School*

Jennifer partnered with the Inter-professional Community Clinic, Community Care Coach, and North Chicago Think Tank to increase health literacy in adults in under-resourced communities in Lake County. She created educational info graphics as a visual and interactive way to engage community members in conversations about chronic health diseases. Her project aimed to demystify health in minorities communities through informal conversations about diabetes, hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, and asthma.

Veronica Zheng, *Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine*

Veronica partnered with the ReVive Center for Housing and Healing to implement weekly music workshops. She worked with community members to explore their interests in music, including singing, playing instruments, dancing, and sharing music recommendations. Veronica also taught basic music theory and voice lessons. Sharing music is an incredible way to connect and foster community, and the music workshops have provided an outlet for community members to destress.



Support the Fellowship today!

Join us in supporting the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellows Program! No gift is too small — donations support costs such as stipends, monthly meetings retreats, and of course, our staff. Your contribution allows us to support the next generation of community engaged health leaders working to achieve health equity and sustain our Fellows for Life network program!

To donate, simply scan the QR code or visit hmprg.org/donate to fill out our secure online donation form.





Thank you to our 2021-22 Mentors

Site Mentors

Ray Mendez, MD, MA

Salud Latinx

Ekram Hanna

Mira Chicago

Sarah Fink

Joseph Brennehan Elementary School

Reveca Torres

BackBones

Carline Theodore, MA

WINGS Program

Robb Mutert

Warp Crop

Kristen K. Mighty, PhD, MPH

Quinn Center of St. Eulalia

Bobbie Logan, MA, MS

IGrow Chicago

Rebecca Larsen, MA

World Relief Chicagoland

Natalia Suarez, MA

UI Health Champions

Christina Lindstrom

Respond Now

Theodore Thompson

Lawndale Community Church

Jondelle B. Jenkins, DPM

J.B Jenkins and Associates

Abdullah Pratt, MD

Provident Foundation

Erica Rodriguez

The Bloc Chicago

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Housing Forward

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Stephanie Agnew, LSW

Chicago Appleseed Center for Fair Courts

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Cook County Health

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Rush University Medical Center

Marianne Joyce, LCSW

Marjorie Kovler Center (HAI)

Devon Hawks

Manual High School

Tagwana Webster

Peoria Central High School

Danielle Crawford

Deborah's Place

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Interprofessionel Community Clinic

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Revive Center for Housing and Healing

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Heartland Alliance- Refugee and Immigrant Community Services

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Northwestern University, Feinberg
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Carl Earl Lambert Jr, MD,

FAAFP Rush University

Aaron Franklin, DNP, RN

Rush University

In Memoriam

Janet Smith, PhD

UIC, Urban Planning and Policy
Co-director

Thank you so much to all our mentors!

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Named Schweitzer Fellowships

Leslie Nickels, MS, PhD, Schweitzer Fellow

Named by her family and friends, this Fellowship honors the rich legacy of service, mentorship, and leadership of Leslie Nickels, MEd, PhD. Dr. Nickels championed the important role of government in worker health and safety, the need to empower workers, and working with the practice community.



Her distinguished career spanned four decades and included roles at the UIC School of Public Health, Chicago Department of Public Health, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Illinois Department of Labor, World Health Organization, International Labour Organization, and South Africa National Institute for Occupational Health. She was a beloved professor, mentor, as well as a great friend and former board member of Health & Medicine Policy Research Group.

Tarik F. Ibrahim, MD, MS, Schweitzer Fellow



Each year, Health & Medicine Policy Research Group will recognize the life and legacy of Tarik Ibrahim by naming an outstanding Fellow working with underserved populations the Tarik F. Ibrahim MD, MS Schweitzer Fellow. This will honor Dr. Ibrahim's calling of ensuring the health and well-being of underserved populations and his passion for service and charity within the field of medicine. It was created by a Fellow for Life who was deeply inspired by Dr. Ibrahim's life.

Bob and Caryle Perlman Schweitzer Fellow

The Bob and Caryle Perlman Fellowship was established to provide mentorship and support for those looking to make a difference in underserved Chicago communities. Wishing they'd had access to a program like the Schweitzer Fellowship early on in their own careers, Bob and Caryle feel it's important to give back now to the next generation of service-minded health and human service professionals. The Perlmans believe these Fellows and their peers are our hope for the future.

