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Do you have a flexible schedule and a heart for a hurting world? Pharmacists are needed to join our international **Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART)**. Work is on an on-call basis as Samaritan's Purse dispenses aid in Jesus' Name to victims of disasters and other crises at outpatient clinics and inpatient settings, including our Emergency Field Hospital.

Deployments are paid, and we cover the cost of travel, food, and housing.

samaritanpurse.org/DART



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2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grants

CPFI awards numerous Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grants each year. The purpose of the Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grant is to financially support Student Chapters so they have funding to serve others in need. The CPFI Board of Directors implemented this Grant to enable Student Chapters to be the hands and feet of Jesus through Christian service and evangelism. It is the hope of the Board of Directors that students will give back to their communities while sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Student Chapter Grant recipients receive \$500.00 to foster the expansion of community service involvement. In support of these efforts, Student Chapters may serve in partnerships with communities, nonprofit agencies, schools and governmental bodies. The articles that follow were submitted by the Hands and Feet Student Chapter Grant recipients. Recipients are required to submit a report describing their project. Student chapter representatives often provide poster presentations showcasing their community service projects during the CPFI Annual Conference & Student Retreat.

**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
 OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PROJECT**
 The Student Chapter of CPFI at the University of Kansas

(KU) is proud to report that the Operation Christmas Child Project through Samaritan's Purse raised a grand total of \$2100.13 and packed 100 shoeboxes with the help of students, staff, and faculty at the KU School of Pharmacy and the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant. The Operation Christmas Child Project is an opportunity for students to pack shoeboxes with toys, clothing, and care products for children around the world who might otherwise not receive Christmas gifts. The children also receive the message of the Gospel and written prayers from those who packed the shoeboxes.



The KU 2020 Operation Christmas Child Project goal was to raise \$200 (in addition to the \$500 from the CPFI Hands and Feet Grant) that would be used to fill 60 shoeboxes with the help and donation of shoeboxes from pharmacy students. The Operation Christmas Child Project was approved as an event for the KU School of Pharmacy Professional Development Program (students are required to complete several events throughout the year). Students who participated in the Operation Christmas Child Project event for credit were asked to fill 1 shoebox with 6 items (2 school supplies items, 2 hygiene/personal care items, and 2 toy items). The funds raised for the Operation Christmas Child Project along with the CPFI Hands and Feet Grant were used to cover the cost of filling the student-packed shoeboxes with additional items and to cover the \$9 shipping cost per shoebox.

KU CPFI held a 2-week donation drive from November 2nd to November 13th during which friends and family of CPFI members, former pharmacy students, and current students, staff, and faculty at KU generously donated \$1571 via Venmo and Zelle. KU CPFI also partnered with the local Chick-Fil-A restaurant for a percentage night and raised an additional \$29.13. Finally, the KU CPFI Student Chapter was granted \$500 through the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant so that a grand total of \$2100.13 was raised.

In total, 100 shoeboxes (including those packed by students at home) were donated and sponsored. Sixteen students participated in the Professional Development Program and packed a total of 24 shoeboxes at their homes. The KU CPFI Community Service Chair, Sara Strand, inspected the student-packed shoeboxes to ensure there were no inappropriate items such as liquids or food items in the shoeboxes. Then she filled the student-packed shoeboxes with additional items and packed an additional 76 shoeboxes with the purchased items.

Thirty tracking labels and shoeboxes were donated to KU CPFI by a family member of a CPFI member. KU CPFI registered the 30 tracking labels through Samaritan's Purse for \$9 per label (\$270) for the 30 shoeboxes which included the 24 shoeboxes that were packed by students. Each student took a picture of themselves to include in their shoeboxes and they were provided with the tracking numbers in order to follow where their shoeboxes were delivered. A total of \$1189.92 was used to purchase additional plastic shoeboxes and items to place in the shoeboxes such as toys, coloring books, brushes, deodorant, tissues, pencils, pencil sharpeners, crayons, lip balm, toys, soap, water bottles, playing cards, flip flops, socks, nail files, and hair elastics. The remaining 70 boxes were paid for through Samaritan's Purse with a lump donation of \$630 (\$9 per box) and the remaining funds of \$10.21 were donated to Samaritan's Purse for Operation Christmas Child. The 100 shoeboxes were delivered to the designated Operation Christmas Child distribution site in Kansas City on November 23rd during the designated collection week.

The KU CPFI Student Chapter is incredibly grateful for the kindness and generosity of all who donated to the Operation Christmas Child Project and for the 2020 CPFI Hands and Feet Grant which helped surpass the goal and spread the Gospel to as many children as possible.

NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY BAGS OF HOPE

The Notre Dame of Maryland University Chapter of the CPFI has been longing to do a community outreach project, but due to COVID-19 it seemed almost impossible. However, thanks to our zeal and perseverance, a few chapter members got together and wrote a grant proposal that will bless many men, women and children in need in the Baltimore area. Our goal was to provide a virtual women's health fair to House of Ruth residents, educating them about the importance of maintaining their overall health. Along with this, CPFI and Phi Lambda Sigma (PLS) leadership members came together to assemble 30 bags (15 bags for women and 15 bags for children) containing items that women and children need on a day-to-day basis. A few weeks later, CPFI and PLS conducted the virtual women's health fair inviting health care professionals and those alike to discuss self-breast exams, self-confidence, birth control methods, COVID-19 vaccinations and how it pertains to women's health. A total of 78 participants logged into the health fair and 11 House of Ruth of Maryland residents attended as well. Philippians 2:7-8 explains how Jesus gave up his divine privilege and humbled himself by "taking up the form of a servant" for the sake of all humanity. In that way, we also aspire to mimic Christ's actions and further our understanding of what true service really is through his perfect example.



UNIVERSITY OF THE INCARNATE WORD FEIK SCHOOL OF PHARMACY SHARING LOVE TO CHILDREN IN NEED

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, our CPFI chapter wanted to give back as much as we could while keeping ourselves and our community safe. Our Chapter reached out to the Children's Shelter of San Antonio to see how we could best serve them. Unfortunately, the pandemic prevented us from physically being with the children, so we decided to reach out to them through videos instead. The shelter also had an Amazon.com wish list of basic supplies such as soap and other gifts. With the CPFI Hands and Feet Grant, our chapter was able to purchase several items from this list which included toys, soaps, duffle bags, and other items. We also used the grant to purchase several children's books and had a "read along" event where our members recorded themselves reading the books. In the end, these books and videos were sent to the Children's Shelter. Through these videos we hoped it would feel as if



we were reading along with the children, even though we were unable to visit the shelter in-person. We also worked with our pre-pharmacy chapter to make Tik-Tok videos to send to the shelter. The videos were funny and entertaining, and they reminded the kids that we were still thinking about them. However, the production of the videos took longer than we anticipated. With Christmas break and our school remaining online after the holidays (due to the pandemic), planning and organizing videos with the members and other students was delayed. Fortunately, we were able to record some videos and we plan to make more for the Children's Shelter to lift their spirits and remind them that in these hard times, there are people who truly care about them.

Serving Locally: Opportunities for Pharmacists to Volunteer in their own Backyards

By Juliette Miller and Christine R. Birnie

INTRODUCTION

The number of pharmacists and student pharmacists participating on medical mission trips has been growing steadily. At St. John Fisher College, students in the Wegmans School of Pharmacy started participating in the school's first trip in 2007, which has increased to eight to ten trips annually, including up to six summer service trips and two to four Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) rotations each year. However, not all pharmacists and student pharmacists have the time, resources, desire, or ability to participate on an international or even a domestic service trip. For these individuals, there are opportunities not too far from home.

Social determinants of health, such as a person's income, location of residence, social life, and other socioeconomic factors are strongly linked to a person's health.¹ Studies have demonstrated that these factors can cause adverse effects on population health, which have a high cost burden on society.² Although there are increasing numbers of pharmacists and student pharmacists participating on medical mission trips all over the world, these population health issues are also right here in America. One way that pharmacists can help is by volunteering at healthcare centers for uninsured or

underinsured patients in their own communities.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

One example of a healthcare center for the underinsured is St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center located in Rochester, New York. Rooted in the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph, the center offers primary, dental, and mental health care, social services, financial and legal counseling, and assistance with access to healthcare for patients who do not have insurance. They serve approximately 3,000 individuals and 15,000 visits annually. Funded primarily by donations, the center has 20 full-time and part-time employees and over 250 volunteers who help keep the clinic running.³ The center also houses a medication room where pharmacists and pharmacy students routinely volunteer to help organize and provide support for the providers.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

While St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center only has one location in Rochester, New York, there are more than one thousand clinics with similar services across the country.⁴ In Upstate New York, other clinics include the University of Rochester UR Well Clinics and the Jericho Road Community Health Center in Buffalo, which function similarly to St.

Joseph's Neighborhood Center.^{5,6} In fact, a UR Well Clinic utilizes St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center facility on Tuesday evenings.⁵ To find a clinic that provides similar services, the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics website offers a page to search for such centers in a particular area of the country.⁴ For those who are unable or do not wish to participate on an international medical mission trip, serving in these types of clinics provides a comparable experience without requiring overseas travel.

Pharmacists can help in these settings in countless ways. As medication experts, pharmacists can provide recommendations to healthcare providers and counsel patients on medications, lifestyle modifications, and the importance of attending to their disease states. Understanding social determinants of health allows pharmacists to identify which ones affect patients who come to the clinic so that they can encourage lifestyle changes that will help reduce medication burden. In addition, pharmacists have a good working knowledge of current prescription health insurance, particularly pertaining to coverage of medications, helping patients get insured, and assisting in the prior authorization process if needed. Often, it is necessary to consider