Engagement to Leadership

The story of Loma Linda Street Medicine
What is Street Medicine?

- *Transitional* primary care targeting the homeless and desperately poor, meeting patients where they live

- A growing movement. First International Street Medicine symposium in 2005
Our Story

- Dr. Toms October 2011-July 2012
- Joined by 3rd year medical students, who took over in July 2012
- Now growing and thriving with strong support on campus
How we operate

Students
- Establish partnerships with homeless providers in the community
- Schedule and organize all aspects of street medicine outreaches
- Set strategic priorities
- Write and enforce protocols
- Initiate research projects

Faculty
- Supervise student delivery of care at all outreaches
- Advise students on protocols
- Guide student research
How we operate

Organizational structure

- Healthy Neighborhood Program
  - Primary faculty advisor: Dr. Marc Debay
  - HNP director: Dr. Marti Baum
- School of Medicine
  - Dr. Henry Lamberton
- Preventive Medicine Department
  - Dr. Wayne Dysinger
- Family Medicine Department
  - Dr. William Jih
- Other schools partners
  - School of Public Health: Professor Katherine Jones Debay
  - School of Nursing: Professors Jacqueline Paik and Sabine Dunbar
  - School of Pharmacy: Dr. Kathryn Knecht
  - School of Dentistry: Dr. Tom Rogers and others
What we have done

To date

- Over 100 trained volunteer students and faculty from SM, SPH, SN, SP, SD, SBH
- 608 patient visits
- 415 flu shots
- Partnerships formed:
  - San Bernardino Police Department
  - San Bernardino Homeless Provider Network
  - Master’s Plan Cornerstone Church of the Nazarene
  - Central City Lutheran Mission
  - Salvation Army Hospitality House
  - Option House.
Engagement connection

- Significant leadership responsibility in a worthy cause stimulates true educational engagement by revealing reasons for learning that go beyond successful hoop jumping of course requirements, class participation, grades, etc.
- Engagement is more than mere motivation; it is motivation inspired by a conviction that one’s knowledge and actions will actually make a difference.
Engagement connection

Rhonda Holloway, Public Health student
Engagement connection

Karina Brinckhaus, Nursing Student
Engagement connection

Robert Perry, Dental Student
Engagement connection

Dr. Kathryn Knecht, Pharmacy faculty
#1

Students are energized and maximally engaged when their efforts are not just theoretically important but absolutely essential to an inspiring cause.
#2

Students are less likely to become cynical when given the opportunity to make meaningful contributions towards an altruistic cause.
Take Home Points

#3

Students grasp the importance of leadership, teamwork, teaching, and responsibility when their adoption of these values makes an immediate and course-defining difference.
The advantages of working together in an interprofessional team is best taught in real-world situations where students are confronted with problems outside their scope of training.
Take Home Points

#5

Physician leadership is a skill best practiced in the real world where decisions make a difference
Take Home Points

#6

Student research, improvement, and innovation are self-motivated and driven by genuine curiosity and ownership when they arise directly from questions and challenges that students confront first-hand.
#7

Faculty mentorship is actively sought by student leaders to augment their own knowledge and research when presented with challenges for which they feel responsible.
References

7. Haq, Cynthia, Michelle Grosch, and Donald Carufel-Wert. "Leadership opportunities with communities, the medically underserved, and special populations (LOCUS)." Academic Medicine 77.7 (2002): 740.
8. Hart R. Notes from the President, Loma Linda University Health, October 2013.