Creating Change • Developing Leaders • Improving Health

An Introduction to The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship (ASF)
Dr. Albert Schweitzer founded his hospital in Lambaréné, Africa in 1913...
...but there are Lambarenes to be found or created all around us.

Pictured: Schweitzer Fellows in action across the U.S.
Our Mission
Improving Health · Developing Leaders · Creating Change

The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship (ASF) is improving the health of vulnerable people now and for the future by developing a corps of *Leaders in Service*—professionals skilled in creating positive change with and in our communities, our health and human service systems, and our world.
Through community-based, mentored direct service and a multidisciplinary, reflective leadership development program, ASF is building community capacity and training a professional workforce that is:

- *skilled* in addressing the underlying causes of health inequities;
- *committed* to improving the health outcomes of underserved communities; and
- *prepared* for a life of continued service.
Defining Health

- A state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity (WHO)

- Schweitzer Fellows work to address the social determinants of health
  - the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age, and which are mostly responsible for health inequities (WHO)
ASF: By the Numbers

13 U.S. Programs/1 International Program

- Baltimore
- Boston
- Chicago
- Columbus
- Houston/Galveston
- Indiana
- Los Angeles
- New Orleans
- New Hampshire/Vermont
- North Carolina
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- San Francisco
- Lambarene, Gabon, Africa

~250 new Fellows each year

More than 2,500 program alumni ("Schweitzer Fellows for Life") to date
Schweitzer Fellows

- Selected from 100 top health and human service professional schools
- 50% are medical students
- 50% are students from health allied fields
  - Nursing
  - Dental
  - Social Work
  - Public Health
  - Social Work
  - Law
  - Engineering
What Makes Us Different?

ASF is…

- a personal pursuit, not a “plug-in” volunteer opportunity

- a meaningful, integrated part of your education, not a program undertaken when a student’s “regular life” is on hold

- an interdisciplinary experience, not an isolated one

- a gateway for lifelong service, not a one-time volunteer project with an endpoint
Program Elements

- 200-hour service project
- Multi-disciplinary monthly meetings of Fellows
- Public outreach activities
- Stipend
- Fellows for Life Network
200 hours – primarily *direct* community service

Address an unmet health need in the local community

Collaborate with community agency

Site, academic, and Schweitzer mentors

New initiative or expansion of existing effort
Sample Projects

Sample projects
- Los Angeles’ first micro-health clinic for post-incarcerated youth

- Hepatitis B initiative for Boston’s Chinatown population that has since been replicated across the country

- Physical therapy clinic providing essential rehabilitative services to North Carolina’s uninsured

- Legal resource center serving low-income families in rural New Hampshire

Over 80% are sustained by the community-based organization
Fellowship Activities

- Orientation retreat
- Monthly Meetings
- Public Outreach Activities
- Monthly and Final Reports
- Evaluation
- Celebration of Service
More than 2,500 Leaders in Service living in 47 of 50 states

80% of FFL say the Fellowship affirmed their commitment to pursue a career related to a life of service

In the past year, 87% of FFL contributed to underserved populations outside of their regular work or training

National Schweitzer Leadership Conference in Boston (November 2-3, 2012)
“Being a Schweitzer Fellow has allowed me to reaffirm my commitment to justice and equality while providing me the chance to act out the changes I want to see in the world.”

Schweitzer Fellow Toy Lim, Boston

“By interacting with other Fellows, I am able to develop multidisciplinary solutions to problems affecting health.”

Schweitzer Fellow Julius Kibe, North Carolina
Eligibility and Application

- Students in health professional or graduate degree granting programs
- Must be enrolled through May 2014
- Must attend orientation
- Apply online: www.schweitzerfellowship.org/
- Deadline: February 1, 2013
Contact:
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