

Public Health Organization

Mission Statement

The purpose of the organization shall be to protect and safeguard the public health and safety of the community by promoting healthy lifestyles and raising awareness through education. Public health is acknowledged as what our society does collectively to assure the conditions for people to be healthy. We affirm the World Health Organization's understanding of health as a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

Advocacy, Leadership, and Community Service Activities

Sojourner Health Clinic: Students have the opportunity to volunteer at Sojourner Health Clinic in downtown Kansas City every Sunday. Sojourner Health Clinic provides free basic health care to the underserved and homeless in Kansas City. Student pharmacists help fill prescriptions and provide appropriate counseling to patients.

Medical Mission Trip: Students have the opportunity to both help plan and attend a medical mission trip. Students typically help provide healthcare to underserved and vulnerable populations in communities around the world. Recent PHO sponsored medical missions have sent students to Guatemala and Nicaragua.

National Public Health Week: Each year PHO hosts events and promotes education on public health during National Public Health Week each April. This past year, students created infographics on various public health issues, which were disseminated on social media.

MedZou Community Health Clinic: Students attending the Columbia campus have the opportunity to assist at the MedZou Community Health Clinic, providing pharmacy counseling services to patients.

Ronald McDonald House: Students attending the Springfield campus have the opportunity to volunteer at Ronald McDonald House Springfield.

Flu Shot Clinics: Students have the opportunity to volunteer at flu shot clinics planned during the fall semester. In previous years, students have had the chance to immunize patients at Sojourner health clinic and Artist's Helping the Homeless.

Fundraisers: Each year PHO holds multiple fundraisers that support both local and international patient care opportunities.

Awards

Each year, PHO awards one senior with a "Graduating Senior of the Year Pharmacy Student Organizational Award" for showing exemplary leadership skills and involvement in the organization and in promoting public health.

Officers

President: NiNi Truong
President-Elect: Cassandra Van Horn
Treasurer: Hayley Wells
Vice President: Vivian Schwer
Secretary: Brendan Earley
Columbia Liaison: Holly Harlan
Springfield Liaison: Jessica Godby

Advisors

Kansas City: Dr. Mark Sawkin
Springfield: Dr. Lisa Cillessen
Columbia: Dr. Jamie Hall

How to Join

Students interested in joining PHO can register at
<https://roogroups.umkc.edu/organization/PHO>

For more information, email NiNi Truong at nttruong@mail.umkc.edu