**Student Quotes**

“The clinic had a patient population that came from the immediate neighborhood, which really helped me gain a better perspective of what the local needs are in South LA.”

“I am amazed what the physicians can do with such few resources for their patients.”

“Seeing patients outside the hospital was very valuable.”

**Community Preceptors**

There are multiple venues in which USC Keck medical students can experience community-based medicine throughout their four years of medical school including inner city sites in Los Angeles, suburban and HMO sites, schools, homeless and free clinics, rural health sites in California, Hawaii, Arkansas and Alaska, HIV sites, and a tribal health center.

**Professional & Student Organizations**

The Primary Career Community Medicine Project (PCCMP) works with a variety of professional organizations including the Area Health Education Center (AHEC), the Community Clinics Association of Los Angeles County (CCALAC), and the California Academy of Family Physicians (CAFP).

In addition, PCCMP has developed a student task force called the Primary Care Community Medicine Student Coalition (PCCMSC). It consists of 7 USC-Keck student interest groups whose leaders meet quarterly to discuss the direction of primary care and community medicine, and how to further encourage its upward movement on campus.

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MISSION STATEMENT
The USC Keck Primary Care Community Medicine Project (PCCMP) is designed to increase the number of USC medical students who enter community-based primary care by providing them with multiple community and primary care experiences and faculty mentoring. Additionally, the project will stimulate/empower the specialty-minded students who have a community medicine interest by exposing them to the role a medical specialist may play in caring for the needs of community medicine patients.

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the project intends to increase medical students’ exposure to community-based medical practices including community health centers across the four years of medical school training.

THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH STUDIES
The Center for Community Health Studies consists of a multi-disciplinary research team whose mission is to develop and disseminate information that contributes to improving the health of communities and reducing disparities in health care coverage and services. By using community-based research, we aim to understand the impact of health care programs, organizations, and policies on the health of individuals and communities. We provide program evaluations, policy analysis, health service research, and training for future researchers.

PRIMARY CARE COMMUNITY MEDICINE PROGRAMS

Primary Care/Family Medicine/Community Medicine Student Website
http://primarycare.usc.edu
This site includes valuable information and links that allow first through fourth year medical students to explore a career in primary care such as research opportunities, community resources, fellowships, scholarships and loans, professional organizations, and summer and volunteer opportunities. In addition, students can contribute to a wiki providing the USC-Keck community with first-hand information about preceptor experiences.

Community Medicine & Advocacy Lectures Series
This monthly lecture series at the Keck School of Medicine will provide students, who are interested in a community medicine based career, exposure to a myriad of community medicine, leadership and legislative interactive presentations.

Introduction to Community Medicine Focus Experience (ICM)
As part of the Introduction to Clinical Medicine program, this community-based focus experience is designed to introduce medical students to the challenges and rewards of community-based primary care by providing them with the opportunities to spend a day observing doctors and their medical staff, conducting patient histories and physical exams, among other learning experiences.

Introduction to Community Geriatrics Focus Experience (ICG)
As part of the Introduction to Clinical Medicine program, this experience is designed to introduce medical students to community-based geriatric and ambulatory care through a day in an assisted-living facility. Students are given practical education and opportunities to evaluate geriatric patients in their homes, perform mental status exams and medication assessments, as well as safety and ADL/IADL assessments.

Primary Care Community Medicine Shadowing and Mentor Programs
Through a shadowing experience with a primary care provider in a community clinic, medical students will be exposed to a variety of aspects of community-based primary care over the course of their first two years of medical school. Such experiences include learning about the establishment of medical homes, chronic disease management, and public health.

The mentor program provides medical students a “go-to” person in primary care/community medicine to whom they could ask questions about career development, life style, and other information regarding a primary care career.

The 4th Year Community Medicine Selective: Family and Community Medicine as the Medical Home
The 4th year community medicine selective is designed to immerse interested 4th year medical students into community health through a variety of experiences including patient contacts in numerous community medicine venues, legislative opportunities, and working with members of the Care Team. In addition, students will gain an understanding of billing, coding, and other economic parameters that sustain the viability of a community medicine clinic.