

SOURCE Champion of the Month  
July 2015



**Xiao Wang**

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*"I think the simple act of community-based service – working in solidarity as an ally with a community member toward a common goal – can make someone a more observant and empathetic health care professional."*

**What do you do as your community engagement activity?**

I serve as co-Clinic Director of Charm City Clinic, where I also volunteer as a health screener. I also mentor a local high school student through Thread, where, as a Head of Family, I coordinate several volunteers in addition to my own mentoring commitment.

**How much time do you spend on service per week/month?**

About 20 hours a month.

**How did you begin to work with your community-based organization (CBO)?**

I heard about Thread and Charm City Clinic through multiple activity fairs, both during our revisit weekend and orientation. I chose them because they combined homegrown and community-driven service with the capacity for large-scale impact.

**What do you enjoy about or gain through community service?**

Whenever I'm done volunteering, I always feel exhausted. Community service is so multifaceted: I'm working, but I'm also meeting and interacting with different people, thinking about and learning new things about the community, trying to forge new relationships while representing both Hopkins and myself, hoping to make some kind of tangible and sustainable impact, and, of course, having fun. I try to completely throw myself into my service – it's tiring, but these different aspects are what make it rewarding.



problem together, and he was instantly hooked – we did about 5 more before we went to grab lunch. The next day, he texted me – unprovoked – that he got another one right. It’s the little victories!

**Final Comments**

The communities in Baltimore have a lot of need, and it’s important to meet them where they are. The people that I work with have experienced things I’ll never understand, and vice versa. Service is so important to understanding and bridging that gap. I think Charm City Clinic ([charmcityclinic.org](http://charmcityclinic.org)) and Thread ([www.thread.org](http://www.thread.org)) both do incredible jobs with that, as do so many other SOURCE organizations. Get involved!



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