

SOURCE Champion of the Month
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MD/PhD Candidate Class of 2018
(Fifth-Year Medical Student/PhD Health, Behavior and Society)

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What do you do as your community engagement activity?

A few things:

1. Health Professions Recruitment and Exposure Program (HPREP) through Student National Medical Association (SNMA) for 3 years
2. Photonovella Project with Wolfe Street Academy in Health Literacy Course
3. TA for Photonovella Projects with several different organizations
4. Community Based Public Health Certificate (all but practicum ☺)
5. SOURCE Student Governing Board
6. SNMA Region VI (DC, MD, VA) Community Service Liaison for 1 year

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

It really varies with the time of year! At least 2 – 4 hours/month to 4 hours/week.

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

As a first year medical student, I was interested in opportunities for direct service, similar to volunteer opportunities that I had as an undergraduate. With that interest in mind, I got connected to HPREP through SNMA. As I started to hone my professional and research interests a bit more, I realized that the Community-Based Public Health certificate would be a great fit for me. While I started out thinking of service as an extracurricular activity, I'm working more each day to figure out how to make community engagement a key part of my professional development and career.

What do you enjoy about or gain through community service?

Service and community engagement has helped me stay in touch with the “real world.” At Hopkins, everyone – students, faculty, and staff – is so busy that work and academic life really become a world of their own. Staying involved in community work – either through direct service or more scholarly opportunities – helps me to keep everything in perspective.

Final comments:

Almost anything I've done at Hopkins has been connected to SOURCE in some way, shape or form. So if you're interested in community engagement, make sure that you're plugged into SOURCE and build a relationship with the staff, governing board members or anyone else – the whole team would certainly be delighted to point you in the right direction!



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