



SOURCE Service-Learning Service Scholars 2017-2018 Cohort

Hailey Cox

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Hailey Cox is a Master of Public Health student at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She graduated from Fordham University in 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology, where she volunteered as a Peer Health Educator to teach about STIs and HIV in Bronx High Schools. Inspired by her love of public health, she joined the Peace Corps and traveled to Tanzania in February 2015. For the following 27 months, she lived in a rural village in central Tanzania where she served as a community health educator. Hailey's time was spent at the primary school and neonatal clinic, where she organized projects to promote hygiene, safe water, breastfeeding and nutrition, malaria prevention, and HIV prevention. She is excited to gain more experience in child and adolescent health and develop relationships in the Baltimore community through the SOURCE Service Scholar program.

Community Partner: Soccer Without Borders SWB Middle School Lesson Plan Toolbox

SWB has been working with newcomer students in Baltimore since 2009, helping participants hone their skills not only on the soccer field but off the field as well through offering academic enrichment and leadership opportunities. As SWB continues to grow, there is an increased need to enhance current academic enrichment curriculum for middle school students. Since 100% of SWB participants are English Language Learners (ELLs), lessons incorporating English language development have been fundamental to daily programming. However, there is also a need for the curriculum to include themes designed to empower students in their communities. This curriculum would draw upon culturally relevant topics aimed to engage students in learning about healthy behaviors (such as good nutrition and oral hygiene) and creating positive social change. Hailey is responsible for helping to develop this curriculum with the input and guidance from SWB staff as needed. She is in charge of coordinating student volunteers to help design and facilitate these lessons. For the first part of the project, she is responsible for creating a needs assessment with community stakeholders (key partners at Vanguard such as paraeducators/interpreters, ESOL teachers, administrators, participants from SWB's Youth Leadership Council) about what kind of lessons/topics the community would like to see being implemented with students.

Meredith Caldwell

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Meredith Caldwell is a student in the MSN: Entry into Nursing Program at the JHUSON and is thrilled to be working with Commodore John Rodgers in Baltimore through the SOURCE Scholars Program! Originally from the Baltimore area, Meredith is passionate about supporting Baltimore's youth. She previously worked at the JHU Berman Institute of Bioethics, supporting research on a variety of topics including nursing ethics, which inspired Meredith to pursue a career in nursing. Meredith also served as a mentor for high school students through Thread, a program that supports Baltimore students in promoting academic success, community engagement, and personal growth. Her



experience with Thread sparked her interest in health disparities and child development in Baltimore's youth population. Meredith also conducted research at the University of California, San Francisco, investigating music perception and cognition in cochlear implant users. Here, she organized and implemented multiple community-based initiatives to support the underserved hearing loss population, including provision of free music therapy and generation of a comprehensive, accessible hearing loss resource booklet for patients in the San Francisco Bay Area. Meredith was also a Child Life volunteer at the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, where she solidified her love of pediatric nursing. Meredith plans to become a pediatric nurse with a focus in community health and/or critical care. She is honored and excited to be a part of the SOURCE Service Scholars 2017-2018 cohort!

Community Partner: *The Commodore John Rodgers School*

Commodore Community Health Coordination

Commodore implements a community school strategy in which student health form key components in helping our students go from Commodore to College. Data suggests that there is a strong correlation between students' health and academic performance. Meredith's project is helping create stronger bonds between students' health needs and services available to them in and around East Baltimore. The work that Marissa is completing will be absolutely essential in helping our 800+ students get health services that they need. This includes improving access to vision services, necessary vaccinations, dental treatment, and pediatric care. She is also helping to shape what those services look like through interaction with school administration, students, and families. Finally, Marissa will be working with the Hopkins and broader East Baltimore community to strengthen and identify new health-related partnerships that will benefit our students and families.

Ezinne Eze-Ajoku

Doctoral of Healthcare Management, JHSPH

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Ezinne Eze-Ajoku is a physician with a background in Health systems development and quality improvement. In most recent role as the Advisor for Quality measurement and Evaluation at the Health Strategy and Delivery Foundation, she led a nationwide quality improvement initiative for primary health care centers in collaboration with the National Primary Health Center Development Agency in Nigeria. Prior to this she managed the Quality Improvement initiatives at the Delivery Unit of the Honorable Minister of State for Health in 2011-2013. In this role, she guided the process for the development and finalization of the first draft of the Nigerian National quality of care strategy document.



She received her Medical degree from Igbinedion University Nigeria and a Masters in Public Health Policy and Management from Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health and. Currently, she is a doctoral student in Healthcare management and leadership at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her research Interests lie in Quality Improvement of care, Health Disparities, and implementation science.

Community Partner: Intersection of Change: Strength to Love 2

Protocol Development and Marketing Campaign

One of Intersection of Change's programs is the Strength to Love 2 (S2L2) farm initiative. S2L2 is a community based urban farm that has successfully transformed vacant land into an operational farm, growing organic produce for local consumption. Located in Baltimore's Sandtown-Winchester community, S2LFarms uses environmentally sustainable methods to grow its high quality produce. They offer fresh, nutritious, great tasting produce at competitive prices to diverse retail, restaurant, institutional and individual customers. S2LFarms also provides hands-on agricultural training and employment opportunities, and is a visible symbol of transformation in our community. Source Service scholars will help update the S2L2 manual so that it reflects current processes and protocol. Source Service scholars will also develop a marketing strategy for S2L2 that introduce residents of Sandtown Winchester to where to purchase S2L2's produce, discounted prices, the ethics of locally grown foods, benefits of healthy eating habits, ways to prepare S2L2's produce for consumption and opportunities to volunteer.

Emily Illingworth

PhD student, JHSPH

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Emily Illingworth is a first-year PhD student at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health pursuing a degree in Toxicology, Physiology, and Molecular Mechanisms. Emily grew up in Brewer, Maine, and after graduating from Brewer High School, attended the University of Maine to earn her B.S in Biochemistry with a minor in Leadership Studies. She also conducted her course of study through the University of Maine Honors College, which allowed her to complete a thesis on the host range of mycobacteriophage. During her time at the University of Maine, Emily served as president of Operation H.E.A.R.T.S (Hands-on Educational Association Reaching out Through Service), a medically-based volunteer organization, and was also a member of All Maine Women. Emily is interested in comparing and contrasting rural and urban public health issues and outcomes. Ultimately, she aspires to find a career that will allow her to intersect scientific research with public health policy development. As a SOURCE Service Scholar, Emily is excited to be working with Kennedy Krieger Southeast Early Head Start to help parents better advocate for themselves and for their children.



Community Partner: Kennedy Krieger Institute Southeast Early Head Start (SEEHS)

Parent Empowerment through Policy Committee Participation

Emily will become familiar with the new 2017 Federal Head Start Performance Standards and will help to create and implement a new Policy Committee as stated by the standards. She will be attending the existing Policy Committee meetings and will help to update the Policy Committee bylaws, implementing new ones as necessary to comply with the new Standards. Emily will be helping the Center staff advertise the meetings, encouraging parents to join and participate. Community partners are also members of the Policy Committee. New partners must be found and encouraged to participate.

Alex Kent

Master in Nursing, SON

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Alex recently moved to Baltimore from Seattle, Washington. She studied public health and nutrition at the University of Washington, and is currently pursuing her Master's in Nursing. Passionate about health and wellness, Alex will be working with the Living Classrooms Foundation to help facilitate the integration of nursing, public health, and nutrition into the curriculum.



Community Partner: Living Classrooms Foundation

Living Classrooms Health and Wellness

The Living Classrooms Health and Wellness strategy is to promote nutrition, fitness, and social/emotional activities around healthy choices for our families and community members. Alex will support the development of the health and wellness strategy through building curriculum and activities around this vision in our three after-school programs. Programs such as the UA House and the Patterson Park Community Center, have already incorporated this sort of programming through SOURCE Service Scholars. For example, at the UA House, we have had an SSS facilitating a cooking and nutrition club. At Patterson Park we've had a SSS create and implement an engaging curriculum around MyPlate with interactive activities. Living Classrooms, however, has not had the capacity to replicate these initiatives in all of our programs. Alex will bridge existing and help bring in new programs to implement in all after-school programs. She will be reviewing existing curriculum and recruiting volunteers to assist with the initial implementation.

Kodiak Soled

MSN, SON

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Kodiak Soled is an MSN candidate at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and is also completing a certificate in Health Disparities and Health Inequalities at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. Kodiak graduated in 2012 from Pitzer College with dual degrees in International and Intercultural Studies, and Healing and Self-Sufficient Practices. It was during her time at Pitzer that she discovered her calling of advocating for social justice, diversity and inclusion, community engagement, and health-care equality. This lifelong passion led her to Boulder, Colorado where she became (in order) a therapeutic, personal chef for the chronically ill; a certified clinical herbalist; and a perinatal holistic wellness coach. During this time, she met her wife and became deeply involved with supporting family health—specifically within the LGBTQ community. This included founding the OUT Boulder County LGBTQ Parenting Support group, and offering pro bono maternity services and community classes.

Kodiak is thrilled to be chosen as part of the SOURCE Service Scholars Program and to serve the Baltimore community via the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative. GHHI's mission is particularly meaningful to Kodiak because of her own health struggles as a child and the realization that environmental triggers were the cause of her suffering. She is excited to work alongside the local community and be a resource for members to empower themselves through their health. Kodiak is excited and hopeful that this opportunity will make her a better practitioner by granting her the opportunity to engage with and learn from the diverse communities in Baltimore.

Community Partner: *Green and Healthy Homes Initiative*

GHHI Healthy Homes Technical Study (HHTS) Asthma Advisory Committee

The scholar will play a leading role in this project is to strategize and convene the second HHTS asthma advisory committee which will have a final meeting for the research team to present its findings, as part of the organization's dissemination and community engagement strategy. The purpose of the advisory committee is to engage key stakeholders including community organizations, local governmental agencies, and Baltimore residents in a large scale technical study looking at the impact of home interventions on asthma outcomes. As part of this work, the scholar will be responsible for planning the community engagement strategy, recruiting key stakeholders, implementing an evaluation of the engagement process and convening as well as subsequently survey findings from the May 2014 initial convening and the final convening in February- March 2018.

As part of the community engagement strategy, the scholar will also be responsible for presenting the advisory committee with an overview of the problem of pediatric asthma in Baltimore city. This will involve conducting a Community Needs Assessment, including a literature review, to better define asthma risk factors, outcomes, services, and opportunities for change available in the city and other asthma related studies taking place in the State of Maryland. Lastly, the community needs assessment will allow the scholar to develop, improve upon, and orient GHHI clients to its outreach and education materials, including putting together an asthma referral list and community resource book for clients with asthma.

Chibuzo Uwaneme

Master of Public Health, JHSPH

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Chibuzo Uwaneme is a Master of Public Health student at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. She grew up in northern New Jersey and earned her BA in Black Studies and Psychology from Amherst College. Prior to starting at JHSPH, Chibuzo worked in child welfare and served over four years as a foster care case planner in Bronx, NY. While working in foster



care, Chibuzo developed a broader, more personal understanding of factors affecting the overall health and well-being of children, youth, families, and communities. Her experience in child welfare highlighted how much mental health concerns can prohibit individuals from reaching their full potential, thus influencing the well-being of not only individuals but also their loved ones and community as a whole. Chibuzo is interested in public mental health, particularly in disadvantaged areas, and how it can help improve community health and overall well-being. Chibuzo is looking forward to joining the Baltimore community and grateful to be a member of the SOURCE Service Scholars program. She is excited to be working with Baltimore SquashWise to expand their multi-faceted programming by implementing an alumni support program.

Community Partner: *Baltimore SquashWise*

Alumni Support Assistance

SquashWise is a long-term support system creating opportunities for aspiring Baltimore youth. By using squash as a motivator, we help students realize their academic, athletic and personal potential. We ensure that each student graduates from high school prepared for their next step ready to excel in college and continuing education, as well as in the workplace. We use a goal-oriented approach to match students to post-high school education and career placements that fit their readiness and interests. Students join the SquashWise family in middle school, and we continue supporting them as they achieve their educational, athletic, and career goals. Chibuzo assists the Deputy Director with ongoing alumni support by scheduling regular check-in meetings to go over school schedules, scholarships, financial aid, course selection, and career readiness. She also assists with coursework as needed, providing tutoring assistance when necessary to alumni. The position will support 13 alum who participated in SquashWise and graduated high school since 2015.

Vinithra Varadarajan

Master of Public Health, JHSPH

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Vinithra Varadarajan, is physician from India. Since high school, I have organized and participated in blood donation drives every year. During my first and second year of medical school, I volunteered with a NGO to conduct free medical camps in rural part of Tamil Nadu, who were affected by the chemicals dumped by the industries surround the community. Third year of my medical school, I worked with social health care workers in rural parts, who were a part of a Government Health Program to provide financial and health care assistance for pregnant women. Being a part of a NGO, which helps in teaching kids English, science and Math was one of the most satisfying work. I graduated my medical school in 2015 and then worked in cardiac ICU for sometime. During the 2015 floods in my city, the hospital that I worked in, volunteered to open one more ICU and medical camps to increase the accessibility for the patients. I was sent as a volunteer to these sites to do the initial survey of the people and triaging them according to their needs. . Due to the community engagement and my preventive and community medicine class, I wanted to look at the bigger picture of community health issues. This piqued my interest to pursue public health after graduation. Hence, I came to Johns Hopkins, one of the best public health universities in the world, to pursue my masters in public Health. I am excited to learn more about the community in Baltimore through Source, along with gaining experience in working for women with difficult pasts. I am honored and grateful for this opportunity.



Community Partner: *The Samaritan Women*

Advocate Volunteer Program Development & Management

The Samaritan Women uses direct service volunteers in a variety of capacities and advocate volunteers to raise awareness in the community. Vinithra works with the volunteer coordinator in defining our volunteer roles and writing up policies and procedures that will assist volunteers in understanding their roles and how to interact with our women. In this role, Vinithra is learning about human trafficking in the US, our women, and our program. She will then train volunteers in their various roles and work with those volunteers to become the most effective advocates and volunteers. Vinithra will likely work alongside our residents as they complete their internships and vocational training.