Table 3.2.E
Sample Student Service Activities, 2013-present

At the school-level:

- The school specifically participates annually in the [Pitt United Way Campaign](#).
- Students are encouraged to volunteer for the Center for Health Equity’s annual Take a Health Professional to the People Day in which they visit local barbershops and take health screenings, give health consultations, and distribute health information.
- Each year, as part of New Student Orientation, The Office of Student Affairs organizes a variety of activities designed to show public health in action, called the [Plunge into Public Health and Pittsburgh](#). Recent service projects as part of the plunge have benefitted:
  - The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
  - Global Links
  - The Braddock Free Store

New students are encouraged to continue volunteering with these organizations in the future.
- Many other student service opportunities organized by the school are through our various student organizations, including:
  - During a variety of social and academic events, student groups accept donations benefiting various organizations such as PLEA, The Personal Care Closet, and the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
  - The Global Health Student Association sells free trade coffee weekly throughout the fall and spring terms, benefitting Kiva, and organizes trips to Global Links to pack surplus medical supplies and equipment for shipment to underserved communities internationally.
  - The Student Government Association (SGA) organizes multiple blood drives per year, benefitting the Central Blood Bank. SGA has organized a team to participate in the Jingle Bell Run/Walk for the Arthritis Foundation and a team benefitting PLEA for the Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community. They’ve also organized a peanut butter drive and a Canstruction® canned food drive, and collected money to donate to UNICEF via school-wide “Penny Wars”
  - The Association of Women in Public Health has also organized groups to package supplies for Global Links and had a food drive for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. They’ve taken volunteers to the McKeesport Food Bank, helping families and community members access vital nutritional and health resources.
  - The Minority Student Organization (MSO) organized an HIV/AIDS Summit for National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day that featured free HIV/AIDS rapid testing. MSO also organized a book drive to benefit local Pittsburgh schools, partnering with the Pittsburgh Public School Library Book Drive.
  - The Health Policy Management Association organized a team for [Relay for Life](#), raising money for the American Cancer Society and have worked with the Community Food Bank of Southwestern PA and [Off-the-Floor](#).
  - The Doctoral Student Organization held a donation drive benefitting the [Women’s Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh](#).
  - The Student Public Health Epidemic Response Effort (SPHERE) provided health information to parents and students during a Brentwood High School flu vaccine
initiative, a collaboration with the School of Nursing and the School of Pharmacy at Pitt. They’ve collaborated with the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) to control a local shigella outbreak within daycares and schools. SPHERE members have been trained to conduct hand hygiene education and work in area facilities to discuss the importance of hand washing with directors, staff, and children. SPHERE also provides annual HIPAA and outbreak investigation training with ACHD epidemiologists. SPHERE also serves as surge capacity for ACHD during outbreak investigations and members were vital to the measles outbreak investigation. SPHERE also collaborates with the ACHD to evaluate Point of Dispensing exercises that dispense flu vaccinations to emergency responders.

At the Department level:

- In the Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, via Dr. Linda Frank’s courses, IDM 2034 and IDM 2038, students are encouraged to participate in World AIDS day and other community-focused events and services. Opportunities are also offered with Shepard Wellness Community, Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force, HIV testing day, and other global public health initiatives.
- The Department of Epidemiology has a student-run volunteer group called Epi Gives Back which has organized and hosted many events, including raccoon baiting, a river clean up, work benefitting the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, cooking/serving meals at Family House and the East End Cooperative Ministry, etc.
- In the Department of Human Genetics, genetic counseling students sell amaryllis flowers every year, benefitting the Huntington Disease Foundation. Genetic counseling students have also volunteered their time at the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation Symposium, spoken to students in the Pitt bio club and at other institutions about the genetic counseling profession

At the University-level:

- The University of Pittsburgh offers several service opportunities throughout the academic year, through PittServes and the Office of Community and Governmental Relations. These opportunities include:
  - Food drives benefiting various local food banks, pet food drives, winter clothing drives, and toy drives
  - Mentoring of high school students interested in STEM
  - Local clean-up and beautification initiatives
  - 5Ks and other charity run/walks
  - Every month, the University invites faculty, students, and staff to participate in a food repack and distribution at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, offering transportation to and from campus
  - The University offers the Pitt United Way Day of Caring each year, where a variety of service projects in local neighborhoods and agencies of regional importance
  - Tour guides for prospective graduate students via Pitt Trailblazers
  - As with Pitt Public Health, the University also provides opportunities to donate to various organizations through social events and lectures, including The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Life for a Child Program
  - The English Language Institute’s Language Exchange Program
  - Pitt Med Student auction to benefit the Program for Health Care to Underserved Populations
Community Partners/Health-Related Service Opportunities
Publicized by Pitt Public Health:

- Volunteer with the School to Career Program with The Oakland Planning and Development Corporation
- Participate in mental health program at Shuman Juvenile Detention Center
- Promote healthy living to parents and their families at Shaler Township Wellness Fair
- Volunteer abroad with Unite for Sight’s Global Impact Corps
- Volunteer opportunities during the Western PA LUNG FORCE Expo
- Volunteer abroad with Unite for Sight’s Global Impact Corps
- Volunteer opportunity - Project Istwa Photovoice Facilitator
- Project Istwa Program Assistant (volunteer position)
- Outreach to 9th grade class in a cyber-charter school about public health and the school
- Volunteer opportunities during United States Conference on African Immigrant Health
- Volunteer opportunities during the American Diabetes Expo