

Volunteer Opportunities for Prehealth Students in the Western New York Area

(Updated: February 2022)

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As a Prehealth student, you have chosen a rewarding and challenging career path. You are committing yourself to the compassionate care of others. Medical and other professional health schools expect that you have made an informed decision, are oriented toward service to others and have educated yourself about the profession which you intend to enter. Additionally, there should be a natural curiosity and enthusiasm on your part to have exposure to relevant medical settings. Volunteer and service work help assure you that you have made the right decision. Consider the following words applicable to ALL students considering a health profession: “Professional schools will forever seek students who communicate effectively, who rigorously pursue intellectual intelligence, and who find purpose, satisfaction, and dignity in human service.”

~Mike Magee, MD

Transportation Information

There are several options for transportation from UB to local volunteering and shadowing sites for those who do not have a car. Regardless of your mode of transportation, ***please be safe!***

- *Consider volunteering with a buddy and be familiar with your surroundings, especially in the evenings/at night.*
- *Ask a security officer at your volunteer site to escort you to your car or bus/subway stop.*
- *Take advantage of the university's transportation safety services. Otherwise, walk with friends or classmates.*
- *Look Into [Safety Shuttles](#).*

UB Downtown Campus Shuttle “The Blue Line” (FREE!)

[The Blue Line](#) connects the Downtown and South campuses with stops at the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, as well as other locations.

Public Transportation between UB and Local Hospitals

- ♦ Go to [NFTA-Metro Trip Planner](#):
 1. Choose your departure and arrival locations (you may select several “popular locations” from drop-down menu, including UB North Campus, South Campus, University Station (metro rail), and a number of local hospitals.
 2. Select the date and time of your trip.
 3. Decide how far you want to walk.
 4. Decide what you most want to minimize (time, transfers, or walking) and specify if you need any accommodations.

Other Transportation Options

- ♦ Bicycling
 - [Bike-Sharing](#)
 - [Car-Sharing with Zip Car](#):
 - Ride-Sharing available through a variety of vendors

Community Service General Contacts

- ♦ [Student Engagement](#):
- ♦ [Central Referral Services](#) at Erie County (click on Erie County-Search by Keyword)
 1. Put in a keyword pertaining to the type of volunteering/volunteer placement you are interested in
 2. Select “Find program/agency”
 3. You will see all agencies providing these services with links.
- ♦ [United Way of Buffalo and Erie County Volunteer Center](#):

How to Document Your Clinical Experiences

It is important that you keep track of your clinical experiences so that you can easily and accurately report these experiences when it is time to apply to the Prehealth Committee and professional health schools. We recommend keeping a journal for yourself that includes the following information for each experience:

- Experience type (e.g., volunteering, shadowing, internships, clinical research, etc.)
- Name of medical professional (if applicable)
- Professional's contact information (e.g., phone, email)
- Name of facility
- Location
- Start and end dates
- Approximate number of hours per week
- Total number of hours
- Brief description

It is often helpful in your description to be detailed about what you observed, or about what your specific responsibilities were and briefly comment on what you learned or gained from the experience. Below are a few questions to help you reflect on your experiences.

Questions for Reflection:

1. What did you learn about the _____ of _____ as a result of this experience?
2. What did you learn about yourself (strengths/weaknesses, interests, skills, values)?
3. Did this experience change your views/understanding of health care in the US (or abroad) in any way?
If so, how?
4. What did you find most rewarding about your experience? Most challenging?
5. Were there any interesting/memorable events or patients that you want to be sure to remember? (Be sure to exclude names to maintain privacy).

Chiropractic Profession

- ◆ **Dr. Alison Cummings**
Inner Balance Chiropractic
2800 Sweet Home Road, Suite 1
Amherst, New York 14228
(716) 210-1060
- ◆ **Drs. Thomas G. Lyons & Elizabeth T. Lyons**
Amherst Chiropractic
1622 Hopkins Road
Williamsville, New York 14221
(716) 689-0766
- ◆ **Dr. Patrick O'Neill**
O'Neill Chiropractic
616 Potomac Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14222
(716) 884-4450

Dental Profession

- ◆ **Baker Victory Dental Center**
790 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, New York 14218
(716) 828-9334
- ◆ **Dr. Bob's Dental Care (6 locations):**
Call one location and ask for Office Manager

Amherst Office
4927 Main Street
Amherst, New York 14226
(716) 631-2728

Buffalo Office
892 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222
(716) 332-0460

Cheektowaga Location
3099 William Street
Cheektowaga, New York 14227
(716) 668-2998

Kenmore Location
956 Kenmore Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14216
(716) 874-7112

Niagara Falls Location
8875 Porter Road
Niagara Falls, New York 14304
(716) 297-5500

North Buffalo Location
2727 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214
(716) 833-2727

- ◆ **Erie County Medical Center (ECMC) Center for Dental Care**
This is a general dentistry clinic and offers limited shadowing times
Contact: Christine Lendway
ECMC Main Building, 1st Floor (Suite 150)
462 Grider Street
Buffalo, New York 14215
(716) 898-3189

♦ **Harvest House Ministries Good Neighbors Health Care**

Open Monday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons

175 Jefferson Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 825-0929 ext. 302
goodneighbors@harvesthousebuffalo.org

♦ **Neighborhood Health Center (5 locations)**

Blasdell

4233 Lake Avenue
Blasdell, New York 14219
(716) 332-3070

Mattina

300 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14201
(716) 242-8600

North West Buffalo

155 Lawn Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14207
(716) 875-2904

Southtowns

151 Elmview Avenue
Hamburg, New York 14075
(716) 648-4345

Riverway

1569 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14213
(COMING SOON! Opening 2022)

♦ **Private Practices**

Network through your own dentist, family friends, neighbors, relatives in the dental profession (e.g., dentist, hygienist, assistant, secretary)

****Call office first; have resume available****

♦ **Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center**

*****This is offered on a case-by-case basis, you will need updated flu shots and PPD*****

Contact: Janet Martin
Elm & Carlton Streets
Buffalo, New York 14263
(716) 845-5970

♦ **Winning Smiles Pediatric Dentistry (3 locations)**

Contact Lee Ann at (716) 332-2444

Amherst Office

3476 Sheridan Drive
Amherst, New York 14226

Buffalo Office

205 Linwood Ave.
Buffalo, New York 14209

Orchard Park Office

3364 Southwestern Boulevard
Orchard Park, New York 14127

Medical Profession

♦ [Alpha Epsilon Delta \(AED\)](#)

♦ [Aspire of Western New York \(formerly United Cerebral Palsy Association\)](#)

2356 North Forest Road
Getzville, New York 14068
(716) 324-2744

♦ [Association for Pre-Medical Students \(APMS\)](#)

- [Shadowing Opportunities through APMS](#)

♦ [Autism Services, Inc.](#)

40 Hazelwood Drive
Amherst, New York 14228
(716) 631-5777

♦ [Buffalo Psychiatric Center](#)

400 Forest Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14213
(716) 885-2261

♦ [Buffalo VA Medical Center \(Across from South Campus\)](#)

3495 Bailey Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215
Main Phone: 716-834-9200
Mental Health Clinic: 716-862-3117

♦ [Camp Good Days and Special Times](#)

1. Summer Camping Programs

PO Box 665
1332 Pittsford-Mendon Road
Mendon, New York 14506
(585) 624-5555 or
800-785-2135

2. Year Round Programs

Western NY Regional Office
6430 Transit Road, Suite 200
Depew, New York 14043
(716) 206-0709

♦ [Catholic Health Systems \(5 locations\)](#)

1. Kenmore Mercy Hospital

2950 Elmwood Avenue
Kenmore, New York 14217
(716) 447-6189

2. Mercy Hospital of Buffalo

565 Abbott Road
Buffalo, New York 14220
(716) 828-2098

3. Mount St. Mary's Hospital

5300 Military Road
Lewiston, New York 14092
(716) 297-4800

4. Sisters of Charity Hospital

2157 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214
(716) 862-1106

5. Sisters of Charity Hospital St. Joseph Campus

2605 Harlem Road
Cheektowaga, New York 14225
(716) 891-2545

♦ **Community Health Center of Buffalo** (4 locations)

Use (716) 986-9199 for all.

Buffalo Office

34 Benwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14214
(716) 986-9199

Cheektowaga Office

934 Cleveland Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14225

Lockport Office

38 Heritage Court
Lockport, New York 14094

Niagara Falls Office

2715 Highland Avenue
Niagara Falls, New York 14305

♦ **Eastern Niagara Health System** (2 sites)

Lockport Site

521 East Avenue
Lockport, New York 14094
(716) 514-5700

Ambulatory Care Cnt/Lockport Imaging

3875 S. Transit Road
Lockport, New York 14094
(716) 433-9525

♦ **Elmwood Health Center** (Affiliated with People, Inc.)

2128 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14207
(716) 874-4500

♦ **Erie County Medical Center (ECMC)**

Contact: Kathi Mitri
462 Grider Street
Buffalo, New York 14215
(716) 898-3266
Email: KMitri@ecmc.edu

♦ **Evergreen Health Services of Western New York** (2 locations)

Buffalo Elmwood Office

206 South Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14201
(716) 847-2441

Southern Tier Services

408 West 5th Street
Jamestown, New York 14701
(716) 664-7855

Go to website for more locations

♦ **Harvest House**

Open Monday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons

Contact: Tom Koch
1782 Seneca Street
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 856-2400

♦ **Homeless Shelters (2 locations)**

1. **Buffalo City Mission**
100 E. Tupper Street
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 854-8181 ext. 419

2. **Friends of the Night People**
394 Hudson Street
Buffalo, New York 14201
(716) 884-5375

♦ **Hospice Buffalo**

225 Como Park Blvd.
Cheektowaga, New York 14227
(716) 686-8077

◆ **Jericho Road Community Health Center** (Includes Hope Refugee Drop-In Center)

Contact: Mary Moy
184 Barton Street
Buffalo, New York 14213
Administration: (716) 348-3000
Medical: (716) 881-6191
Volunteer Coordinator: volunteer@jrhc.org

◆ **Kaleida Health Facilities** (4 sites)

1. Buffalo General Medical Center

Contact: Fr. Richard Augustyn
raugustyn@kaleidahealth.org
100 High Street
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 859-2603

3. John R. Oishei Children's Hospital

Micaela Inglese
minglese@kaleidahealth.org
818 Ellicott Street
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 323-2420

2. DeGraff Memorial Hospital

445 Tremont Street
North Tonawanda, New York 14120
(716) 690-2088

4. Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital

Kathy Sicherman
ksicherman@kaleidahealth.org
1540 Maple Road
Williamsville, New York 14221
(716) 568-3820

◆ **Lighthouse Free Medical Clinic**

34 Benwood Avenue
Buffalo NY 14214

(716) 222-0805
Email: lighthouse.volunteer@gmail.com

◆ **Neighborhood Health Center** (5 locations)

1. Blasdell

4233 Lake Avenue
Blasdell, New York 14219
(716) 332-3070

3. North West Buffalo

155 Lawn Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14207
(716) 875-2904

2. Mattina

300 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14201
(716) 242-8600

4. Southtowns

151 Elmview Avenue
Hamburg, New York 14075
(716) 648-4345

5. (COMING SOON - 2022)

Riverway
1569 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14213

◆ **Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center**

621 10th Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14302
(716) 278-4440
volunteers@nfmmc.org

◆ **Niagara Hospice**

4675 Sunset Drive
Lockport, New York 14094
(716) 439-4417

♦ **Nursing Homes**

[Elderwood](#) (various locations)

♦ **Physician Shadowing**

Network through your own physician, family friends, neighbors, relatives in this profession.

Call office first; have resume available

♦ **Public Health Agencies**

♦ **Research Laboratories**

[Experiential Learning Network \(ELN\)](#)

[ELN Research Listings](#)

1. [UB and Affiliated Research Centers](#)

516 Capen Hall
Buffalo, New York 14260
(716) 645-3321

♦ [Rochester Rotary Sunshine Campus](#)

809 Five Points Road
Rush, New York 14543
(585) 533-2080

♦ [Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](#)

Elm & Carlton Streets
Buffalo, New York 14263
(716) 845-5708

♦ [Sisters of Charity Hospital \(Osteopathic Lecture Program\)](#)

Contact: Pam Rizzo
pweimer@chsbuffalo.org
2157 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214
(716) 862-1840

♦ [Sloan Comfort Care Home](#)

Marymollyscch@comfortcarewny.org
17 Gierlach St.
Buffalo, New York 14212
(716) 931-5011

Optometry Profession

◆ **Buffalo VA Medical Center Eye and Vision Care or Vision Rehabilitation Services**

3495 Bailey Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215
(716) 834-9200

◆ **Visionworks** (various locations)

◆ **Harvest House**

Open Monday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Friday afternoons

Contact: Tom Koch
1782 Seneca Street
Buffalo, New York 14210
(716) 856-2400

◆ **JCPenney's Optical** (various locations)

◆ **LensCrafters** (various locations)

<http://www.lenscrafters.com/>

◆ **Visually Impaired Advancement** (3 locations)

Call (716) 888-4556 for all locations

<https://viawny.org/>

1. Main Campus/Downtown Buffalo

1170 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14209

2. Northtowns

1491 Sheridan Drive, Suite 600
Tonawanda, New York 14217

3. Niagara County

33 Ontario Street
Lockport, New York 14094

◆ **Pearle Vision** (various locations)

◆ **Private Offices**

Podiatry Profession

- ◆ [Buffalo Medical Group/Podiatry Affiliates](#)

Call (716) 630-1000 for all locations

- ◆ **Colleges of Podiatric Medicine**
["Find a Mentor"](#)

- ◆ **Private Offices**

Veterinary Profession

- ♦ **Acres of Sanctuary and Hope for Animals, Inc. (ASHA)**
2969 Coomer Road
Newfane, New York 14108
(716) 249-2555

- ♦ **AWARE – Association for Wild Animal Rehabilitation and Education Inc.**
5565 Mapleton Road
Lockport, New York 14094
(716) 625-8189

- ♦ **Buffalo Animal Shelter**
Must be 21 years old to volunteer.
380 N. Oak Street
Buffalo, New York 14203
(716) 851-5694
Email: CBASVolunteerInfo@gmail.com

- ♦ **Buffalo Therapeutic Riding Center**
950 Amherst Street
Buffalo, New York 14216
(716) 877-9295
Email: becandbtrc@aol.com

- ♦ **Buffalo Zoological Gardens**
300 Parkside Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14214
(716) 837-3900 ext. 132

- ♦ **Greater Buffalo Veterinary Services/Emergency Hospital**
4821 Genesee Street
Cheektowaga, New York 14225
(716) 537-0343

- ♦ **Hawk Creek Wildlife Center, Inc.**
P.O. Box 662
East Aurora, New York 14052
(716) 652-8646
Email: ed@hawkcreek.org

- ♦ **Lakeview Animal Sanctuary**
5180 Fiegle Road
Pendleton, New York 14094
(716) 574-0359
Email: lakeviewanimalsanctuary@aol.com

- ♦ **Lothlorien Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.**
15 Reiter Road
East Aurora, New York 14052
(716) 655-1335
Email: volunteerltrc@gmail.com

- ♦ **Messinger Woods Wildlife Care & Education Center, Inc.**
P.O. Box 508
Orchard Park, New York 14127
(716) 345-4239
Email: judy@messingerwoods.org

- ◆ **SPCA of Erie County**
 Contact: Desirea Mojica
 300 Harlem Road
 West Seneca, New York 14224
 (716) 875-7360 ext. 252
 Email: desiream@yoursPCA.org

- ◆ **SPCA of Niagara County**
 2100 Lockport Road
 Niagara Falls, New York 14304
 (716) 731-4368
 Email: volunteercoordinator@niagaraspca.org

- ◆ **The Primate Sanctuary, Inc.**
 2764 Livingston Avenue
 Niagara Falls, New York 14303
 (716) 284-6118
 Email: kikoapeman@roadrunner.com

- ◆ **Rowandale Therapy Goats**
 7942 Hayes Hollow Road
 Colden, New York 14033
 (716) 331-6734
 Email: rowandalegoats@gmail.com

- ◆ **Whispering River Rescue**
 8524 Chestnut Ridge Road
 Gasport, New York 14067
 (716) 930-1922
 Email: whisperingriverrescue@gmail.com

- ◆ **Wild Kritters of Niagara County**
 3300 Saunders Settlement Road
 Sanborn, New York 14132
 (716) 731-9334