

# Pritzker Free Clinics

Hey Entering Class of 2021! Orientation is quickly approaching and we're all so excited to meet you and help you acclimate to life here at Pritzker. We'd like to give you some information about the free clinics that we serve. Service is strongly emphasized at our school and will be an important part of your future as physicians. The clinics offer you the opportunity to serve patients early in your medical school career while also honing your clinical skills. Working in the free clinics is an amazing experience. Just ask anyone who has done it (which is most of us)! We hope you choose to volunteer at one (or all) of the clinics when you arrive. [Pritzker is affiliated with five different clinics throughout Chicago:](#)

## Maria Shelter

The Maria Shelter Clinic is a weekly free clinic for the women and children living at Maria Shelter, a fifty-bed homeless shelter in Englewood. The mission of the free clinic is to provide superior health care in a compassionate manner to the residents of the shelter, ever mindful of each patient's dignity and individuality. The Maria Shelter Clinic recognizes that it cannot provide a comprehensive solution to Maria Shelter residents' health care needs and thus also endeavors to help connect residents to primary, secondary, and tertiary health care providers.

The Maria Shelter Clinic practices from approximately 5 PM to 9 PM every other Wednesday, year-round, and is exclusively staffed and administered by the Pritzker School of Medicine. The Clinic works with two medical student volunteers under the direct supervision of an attending physician. The Maria Shelter Clinic prides itself on providing medical care in an intimate and personal setting. Furthermore, the Clinic's residential nature often allows for longitudinal patient relationships.

In addition to the weekly clinic, our board provides regular patient education workshops and events throughout the year. This year, the clinic made the successful transition to operating via telemedicine and will be making the return to operating in-person this summer. Current projects of the board include the introduction of a Women's Health Night, renovation of the shelter's library space, and updating the shelter's computer lab and WiFi infrastructure. If you're interested in learning more, please don't hesitate to contact Anya Agrawal ([Anya.Agrawal@uchospitals.edu](mailto:Anya.Agrawal@uchospitals.edu)) or Nikhil Umesh ([Nikhil.Umesh@uchospitals.edu](mailto:Nikhil.Umesh@uchospitals.edu)). We would love to hear from you!

## Community Health Clinic (CHC)

Community Health Clinic is the nation's largest volunteer-based free clinic. The clinic serves the important role of providing quality and comprehensive health care to uninsured patients who do not qualify for coverage through the ACA. Pritzker MS1s volunteer on Monday evenings from 5pm-9pm at the West Town location with University of Chicago attending physicians and residents. Students have the option of 2 roles: clinic volunteer or trained phlebotomy volunteer in CHC's full-service laboratory. The clinic serves a largely Spanish and Polish speaking patient population, and students with language skills can train as interpreters in addition to, or in conjunction with, their medical student role.



Incoming MS1s will also have the opportunity to apply to serve on CHC's board, which is responsible for the coordination and planning of clinic, as well as other patient care and administrative areas such as quality management, education, fundraising, volunteer organization and electronic medical record training. For more info about CHC feel free to contact the co-coordinators, Gabriela Betancourt ([Gabriela.Betancourt@uchospitals.edu](mailto:Gabriela.Betancourt@uchospitals.edu)) or David Velasquez ([David.Velasquez@uchospitals.edu](mailto:David.Velasquez@uchospitals.edu)).

## New Life Volunteering Society (NLVS)

NLVS is a student-run free clinic in Chicago's Devon neighborhood. It is open Saturdays from 10 AM to 2 PM year-round. In addition to clinic services, NLVS has basic laboratory and pharmacy services on-site. The patient population is predominantly South Asian immigrants. Participating MS1's are paired with another student (usually upperclassmen), and see an average of 3-4 patients per day.

Volunteering at NLVS will give you the opportunity to meet and work with students from all 6 Chicagoland Medical Schools, as well as opportunities for leadership, clinical volunteering, and domestic/international service trips. Plus, local

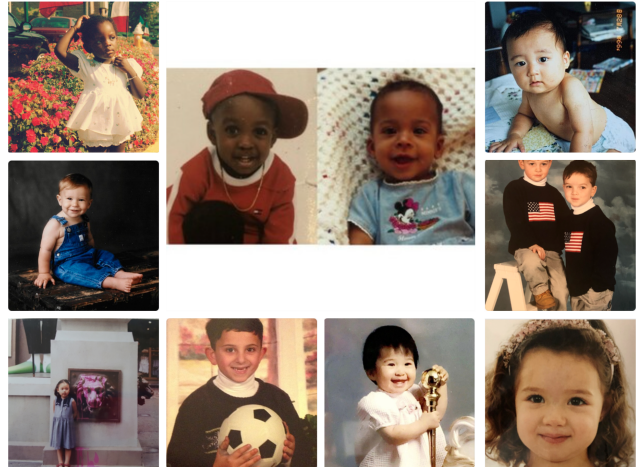
Indian food is served for lunch each day after clinic! Want to know more? Feel free to contact Omar Vayani (Omar.Vayani@uchospitals.edu).

### Washington Park Clinic (WPC)

Washington Park Clinic (WPC) is Pritzker's free clinic for kids! Run by a 12-student board (10 pictured on the right!) and staffed by medical students, residents, and attending physicians, the clinic sees patients every Tuesday evening.

Located one mile west of campus, WPC partners with Chicago Youth Programs (CYP) to provide free, accessible health care services to children here on the South Side of Chicago. We especially focus on providing immunizations, school and sports physicals, and health education. We also help connect patients and their families to long-term primary care nearby. Additionally, CYP and WPC are collaborating on future adolescent health programs/classes for their students.

Skills you will learn at WPC include the pediatric history and physical, diagnostics and treatment for common childhood illnesses, administration of vaccines, and patient counseling including adolescent health counseling. It's a wonderful opportunity to gain exposure to pediatrics and primary care and to interact with attending and resident physicians from Comer Children's Hospital! You can contact Stephanie Washington (Stephanie.Washington@uchospitals.edu) or Murrie Affini (Murtala.Affini@uchospitals.edu) for more information. We'd love to hear from you!



### Bridgeport Free Clinic

The mission of the BFC is to make healthcare more accessible for underserved residents of the Bridgeport community, with a focus on the Asian and Asian-American population. In Bridgeport, 22% of the population is uninsured and a large proportion of those people (28%) are of Asian descent. We focus on screening and urgent care for conditions that are common in Asian patients, including hypertension, diabetes, high cholesterol, Hepatitis B, liver disease, and smoking.

Additionally, we aim to connect patients with accessible healthcare by making referrals to nearby Federally Qualified Health Centers for primary care services. Language assistance in Cantonese and Mandarin Chinese is available for all clinic patients through medical interpreter volunteers. This year, we are proud to have established collaborations with UChicago partners to bring behavioral health screening and dermatology care directly to our patients!

Entering Class of 2021, we are excited for you to volunteer at BFC! We also have open positions on our leadership board for those of you interested in shaping the way the clinic develops and building deeper relationships with community leaders in Bridgeport and the greater Chicago area. Contact Grace Duan (Grace.Duan@uchospitals.edu) or Anthony Hung (Anthony.Hung@uchospitals.edu) for more information.



### Chicago Free Clinics Consortium (CFCC)

CFCC's mission is to foster collaboration among medical student-run free clinics across Chicagoland to enhance the quality of care for our patients by promoting best practices, sharing resources, and building community. CFCC includes 19 free clinics from all of Chicago's medical schools, so this is an excellent way for you to engage with other schools as we collaborate on important community-based projects. CFCC hosts an annual conference and a workshop series, and awards grants from an Innovation Fund to support projects at our member clinics. We are now entering our fourth year, and there are many opportunities to grow and develop the consortium further. We encourage you to consider joining our leadership board, which is made up of students from schools across our city! If you have any questions, please reach out to Jordan Millhollin (jordan.millhollin@uchospitals.edu) or visit our website:

<https://chicagolandfreeclinics.wordpress.com/>