City Year: Your Path to Medicine & Public Health

For graduates considering a career in medicine and public health, City Year provides a unique and valuable perspective. Corps members must be compassionate and empathetic, forging personal relationships with students and their families each day. They must be hardworking and persistent amidst seemingly insurmountable obstacles, constantly honing the skills that will one day turn them into both competent and caring physicians. They witness first-hand the impact a lack of access to high quality health care can have on an individual, a community and society at large. City Year alumni working in the medical field say City Year shaped their pathway and provided a solid foundation for their medical career.

Alumni Voices

“I already knew I wanted to be a doctor, but City Year made me realize that I want to serve underserved populations”
“taught me more than any other leadership experience”
“City Year was a foundation for my career in public health”
“Piqued my interest in health education and working with children... and now I am a pediatric dentist”
“taught me that I want to be more involved with leadership roles within nursing”
“The professional maturity I developed in City Year was immensely important”
“there are real, achievable ways to make a difference”

Scholarship Partner Spotlight

“The Brown School at Washington University is a proud City Year scholarship partner. The leadership and community based experience that City Year provides its corps members strengthens their application to our Master of Public Health program. The City Year experience makes better MPH candidates because of their experience working with diverse populations and an understanding of how social, emotional, and economic factors can affect behavior, health, learning and access to services.”

- Richard Sigg, Director of Admissions & Recruitment, Washington University’s Brown School of Public Health

*** Washington University in St. Louis generously offers a $25,000 scholarship for two City Year alumni annually.
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

AUSTIN DAVIS ’12, MEDICAL STUDENT, UCLA

“I felt City Year would give me an opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and work with youth that had a much different background than myself. I plan to be a primary care physician that practices in a medically underserved community. I feel that health disparities and education inequality are very similar, correlated, and affect the same populations. City Year greatly helped me in my application and acceptance into medical school. In my secondary medical school applications I spoke about my experiences working with students, and many of the examples I used for responding to interview questions came from my experiences as a corps member.”

ALEXANDRA MIHALEK ’11, MEDICAL STUDENT, USC

“When I was looking for a medical school, I wanted to find a place that had a commitment to serving the underserved and a very strong public service program. Being a City Year corps member gave me experience in both of these domains, including much to talk about when interviewers inevitably asked about volunteer experiences and community service. I was also able to help with our after school program's health curriculum and run our school’s first-ever health fair - not only were these experiences extremely enjoyable for me, but it also showed medical school committees that I was committed to a career in healthcare. City Year is really demanding—you work around the clock. But, the same thing happens when you are in medicine, and City Year prepared me for this lifestyle. After my City Year experience, medical school feels kind of easy, which was a really nice surprise.”

SURYA REDNAM ‘00, PEDIATRICIAN

“My participation in City Year convinced me that I wanted to focus my career on improving the lives of children and was a big part of my specialty choice of pediatrics. I became aware of the wide differences in backgrounds that individuals come from. I also learned that despite these differences we really aren't very different and that we share a lot of the same needs and wants out of life. When interacting with families in a diverse city like Houston, this helps me to work together with the families with compassion and understanding in the care of their children.”