

**School of Health Sciences
Community Service Outreach**

Occupational Therapy

- **Quinnipiac University Interdisciplinary Program for Research & Scholarship (QUIP-RS)**- Senior occupational therapy student conducted research on social participation amongst older adults at **The Towers, an independent & assisted living facility in New Haven, CT** – results being used to improve socialization & quality of life for residents
- **Occupational Therapy Capstone Research at The Towers in New Haven, CT**- development and piloting an admission protocol to screen residents for frailty, including social isolation
- **Occupational Therapy Capstone Home lighting research**- Occupational therapy students and faculty providing task lights to seniors in North Haven, Hamden and Cheshire to improve ability to reading at home and perform activities that are meaningful.
- **Carfit for Seniors**, a community-based educational program to properly “fit” cars to seniors. We have serviced over 100 senior drivers in Litchfield, Cheshire, Waterbury, Hamden, Madison, North Haven, Wallingford.
- **CT State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) Injury & Violence Prevention Action Team**- occupational therapy faculty involvement re: fall prevention initiatives, education, tracking across the state
- **Columbus House Homeless Shelter, New Haven, CT** – interprofessional service-learning courses and OT capstone courses identify needs and provide service and/or develop programs/projects/conduct research with plans to incorporate future services to promote health and wellness for the clients and staff; some students have continued to volunteer after the course has ended
- **Keefe Center, Hamden, CT** – interprofessional service-learning courses have provided education for the past decade to the Sleeping Giant pre-school on areas including bike helmet safety; Halloween safety; water/swimming safety; nutrition education/My Plate; and inclusion in health fairs. Pre-school children also brought to QU for OT Kid day and PA oral health fair
- **Skier’s Unlimited**: An adapted skiing program in which over 30 QU faculty, students, and staff volunteer to assist children with disabilities each year as they learn to ski.
- **Lion’s Low Vision Clinic at QU**: Weekly free clinic where clients from the community with low vision are evaluated by occupational therapy and social work. All equipment provided in

order to maximize independence is free thanks to the Lion's Club. In addition, social work runs a monthly support group for the clients.

- **Lake Zoar and Mount Southington, CT- LOF Adaptive Skiers:** Students are involved in volunteering and research with adaptive water and snow skiing for individuals with disabilities.
- **Camp No Limits-** camp for young individuals living with limb loss and their families. Therapeutic activities, education, and networking opportunities provided.
- **Service Learning – Testing for lead in toys** in Daycare Centers and Goodwill stores in East Haven, Milford, Hamden, Bridgeport, Woodbridge, and Madison.
- **Service Learning Backpack Safety** and Health Education Classroom Programs: We have served over 300 children per year in elementary classrooms in New Haven, Bridgeport, Hamden, Wallingford, Old Saybrook, Madison, and North Haven

Physician Assistant

- **Midnight Run**
 - Every first Monday donations to homeless at New Haven Green
 - Meals at the Men's Homeless shelter in New Haven
- **ACES Health Literacy**
 - Every Wednesday and Friday morning a contingency of PA students go to local ACES school and do readings with the students there
 - Health education of Nutrition Detectives, Brushing Bunnies and oral hygiene, and physical fitness
- **Brushing Bunnies OH**
 - With the Cheshire collaborative kids
 - As part of Migrant Farm
- **PCP Foot Clinic**
 - 6 to 7 times a year go to Men's homeless shelter to provide basic podiatric screenings and care
- **NKF Kidney Screening**
 - Screenings twice a year with the National Kidney Foundation at set health fairs

- **Migrant Farm Clinic**
 - UST students working with the UCONN medical, nursing, social work, dental, and public health students to do
 - Health screenings and care
 - English as a second language
- **Global Health -Dominican Republic**
 - Go with Health Horizon's International working with local health care workers to provide primary care services to populations in the DR
- **Health Fairs**
 - Variety of community and University specific to do basic health education and screenings

Physical Therapy

- **EQUIP pro bono clinic** for the surrounding areas run by DPT students year round most Tuesdays from 4-8pm with a faculty mentor and wellness exercise classes run by SHS students year round most Tuesdays for the North Haven senior citizens. (I don't have numbers per se there are ~4 -8 patients per session and 10-12 senior citizens per session)
- **Walk N Roll for Spinal Cord Injury Association** run by DPT students with a faculty mentor once a year to benefit the SCI Association of CT and Gaylord's Adaptive Sports
- **Special Olympics at SCSU** faculty and student volunteers for FunFitness held once a year
- **Hamden Community Health Fair** held once a year with DPT students and a faculty mentor
- **PT Club Special Athletics** annually (125 residents (Hamden and surrounding towns) with special needs attend with over 100 student volunteers)

Program connecting QU to the local community coordinated by the IP Center:

- **Bridge to Life** is an alternative high school for students with developmental disabilities. Students 19-21 attend the program daily to learn about independent work and living skills on the North Haven campus. Cheshire and surrounding communities.
- **College to Life** is a 5th year high school program for students with challenges that may need additional support and training prior to entering college or technical school on a full

time basis. Students come to the Mt Carmel campus and take credit bearing courses with support from program staff in order to learn the study and social skills required for successful transition to college.

- **Dorm Life** is an extended school year program for high school students with disabilities. The students live on York Hill campus for one week to learn about the skills needed to live successfully in a college dorm.
- **Best Buddies Friendship Walk** is the State of Connecticut premier event to promote peer friendships between people with intellectual challenges and peers. The Walk is held in the fall on the North Haven campus and is run by an interprofessional groups of students and community leaders of Best Buddies.
- **Legacy Celebration** is a program where interprofessional teams of students with a faculty supervisor write a legacy book with people in the community who are living with dementia or end of life care challenges. The students create a legacy book to present to the patient and their family.

Social Work

- **Lion's Low Vision Clinic** provides occupational therapy and social work services for no cost to any member of the community who is experiencing low vision. Social work provides initial assessments and referral support as well as an on-going social support group that meets monthly.
- **MSW internships** place students in agencies throughout the state of Connecticut including hospitals, state agencies, and non-profit organizations that serve vulnerable populations.
- Support group for the **Sex Workers and Allies Network (SWAN)**, providing trauma-informed supportive group therapy for women who are either current or former street sex workers in the city of New Haven. To this point, more than 25 women have been served through the group, which is led by a QU Social Work Faculty member, and serves as home to two different medical capstone students.
- Trauma-informed mindfulness-based socioemotional learning at **Cheshire Correctional Institution**- To this point more than 60 incarcerated men, as well as 10 staff and COs, have participated or are currently participating in this program within Cheshire CI, which is led by a QU Social Work Faculty member.
- Trauma-informed mindfulness based groups at **Lowell Correctional Institution** have been offered over the course of the past 5 years. This programming has reached over 70 women, has included 5 Masters level Social Work students, and is acting as the home of one medical capstone student in the coming year.