

What We Do

The University of Florida College of Medicine has supported the UF Global Health Education Program since 2011, with some trips extending back as many as 20 years. In addition to support for student-led service learning trips, the UF Global Health Education Program offers global health electives and oversees international and visiting medical student collaborations. The office also coordinates Local/Global Health Equity activities including a seminar series, Medical Student Research Program projects, and a Discovery Pathway allowing students to earn graduation with distinction in Local/Global Health Equity.

Year after year, the student-led tradition has continued with a core group of trip leaders and participants who help handle the fundraising and logistics for their trips.

Participation in the UF Global Health Education Program affords students the ability to:

- Learn lifelong lessons in cultural appreciation
- Better understand socioeconomic determinants of health
- Appreciate health care systems at home and abroad
- Refine language and clinical skills under the careful supervision of UF faculty

We look forward to partnering with our local community for support to further the efforts of our mission -- in Gainesville and globally.

Outreach

“Driving back through the mountains, I realized the remarkable impression the beauty of the Dominican Republic and its people left on me. **Amidst all the poverty and ailments, the people taught me an important truth about life:**



It is not the commodities we enjoy but the people that surround us who bring true joy. They were not simply happy because of the medicine or treatments they

received but because we were there giving fully and unselfishly of ourselves to understand and comfort them. This experience was a very important part in my medical education and will continue to play a large role in shaping me as a physician.” – *Lauren Correa, MS3*



In our own words . . .

Education



“I am able to learn not just how to give the best medical care possible but how to give it in a **compassionate and understanding way.**



The doctors who go on these mission trips are giving up time spent with their families to **help people who lack basic medical care to teach us how to become a better doctor** for the future.” - *Carolyn Chabuz, MS2*

Partnership

One unique aspect of Project Yucatan is **the relationship formed between the UF and the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY) students.**



“Not only do UADY students provide invaluable help in the planning and execution of the trip’s mission, but time spent with them helps to foster lifelong friendships and invaluable learning from a different cultural perspective.” – *Dani Mihora, MS2*