

## Service-Learning Site Descriptions Worcester, Fall 2024

MCPHS University  
School of Pharmacy – Worcester/Manchester  
\*\*Descriptions are subject to change.\*\*

### SCHOOLS and OTHER PROGRAMS INVOLVING WORKING WITH CHILDREN

- **Worcester Public Schools** (<http://worcesterschools.org>)

The Worcester Public Schools system is recognized as one of the best urban school districts in the country. The system aims to provide a quality education to a diverse group of students, regardless of socioeconomic or cultural background. MCPHS students provide tutoring, mentoring and classroom assistance primarily in various schools where there are critical needs for the services our students can provide. Though all instruction in the schools is in English, some of the schools have sizable populations of students whose first language is other than English. These students may benefit from working with MCPHS students who can communicate in a language other than English.

\*A background check is required.

#### ***Elementary Schools*** ( <http://www.wpsweb.com/schools.asp> )

- **Belmont Street Community School**  
Tutoring math/science to 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- **City View School**  
Assisting with reading, science lab, math tutoring.
- **Grafton Street School**  
Pre-K Science and literacy, K-2 small group support in literacy and math, grades 3-5 support in math and science, support P.E. teacher during gym class.
- **Jacob Hiatt Magnet School**  
Tutor students in math and science, help with enrichment activities, assist with the literacy block, develop a science or fitness club, and/or work with students in labs.
- **Thorndyke Road School** assist teachers in the classroom to support student learning.
- **Rice Square School**  
Teaching science experiments and/or tutoring classes of 3<sup>rd</sup>,4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

#### ***Middle/High Schools*** ( <http://www.wpsweb.com/schools.asp> )

- **University Park Campus School**  
Work with students in grades 7 – 12 in the classroom to tutor and support student learning.

### **Multi-school program**

- **A.V.I.D. (Advancement Via Individual Determination)**  
AVID is a seventh- through twelfth-grade program in several Worcester Public Schools, it aims to prepare students in the academic middle for four-year college eligibility. It has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students, and in closing the achievement gap. MCPHS students work in the public school systems to tutor and work on problem solving with AVID students.

### **OTHER PROGRAMS WITH YOUTH**

- **A.C.E. (African Community Education)**  
(<http://acechildren.org>)  
ACE students come from many nations, but they have all come to learn, achieve, and succeed. ACE's goal is to help them achieve their goals, by providing a safe and supportive environment for learning. MCPHS Students will assist with after-school tutoring: this weekday tutoring program is available to refugee students at all grade levels for up to three hours each day after school. After school tutoring also includes periodic special programming, such as computer classes, MCAS prep courses and violence prevention workshops. Monday-Friday from 3:00pm-6:00pm. Tutors are not required to stay for the entire 3 hours or come every day. All they ask is a minimum 2 hour a week commitment.  
\*A background check is required.

### **ELDER CARE**

- **Coes Pond Village**  
Located in the Airport Hill district of Worcester, Coes Pond Village offers one and two bedroom apartment homes to adults ages 55 and up. The community was designed to offer its residents a full range of services including a community room, greenhouse, beauty and barbershop, hobby room, outdoor gathering areas, and gardens. MCPHS students will be working with older adults with dementia in a group activity room playing games, reading, assisting with technology etc.

### **OTHER HEALTH CARE**

- **MCPHS Pharmacy Outreach**  
This organization, located in the MCPHS building, provides toll-free prescription information and referrals for Massachusetts residents. MCPHS students would be assisting employees in their outreach to the community.

## OTHER

- **Audio Journal**  
(<https://audiojournal.org/>)  
Audio Journal is an organization that connects individuals with a visual impairment, or an inability to access print material, to their communities through broadcasting of local news, information, and entertainment, with exclusive programs and content.  
Particularly looking for students with:
  - Comfortable working with a blind or visually impaired individual to assist them in recording
  - Experience with any audio/video recording and editing software ('Audacity', 'Audition', etc.) and automation software ('Spyder', 'WireReady', etc.)
  - Experience with public reading and recording.
  - Comfortable explaining how an Amazon Echo Dot device works to an elderly blind person.
- **Pernet Family Health Service**  
([www.pernetfamilyhealth.org](http://www.pernetfamilyhealth.org))  
Pernet Family Health offers a range of supportive services & programs for members of the surrounding community.  
MCPHS volunteers will most likely be working with staff and clients in the food pantry.
- **Seven Hills Foundation ASPIRE!**  
([www.sevenhills.org](http://www.sevenhills.org))  
This organization provides development, education and training programs for the developmentally disabled, primarily for adults. They welcome MCPHS students to help with daily activities, serve lunch, provide companionship, or perform other similar tasks (with an emphasis on non-verbal communication skills) at any one of four sites: Hope Avenue (Worcester), Greendale (Worcester), West Boylston and Devens. Students are encouraged to participate with clients in a wide variety of activities from horticulture to saori weaving.  
\*A background check is required.
- **Southeast Asian Coalition**  
(<http://www.seacma.org/>)  
The Southeast Asian Coalition is a not-for-profit organization that supports, promotes and advocates for the success of the Southeast Asians of Central Massachusetts in mainstream society. MCPHS can work with the youth programs, in the ESL classes, or the community activities group.

- **Worcester Refugee Assistance Project (W.R.A.P.)**  
 This agency provides a variety of services for recent immigrants, Refugees, and their children. Their goal is to start assisting refugees from anywhere globally, but their focus now is with the recent and large influx of refugees from Burma. MCPHS students can teach basic English classes (course materials will be provided), or teach classes on health and/or nutrition, or to serve as interpreters. Volunteers can also spend time with the youth of the families engaging them in structured after school tutoring and/or games.  
 Hours: Monday and Thursday evenings 6:00pm -8:00pm
  
- **Training Resources of America (TRA)**  
 TRA makes it possible for thousands of educationally and economically disadvantaged youth and adults to improve the quality of their lives.  
 We do this by:
  - \* Increasing their basic reading, language and math levels
  - \* Improving their English speaking/comprehension capabilities
  - \* Obtaining a GED
  - \* Learning new skills
  - \* Finding and retaining gainful employment
  - \* Improving opportunities for increased earnings and job advancement
  - \* Becoming active and productive members of their communities.
 - Students will help tutor in either the English Language or Adult Education Program  
 Classes meet: Monday - Thursday from 4:30-7:30pm.
  
- **YWCA**  
 The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. It is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. *Female volunteers preferred.* MCPHS students can work in a variety of areas including:
  - Girls Choice – high school girls Thursday's 2:30 to 5:30 and middle school girls Saturday's 9:00 – 12:00.
  - Family Fun Fridays – Fridays, 6:00-8:30 p.m. – activities may include helping to lead program in the gymnasium, presenting nutrition or other health topic to participants, or planning health-related workshops in advance of the program.