

## Meet Darbie Little . . .

Darbie Little has always wanted to be a primary care physician. From a young age, she realized that there were people whose health care needs were not being met, either for economic, accessibility, or other reasons. Those are the people that Darbie wants to help. After beginning medical school, she realized that gaining education in public health in addition to medicine would help her to improve her relationships with her patients, as well as to promote wellness within the community. To gain the public health education she craved, Darbie got an internship through the Upper Midwest Public Health Training Center (UMPHTC), where she was able to put into practice the lessons she learned in the classroom. This gave her insight into the health professions workforce and into her options of things she can do with her degrees. Darbie is currently working on her MD, MPH and MHA degrees at the University of Iowa. After graduation, she wants to be a primary care physician with a focus on disease prevention. She wants to work at a Community Health Center, and someday dreams of becoming the director of such an institution.



*“I gained valuable experience through Title VII.  
I know that my practicum experience and the skills  
I learned will serve me well in the future.”*

### About the Program

- Public Health Training Centers are authorized under Title VII of the Public Health Service Act. The 14 centers support community based training in underserved areas.
- The UMPHTC’s purpose is to increase the supply, competency and training of public health professionals in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota.
- The UMPHTC allows students to work under the direct supervision of public health professionals in efforts to promote partnership and collaboration, and to best teach students how to serve the needs of all patients, including those from minority and underserved populations.
- The UMPHTC strives to find ways to make the most of the limited resources available for public health education and workforce development.
- More information about the UMPHTC can be found at: <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/UMPHTC/>

### The Effect of Funding Cuts. . .

- Eliminating funding for this and the other 13 Public Health Training Centers in the United States would greatly limit student’s opportunities to access real world training in public health.
- UMPHTC also provides training and education to public health professionals and keeps them current on the information and strategies needed to deal with public health issues and concerns. Funding cuts would limit the ability of UMPHTC to provide training and education to public health practitioners and faculty.
- The UMPHTC provides students in Iowa with the opportunity that they otherwise might not get – to get out into the communities and put their training and education to use in the real world.



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