Profiles of Success

Meet Marvin So...

Marvin studied public health and human rights at the University of California, Berkeley, and has always been interested in how social factors influence health outcomes. Recently, Marvin has become passionate about how housing access can specifically generate disparities in health.

“I've been on a perpetual quest to discern what would bring true meaning to my life. While I'm still in the process of figuring that out, I'm confident that it lies within the realm of improving and extending primary care for all people.”

About the Program

- The Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) program is authorized through Title VII of the Public Health Service Act.
- San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium (SFCCC) serves as an AHEC for San Francisco, California. As one of its health careers “pipeline” activities, SFCCC hosts AmeriCorps members through the National Association of Community Health Centers Community HealthCorps. In 2012-13, twenty-two AmeriCorps members served full-time in local “safety net” health care settings, providing outreach, health education, case management, volunteer coordination, and other needed services. In addition, they received training on a wide variety of health care topics and gained first-hand exposure to community and public health careers. Most are planning to further their education or pursue employment in a related field.
- Find more information at: www.sfccc.org

According to Marvin...

“During college I had the great opportunity to study public health and experience internships that allowed me to dabble in health programs, policies, and interventions at the ground level. However, it was only through San Francisco AHEC’s AmeriCorps program that I experienced what it is like to truly immerse oneself into the struggles and challenges of a community-based health system. This experience really exposed me to how important it is that I pursue further education, so that I can learn the technical skills necessary to strengthen the efforts that go on in the community health world. But more than that, it showed me how valuable things like looking up a phone number, talking to a client about smoking, or cracking a joke with a patient could be. Ultimately, I believe a lot of meaningful change can be created by empowerment and compassion, even more than through an advanced degree. With that in mind, I know I will always take with me the laughs, tears, and stories I have witnessed, in informing my commitment to health care for homeless populations.”

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