COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT THE AAMC HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

July 2022-June 2023
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Prepared by the AAMC Office of Community Engagement
Clarence J. Fluker, Director of Community Engagement and Partnerships
Jaylan Weaver, Community Health Specialist
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Introduction

The AAMC (Association of American Medical Colleges) is a nonprofit association dedicated to improving the health of people everywhere — including the communities surrounding our headquarters at 655 K Street NW, in the heart of the Mt. Vernon Triangle neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Through partnerships with community organizations, the AAMC Office of Community Engagement seeks to advance educational opportunities, promote health equity, and respond to our neighbors’ needs. Our focus areas are youth education, homelessness and housing insecurity, and ongoing support of the AAMC’s organizational culture of service.

In collaboration with community partners, government entities, and local residents, the AAMC takes great care to learn, serve, and lead to make a significant social impact in the District of Columbia through its philanthropic efforts, employee volunteerism, and innovative programming. This report highlights some of our many accomplishments from July 2022 through June 2023.
LEARN
“Our favorite thing about being involved with AAMC community engagement is the relationship that [it has] built with our schools that we support in CTE. [The] AAMC has gone out of its way to build its own relationship with each institution, allowing them to support and remain active within the DC CTE Network, even when OSSE is unable to take the lead.”

– Horace L Robinson Jr., Industry Engagement Manager, Division of Postsecondary & Career Education, Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

At the AAMC, we engage our colleagues to learn about our local community and foster meaningful educational and enrichment opportunities for youth in Washington, D.C.

Jackson-Reed Students Network and Explore Career Paths in Health
On Feb. 10, 2023, students from the Jackson-Reed High School Academy of Health Sciences visited the AAMC for a networking event with professionals in the health field. Students were able to speak directly with Howard University medical student Jada Watts; Professor of Comprehensive Dentistry Reginald Salter; Optometrist Devin Sasser, Doctor of Nursing Practice Lindsey Harris; and Food & Friends Nutritionist Matthew Walker to learn about the experiences and challenges related to each profession. After the discussion, students competed fiercely in a board game about the social determinants of health, which was facilitated by AAMC staff members.

High School Students Learn Communication is Key for College and Career Success
In December 2022, students from the Biotechnology Academy at McKinley Technology High School visited the AAMC for a morning program designed to help them learn how to present their best selves through their resumes and personal statements as they prepare for life after high school. The program kicked off with a panel discussion with Alison Pardon and Tiffany-Chrissy O. Mbeng, former Summer Health Professional Education Program participants, and Quinton Jenkins and Victor Cox, current Georgetown medical students. The panel
discussion was followed by a presentation by guest speaker Raymond E. Thomas, who offered tips for writing resumes and personal statements. The morning concluded with small breakout sessions in which students were paired with AAMC staff to review their resumes and receive immediate feedback.

**The AAMC Returns to McKinley Technology High School Tech-Tech Day**
The AAMC proudly participated in “Tech-Tech Day,” a technology mini-carnival designed to excite McKinley Technology High School students about computer science, technology, and STEM careers. The event took place at McKinley Tech during students’ lunch periods. The AAMC hosted a display table and activity that engaged nearly 100 students, expanding their knowledge about health careers and higher education. The AAMC participated in this annual event along with volunteers from other respected business organizations including Samsung, Adobe, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security who presented eye-catching and interactive STEM displays related to technology, programming, and engineering.

**Graduating High School Seniors Broaden Their Horizons With SHPEP**
Throughout the school year, AAMC volunteers provide workshops and learning experiences for Health Science and Biotechnology Academies students from several district high schools. The Office of Community Engagement seeks to stay connected with the graduating seniors from students at high schools we collaborate with and introduce them to the Summer Health Professionals Education Program (SHPEP), an AAMC program for first- and second-year college students that helps them stay on the pathway to health careers.

This year, the SHPEP team of Antonio Mancuso and Rajaa Ismail helped make graduation more memorable for DC Health Science and Biotechnology Academies seniors. Along with their stoles, graduating students received a drawstring bag containing a congratulatory letter signed by Harold Baker, deputy director of SHPEP, information about SHPEP, and other small AAMC gifts. Students who signed up to join the SHPEP email list were entered into a drawing to win a gift card.

**AAMC Volunteers Help Prepare Students for Summer Success**
Eastern High School students who are enrolled in the school’s Career and Technical Education programs are required to participate in summer internship opportunities to complement their education and help prepare them to enter college or the workforce following graduation. This year, AAMC volunteers Brandon Vaughn, Ana Henriquez, Maria Jose Araya, Natalie Felida, and Danielle Turnipseed served as mock interviewers to help participants prepare for the official
application and interview process that began in March. Students applied for internships through the Career Ready Internship program to be selected for summer matches, taking another step on their journey to success.

**The AAMC Supports Staff Learning at Lunch**

In June 2023, the Office of Community Engagement partnered with the AAMC LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group to provide a group learning opportunity for all staff in acknowledgment of Pride Month. The groups collaborated with representatives from Whitman Walker Health, a local nonprofit community health provider, and Children’s National Medical Center, an AAMC member institution, to produce “Inclusive Access and Care: Trans Wellness and Healthcare in D.C.,” a virtual panel discussion and Q&A about transgender wellness and gender-affirming care in Washington, D.C.
SERVE
“I continue to volunteer, engage, and participate because I strongly believe that the collective resources, wisdom, and expertise that is abundant in our communities can create many opportunities for each of us to learn, grow, and more meaningfully contribute to the common good.”

– Adrien Barrios, Workforce Transformation Program Specialist II, AAMC

Working with our community partners, we provide opportunities for AAMC employees to volunteer their time, talents, and enthusiasm.

The AAMC Employee Resource Group for Hispanic or Latina/o/x Advancement (HOLA) Supports Youth Development at the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC)

During Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15-Oct. 15), the AAMC Employee Resource Group for Hispanic or Latina/o/x Advancement (HOLA), demonstrated a commitment to its mission and alignment with its community engagement vision by engaging in a college and career readiness conversation with student interns at the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC).

Ten interns from local high schools support a range of programs and services at LAYC, a nationally recognized, community-based, multicultural, and multilingual youth development center and a past AAMC Community Grants recipient. During the program, HOLA members Adrien Barrios, Amy Jayas, and Norma Poll-Hunter described their professional journeys, shared advice for applying to college, and explained their approaches to exploring their academic interests. The HOLA program continues to partner with the AAMC Office of Community Engagement on opportunities to connect with other local organizations, including La Cliníca del Pueblo and the Central American Resource Center, thereby strengthening the AAMC’s relationship with LAYC.
AAMC Teams Incorporate Volunteerism Into Staff Retreats

Staff members from the Office of Constituent Engagement participated in a group volunteer activity with Food & Friends, a local nonprofit organization that provides home-delivered, medically tailored meals to local residents living with cancer, HIV/AIDS, and other serious illnesses. After a brief overview of the history of the organization, 19 volunteers contributed to the thousands of home deliveries that Food & Friends makes each day by preparing ingredients and packaging meals for the neighboring community.

Members of the AAMC Academic Affairs cluster used their creative skills to help spread kindness and positivity during their cluster retreat at the AAMC. These volunteers demonstrated what kindness is all about by decorating small “kindness boxes” for Walker Jones Education Campus elementary school students. Each box was filled with a variety of items, such as reflection exercises, sensory objects, and personal anecdotes to encourage kindness among students. Kindness is the social and emotional schoolwide theme for the month put forth by the school counselor, and Walker Jones students were engaged in activities designed to support their understanding and practice of the theme throughout the month. Academic Affairs decorated and filled 70 boxes, which were delivered to all sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students.

During their spring retreat, on May 9, 2023, members of the AAMC Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) cluster continued to foster the association’s culture of service with their volunteer efforts at DC Central Kitchen’s (DCCK) Klein Center. As the food service provider for over 19 schools in Washington D.C., DCCK engaged EDI volunteers in the fight against hunger as more than 20 colleagues from the EDI cluster worked alongside chefs during a three-hour morning shift prepping fruits and vegetables that were used in meals. They also packed boxes of fresh fruits, vegetables, and assorted goods that were distributed to small neighborhood stores that serve individuals experiencing food insecurity throughout the city.

655 K Street Cares Day Returns

Assigned to one of two nonprofit partner sites in Washington, D.C., 35 AAMC staff from across the association participated in 655 K Street Cares Day on Thursday, May 4 (its first since 2019). One team of volunteers supported Bread for the City by making grocery bags; packing them with canned goods; and topping them off with fresh produce, all sourced from the Capital Area Food Bank. The second group of AAMC volunteers served at the Capital Area Food Bank, where they sorted and packed food in the main distribution center. It was a day of meaningful service and community building for both groups.
GDI and GFA Connect With Indian Health, Inc. During Annual Professional Development Conference

Continuing to build a culture of service and demonstrate community collaboration, the 2023 Group on Diversity and Inclusion (GDI) and Group on Faculty Affairs (GFA) Joint Professional Development Conference, held June 12-14 at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa in Indian Wells, California, included a local partnership with Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. (RSBCIHI). The largest American Indian health program in California, RSBCIHI provides culturally sensitive, quality, and state-of-the-art healthcare services for Native American communities. In addition to donating supplies needed for outreach, day two of the conference featured the clinical services director for RSBCIHI, Dr. Philip Farabaugh, who made brief remarks during the opening plenary session and hosted an on-site information table throughout the day.

Clusters Create and Deliver Holiday Joy

To deliver a bit of joy to some of our youngest neighbors last holiday season, the AAMC Office of the President (OPRES) and the EDI cluster purchased and wrapped gifts for the Mission First Housing Group's Holiday Giving Tree. A nonprofit organization and longtime AAMC partner dedicated to ensuring that everyone has access to safe and affordable housing, Mission First currently manages three apartment buildings with support programs for residents that are just a short walk away from AAMC headquarters. In addition to holiday gifts, OPRES packed and delivered 70 gift bags containing sweets and treats to be distributed at the Mission First community holiday celebration.

In collaboration with the Office of Community Engagement, the AAMC Office of Government Relations team created gift bags for the residents, staff, and volunteers of Joseph's House. A longtime AAMC community partner, Joseph's House is a nonprofit organization that provides end-of-life care for people with HIV and cancer experiencing homelessness in Washington, D.C. In addition to handwritten words of hope and gratitude, the bags included warm throws, hot cocoa, and an assortment of holiday goodies. The bags, along with a holiday basket, were sent to Joseph's House and were well received.
ONGOING PARTNERSHIP WITH ON-RAMPS
“[The] AAMC has been one of On-Ramps’ top long-standing partners because of the comprehensive, strategic, and caring ways they get involved to make a difference. Not only does [the] AAMC provide high quality internship experiences to our technology students, [it brings its] diverse professionals to our schools, open[s] [its] doors to tours to expose more students to tech careers, provide[s] volunteers for On-Ramps skills and resume workshops, and support[s] our cause financially as well. [The AAMC is] an outstanding model [of] how employers can impact the future careers of underrepresented young people and our community.”

– Robert Holm, Founder of On-Ramps

On-Ramps interns reach new professional heights with the AAMC.

To demonstrate our ongoing commitment to our neighboring community, the AAMC was proud to host two students in the On-Ramps Internship Program last summer. The On-Ramps' STEM Intern Program provides technology internships and training to Washington, D.C. high school students. Recent graduates Esdrizzlyth “Esdri” and Tais worked alongside the AAMC Digital Communication Team and the Technology Operations Department under the mentorship of Stephanie Weiner, director of digital communications, and Cynthia Myrick, manager of information technology services.

For six weeks, Esdri shadowed professionals from the Digital Engagement, the Digital Content Strategy, and the Digital Experience teams. She learned about various digital communications strategies, how professional organizations define successful engagement, and the importance of virtual communities. This internship provided her with the opportunity to gain valuable insight into the field of digital communications and work across several communications channels, such as the AAMC’s website and social media platforms. Esdri is currently a 17-year-old freshman who is studying biology on the premed track at the University of the District of Columbia. Her goal is to become a plastic surgeon, but this opportunity sparked in her a newfound interest in digital communication.
Similarly, her fellow On-Ramps intern, Tais, worked with Technology Operations Department staff to learn how they support AAMC employees by managing network and application infrastructures. Tais reviewed the AAMC’s IT Service Desk self-help articles to ensure that they were up to date and easily accessible to AAMC employees. Additionally, Tais learned about the functions of the Technology Operations Department by answering the service desk hotline and creating service tickets. After overcoming the first-week nerves that come with starting a new position, Tais settled into her internship role and learned the value of technicians at a professional organization. Tais has received a full scholarship to North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

As Esdri’s internship coordinator, Stephanie recognized and commended Esdri’s genuine interest in pursuing a career in medicine and noticed how her passion for the medical field fueled her commitment to excel in all communications-based tasks. Esdri’s enthusiasm to learn and contribute to the medical community was contagious, and she quickly became a valued member of the team. Stephanie enjoyed witnessing Esdri’s growth and willingness to take on new challenges, and she was glad to provide an internship experience. She believes that the skills Esdri learned are transferable and will serve her well if she decides to pursue a career in medicine.

After her third year of hosting an On-Ramps Intern at the IT Service Desk, Cynthia also found the experience rewarding, and she appreciates the chance to impart valuable knowledge and skills to the next generation and foster a sense of accomplishment and growth in young professionals. Cynthia was impressed by how quickly Tais adapted to the technology and grasped concepts that can be challenging, even for seasoned techs. She is glad to know that the short time Tais spent with the IT Service Desk will leave a positive impression. Cynthia mentioned how incredibly valuable internship opportunities for young IT professionals can be, as they gain valuable insights, skills, and connections that can benefit them in a field that is rapidly evolving.
LEAD
“My favorite thing about being involved with AAMC community engagement is/was learning about how this organization has identified a true need in the community and adapted the way [it meets] it over years to make a real difference in people’s lives. Additionally, it was inspiring to see my team come together on something besides work.”

– Amy Mathis, Senior Director, Constituent Engagement, AAMC

At the AAMC, we aim to live up to our values and engage as a trust collaborator, convener, and leader.

Housing is Health
Homelessness and housing insecurity is one of the AAMC’s local community collaboration focus areas. In spring 2023, the Office of Community Engagement leveraged the AAMC Learning Center to bring diverse community partners together to explore solutions to one of our area’s most pressing challenges.

In March, the AAMC hosted the monthly meeting of the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers (WRAG) Healthy Communities Working Group, which included an update and discussion facilitated by the Housing Justice Working Group. In April, the AAMC hosted the DC Fiscal Policy Institute for the release of its new report on the investments and program improvements needed to end chronic homelessness for local individuals. The event, which aimed to elevate the ways that local policy decisions affect residents’ daily lives, was attended by leaders from nonprofit organizations, philanthropic organizations, and people who have experienced homelessness and housing insecurity.

Building and Bridging
As part of an ongoing learning series presented by the National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine's (NASEM) Office of Diversity & Inclusion, Clarence J. Fluker, the AAMC’s director of community engagement and partnerships, was invited to discuss the theory and practice of institutional community engagement in
Washington, D.C. His presentation, “Building and Bridging,” focused on building the understanding, support, and infrastructure within an organization needed to make an impact by bridging people, policy, and purpose. More than 70 NASEM staff attended the virtual event.

**“Community Collaboration and Engagement Bundle”**

In June, the “Community Collaboration and Engagement Resource Bundle” was published on the AAMC Online Communities Network. The bundle, developed by colleagues from across the AAMC, is a thoughtfully curated collection of resources driven by a commitment to foster and amplify discussions surrounding collaborations between medical schools, teaching hospitals, and their communities. This anthology focuses on the significance of long-lasting community partnerships in achieving a more equitable future, exploring both their importance and strategies to navigate the path toward equity. The bundle will be regularly updated with the latest resources, articles, and toolkits created and offered by the AAMC and others.

In addition, a new anti-racism resources bundle for faculty development was also developed by the DC Academic Medicine Collaborative for Health Equity’s medical education working group.

**Creating Space for Young Leaders at the AAMC Pathways to Health Professions Summit**

The AAMC is leading the development of a growing body of work dedicated to bringing together educators to imagine solutions for advancing diversity in the health care workforce. The Strategic Action Plan 4 team collaborated with colleagues across the association to organize a first-of-its-kind summit on July 20-21. The Office of Community Engagement worked with the planning team to coordinate opportunities for two Washington, D.C. high school students to weigh in and provide feedback on the development of the summit agenda and content, as well as registering local teachers from district high schools with health science academies that partner with the AAMC year-round. This event drew over 65 attendees from K-12 school districts, White House appointees, national education associations, member medical schools, and teaching hospitals across the nation. Through presentations, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, the AAMC fostered engagement, relationship-building, and partnerships to unite around shared objectives. The AAMC is committed to furthering community growth, promoting best practices, listening, and learning to optimize the impact of its K-12 education engagement.
THE AAMC
COMMUNITY
GRANTS
PROGRAM
“My favorite thing about being involved with AAMC community engagement is having the ability to engage with the youth in our community. You never know how you may have changed someone’s life, and being provided the opportunity to do that and represent this amazing organization feels great!”

– Ciera Sterling, Manager, Customer Service Knowledge, AAMC

The AAMC Community Grants Committee honored local nonprofit organizations for improving the lives of D.C. residents.

On January 17, 2023, AAMC President and CEO Dr. David Skorton and the AAMC Community Grants Committee hosted a virtual awards celebration for 20 local nonprofit organizations that are improving the lives of Washington, D.C. residents These general operating support awards focus on three areas: youth education, homelessness and housing insecurity, and access to healthcare.

Each year, the AAMC Community Grants Committee, led by Director of Grants Adrianne Fielding, solicits applications from area nonprofits, reviews them, and recommends awards based on the merit and potential impact of the applicants. The 2023 Community Grants Committee members were Tanya Bennett, Jennifer Blanck, Diana Bourke, Danielle Carder, Katie Compher, Asinia Crawford, Bradley Cunningham, Molly Devine, Amy Jayas, Staci Mason, Ally Perleoni, Abigail Sakyi, and Brandon Vaughan. External reviewers of the grants were Marcus Allen, Caleb Dafilou, and Dana White. Clarence J. Fluker, director of community engagement and partnerships, serves as counsel for the group.

With support from executive sponsors Jennifer Schlener and Amir Mesarwi, the AAMC has awarded grants since 2007, thereby investing in improving the health of Washington, D.C. residents.
Collectively, the 20 grantee organizations for 2023 serve more than 64,000 clients, 95% or more serve communities in Wards 7 and/or 8, and 13 of the 20 organizations serve communities in every ward of the district.

2023 Awardees by Category

Access to Health Care

Community of Hope
For 42 years, Community of Hope (COH) has delivered essential support to historically under-resourced communities. As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), COH provides medical, dental, emotional-wellness and patient-support services at three health centers and a community resource hub. The organization also provides housing and support services across the homelessness continuum of care. With the AAMC’s support, COH will fill funding gaps during its current period of growth, as it ramps up services at its new Family Health and Birth Center, deepens its emotional-wellness supports, and expands its sexual-health services.

Food & Friends
Food & Friends believes that food heals. As the only community-based organization in the region, Food & Friends provides home-delivered, medically tailored meals and medical nutrition therapy to its neighbors who live with life-challenging illnesses. With continued support from the AAMC, Food & Friends will, through their Specialized Nutrition Services (SNS) program, prepare and home-deliver 1,237,500 medically tailored meals to 4,300 people, including caregivers and children, and also provide medical nutrition therapy via individualized nutrition assessments, counseling, and health-education webinars.

HIPS
Since 1993, HIPS (Honoring Individual Power & Strength) has worked to advance the health, rights, and dignity of people and communities impacted by sex work and drug use through the provision of nonjudgmental harm-reduction services, advocacy, and community engagement led by those with lived experience. HIPS envisions a world where all people engaged in sex work and drug use are empowered to live healthy, self-determined, and self-sufficient lives free from stigma, violence, criminalization, or oppression. Support from the AAMC will fill gaps in funding for critical harm-reduction-based preventative, mental/behavioral, sexual-health and substance-use-related services caused by an anticipated shift in major funding sources from the DC Health HIV/AIDS Administration to the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH).
Latin American Youth Center
The Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) is a nationally recognized, community-based, multicultural, and multilingual youth development center with the mission of empowering a diverse population of youth to achieve a successful transition to adulthood. Its preventative care outreach program, Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH), provides free, confidential health services, including HIV, STI, and pregnancy testing, risk reduction education, and resource/referral information. Funds provided by the AAMC were used to enhance ongoing outreach, education, and testing efforts to reach 500 youth in FY23, including hiring and training two peer educators.

Mamatoto Village
Mamatoto Village is a Black-led, human-service organization based in Washington, D.C. The organization provides high-quality perinatal care for Black women and women from other minority groups, training them to become health and human service professionals. Mamatoto Village used its AAMC grant to support operating costs, including supplies and equipment expenses as well as personnel costs.

Mary’s Center for Maternal and Child Care
Mary’s Center delivers quality medical, behavioral health, social services, and education programs to residents of the metropolitan area, regardless of their ability to pay. Mary’s Center serves more than 60,000 individuals annually through its seven locations in Washington, D.C. and Maryland. The AAMC’s grant support enables Mary’s Center to effectively serve communities in this ever-changing environment by providing access to preventative, behavioral, sexual, and substance-focused health services to under-resourced families and addressing the underlying causes of the health disparities these residents face.

Homelessness and Housing Insecurity
Calvary Women’s Services
Calvary Women’s Services (Calvary) provides housing, health, education, and employment programs to empower homeless women in Washington, D.C. to transform their lives. The programs at Calvary were designed to address the needs of women who are struggling with mental illness, substance addiction, and who may have histories of violence and trauma. Funds from the AAMC were used to provide safe housing and support to these women, enabling them to end their homelessness. In 2023, Calvary continued to develop its programs with a new transitional housing program (15 beds) and expand its rapid-rehousing and transitional-housing programs (11 beds).
The AAMC Community Grants Program

District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH)
The District Alliance for Safe Housing (DASH) provides low-barrier safe housing and trauma-informed services for marginalized survivors of domestic and sexual violence and families in the district. The general operating grant from the AAMC supports DASH’s organizational IT infrastructure and technology operations costs so it can improve its systems for greater impact.

Homeless Children’s Playtime Project
Playtime was founded in 2003 by a coalition of community members, led by social worker and child advocate Jamila Larson. The grant award from the AAMC supports Playtime’s play programs, case management, and advocacy activities, which cultivate resilience in children experiencing family homelessness. The funding also supports program manager and program site manager salaries and benefits. The AAMC funds also enable the purchase of site supplies for children, such as toys, art materials, and sports equipment; operational supplies like masks, cleaning products, and gloves; and emergency supplies to families, including diapers and wipes, grocery and transportation gift cards, and moving supplies.

House of Ruth
For 46 years, House of Ruth has provided housing and support services to more than 14,500 women and children recovering from homelessness and abuse in Washington, D.C. By providing housing, case management, and life-skills support, House of Ruth empowers clients to transition out of homelessness into independent living. House of Ruth now serves 1,000 individuals annually. The AAMC funding will offset database administration expenses, including purchasing the first round of annual licenses for staff to use its new Penelope database, which will track service data, client demographics, and outcomes.

Joseph’s House
Joseph’s House provides and coordinates medical respite care, social case management, and hospice care for homeless adults living with HIV/AIDS and/or terminal cancer. On the most fundamental level, Joseph’s House seeks to improve the lives of a greater number of the most vulnerable people in the district. Funding from the AAMC supports general operations to help Joseph’s House continue to provide the area’s most at-risk residents with compassionate care. Funds support purchasing durable medical equipment, medical and personal hygiene supplies for residents and community members, associated costs of daily living, and staff wages.
The mission of Miriam’s Kitchen is to end long-term and veteran homelessness in Washington, D.C. Its organizational goals are to increase its impact at the individual, systemic, and cultural levels. At the individual level, Miriam’s Kitchen will expand services to connect and build trust with unhoused neighbors. At the systemic level, it aims to continue leading advocacy that motivates city leaders to increase housing resources, enact policy changes to prevent homelessness, and address the root causes of homelessness. At the cultural level, Miriam’s Kitchen aims to change the way we think about, talk about, and respond to homelessness and mobilize others to do the same.

Pathways to Housing DC
Pathways to Housing DC is the district’s largest Housing First provider, reaching more than 800 individuals annually and providing support to an additional 2,700 community members who are either experiencing homelessness or are at risk for homelessness. Renewed funding from the AAMC supports the continued growth of Pathways to Housing DC’s lifesaving housing and supportive health care services for those in greatest need. The organization’s Housing First model is widely considered to be the most successful approach to ending chronic homelessness. With the right investments at the right time, an end to chronic homelessness in the district is within reach.

Sasha Bruce Youthwork
Sasha Bruce Youthwork provides secure housing with support and other services to young people experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. Sasha Bruce’s continuum of direct services and network of prevention programs serves nearly 15,000 young people and their families annually. Significant government funding is necessary to operate at this scale, but funding gaps remain. A general operating grant from the AAMC helps cover these often-overlooked costs of doing business, enabling Sasha Bruce to provide programs and services that meet the immediate needs of the young people it serves and help them to transition to long-term stability.

So Others Might Eat (SOME)
Funding from the AAMC supports SOME’s impactful work to empower over 10,000 individuals and families experiencing homelessness and/or poverty in Washington, D.C. The organization provides an array of services to address clients’ immediate needs and offers resources to stabilize their health, earn a living wage, and obtain permanent housing. As it continues to work to enhance its suite of transformative services, SOME will improve its support of its clients on their path toward stability and prosperity.
Youth Education

**Calvin Coolidge High School - NAF Academy of Health Sciences**

Calvin Coolidge High School’s NAF Academy of Health Sciences (AOHS) is a four-year career-education program that provides students with rigorous health-science coursework, college and career exposure, academic support, and mentorship. The AOHS pathway includes the challenging Project Lead the Way curricula and the Certified Nursing Assistant course. The AAMC grant supports the cost for literacy initiatives for males of color in science, health, medicine, sports, college readiness, and technical-training-facility expansion.

**College Success Foundation-District of Columbia**

The College Success Foundation-DC (CSF-DC) works comprehensively year-round to prepare students from the district’s most impoverished and least resourced communities to achieve on-time high school graduation, to attend and graduate from a best-fit college with minimal debt, and to enter professions of their choosing or career-focused graduate study. Funding from the AAMC is used to provide STEM instruction and career awareness activities at CSF-DC’s Saturday Academy, held during the school year to spur academic confidence and progress and career aspirations in CSF-DC students who attend the AAMC’s 12 middle and high school partners in Wards 7 and 8.

**Horton’s Kids**

Horton’s Kids partners with 600 K-12 children and families in Washington, D.C.’s most under-resourced communities to help students graduate high school ready to succeed in college, in their careers, and in life. The children Horton’s Kids serves live in isolated neighborhoods where only 40% of students graduate from high school on time, and many families report an annual household income of about $10,000, compared with the median of $90,000 or more for the district as a whole. Funding from the AAMC supports Horton’s Kids’ programming for 65 middle and high school students to persist in school and graduate ready to succeed in their chosen path.

**Spark the Journey (formerly, Capital Partners for Education)**

Spark the Journey (Spark) provides mentorship, support, and resources so young adults can successfully transition out of high school equipped with the skills and resources required to achieve college and career success. Spark will use its AAMC funding to finance expanded programming and capacity building efforts to increase the number of students it can serve for the next three years.
Young Doctors DC
For over a decade, Young Doctors DC (YDDC) has mentored, educated, and provided medical service-learning opportunities, serving as a pipeline to health careers for male Black and Hispanic students in Washington, D.C. The mission of YDDC is two-fold: increasing Black and Hispanic male representation in the field of medicine, and providing free preventative health care in underserved neighborhoods in Washington, D.C. Funding from the AAMC supports the organization’s general operations, including youth stipends, Summer- and Saturday-academy operational costs, and community health fairs.