



UC SAN DIEGO STUDENT-RUN FREE CLINIC PROJECT

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY AND INSPIRING COMPASSIONATE CARE

Since its founding in 1997, the mission of the UC San Diego Student-Run Free Clinic Project has been to provide respectful, high-quality health care to the underserved while providing medical, pharmacy and dental students with practical training in an empowering, patient-centered health care model.

The Student-Run Free Clinic Project is more than a clinic. It's a safe and trusted space for patients to receive humanistic and holistic care, and it plays an integral part in the communities served by the clinics. More than 85% of the patients seen have a chronic illness such as hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, depression or asthma.

Services provided include:

- Primary and specialty care
- Lab work and imaging
- Dental care
- Acupuncture
- Social work
- Street outreach and supplies for the unhoused
- Prescription medications and vaccines
- Mental health and support groups
- Nutrition and food
- Health education and health promotion

All services are provided at no cost to patients.

At UC San Diego, we believe that what we don't know today will forever change our tomorrows. Empowered by generosity and fueled by curiosity, we are unafraid to chase the unknown — to ask the questions no one has asked before and to push the boundaries of possibility. Together, we unite diverse people and unconventional perspectives to propel limitless impact. Because we know that when we come together, nothing is beyond us.

4 CLINIC SITES

Including three with dental care

In 2023-2024:

3,300+

Patients served, with more than 5,000 medical services provided

13,000+

Free prescriptions dispensed

100+

Vaccines administered

63,000

Pounds of food distributed

470

Unhoused people served

2,093

Oral screenings

\$500,000+

Worth of free dental care

EDUCATING THE NEXT GENERATION

HOLISTIC, HANDS-ON TRAINING

Equally important as our patient care, the Student-Run Free Clinic is also a hands-on training environment for more than 250 volunteer medical and pharmacy students, as well as volunteer pre-health professional and pre-dental students. They are guided by licensed volunteer physicians, dentists, pharmacists and mental health volunteers. Each year, more than 900 incredible individuals are involved and dedicated to making a positive impact in the San Diego community.

More than 90% of UC San Diego's medical students choose to volunteer with the project at some point in their training. Involvement has been shown to increase a student's future commitment to working with the underserved and instills a sense of professional identity that combines compassion with competence.

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED MODEL

We were awarded a 2024 Gold Ranking from the National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics! As one of the highest honors for a free clinic, this award recognizes the breadth and quality of our services.



The UC San Diego Student-Run Free Clinic Project is known for service and innovation and has been replicated in settings around the country, serving as a model for respected institutions, including the Mayo Clinic and Harvard Medical School, as they establish similar programs.

SUPPORT THE STUDENT-RUN FREE CLINIC PROJECT

The Student-Run Free Clinic Project is fueled entirely through philanthropy and grants. Our work would not be possible without your support. Your gifts create measurable and life-changing impact for our medical students and our patients. Thank you!

Visit giving.ucsd.edu or scan the QR code below to make your gift today.



“Growing up, the only times my family or I received care, outside of emergency care, was through free clinics. Being able to now provide care at the free clinic is something I always dreamed of. Now I get to be an advocate for those in need.”

– Roberto M., second-year medical student

Together with your philanthropic support, we can continue to provide skilled, compassionate health care services to our community, while providing medical, pharmacy and dental students with valuable, hands-on experience.

For more information on supporting the Student-Run Free Clinic Project, please contact:

Laura Adler

Senior Director of Development

(858) 322-0295

lmadler@ucsd.edu