Rahma Clinic Program Guide

UPSTATE MEDICAL UNIVERSITY
Center for Civic Engagement

Cause for Action:

- Despite a relatively high level of insurance rates, not all adults in Onondaga County have a regular health care provider. Among adults, 84.3% report having a regular health care provider compared to 84.7% in NYS.
- Delayed treatment or inappropriate treatment have been identified as contributors to an increased rate of hospitalization, which in turn is closely linked to access to care

Where is the program?

The program is held at the Rahma Clinic located 3100 S. Salina St. Syracuse, NY 13210

What does the Rahma Clinic do?

As the first certified free health clinic in central New York in 2012, Rahma clinic provides free health services to the uninsured and those with limited access to care. This clinic is able to provide not only primary care but also surgery, cardiology, gastroenterology, PT, neurology, rheumatology, and vascular surgery specialty services. The clinic also provides counseling, medication monitoring, laboratory work, and x-rays upon referral.

Who does the Rahma Clinic serve?

The Rahma clinic provides free services to those who are uninsured, indigent, and underserved.

How does the program provide for this population?

By providing high quality healthcare to the uninsured, indigent and under-served adult members of Central New York community regardless of the ability to pay, and regardless of religion, race, gender or background. Patients are seen, by appointments only, on Saturdays from 11 am – 2 pm and Wednesdays from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

What would I do as a student?

Under the supervision of attending physicians and clinic personnel, students will help to perform several tasks. These tasks include aiding in patient intake, assessment of patients, maintaining patient flow, administering patient referrals, chart reviews and educating about health problems. Projects are also assigned to students as needed.

How often would I volunteer?

As a volunteer you are not required a set number of hours. However, the students at upstate volunteer every Saturday from 11 am – 2 pm.

What are the community impacts?

By providing a free clinic, patients who are unable to go to the doctor during regular hours due to work and school constraints have access to primary care. Those who do not have insurance gain access to primary and specialty care through this clinic. Improved access to care increases medical utilization and decreases the number of people without access to care.

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