

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The NYCFC greatly needs your help as a physician volunteer. The NYCFC could not exist without the dedication of its physician volunteers.

Every Saturday, two to three physicians volunteer as preceptors, overseeing four to six medical student clinical teams and one labs team, and monitoring the overall flow of the clinic. As the clinic preceptor, you will make all final decisions regarding patient care.

There is no minimum required time commitment. Ideally, we ask that physician volunteers try to commit to one 4-hour shift per month to ensure familiarity with how the clinic runs and build mentoring relationships with students. However, any time commitment you can make is greatly appreciated, and other arrangements can be made.

If your current malpractice coverage cannot be extended to your time at the NYCFC, we will provide free malpractice coverage for you.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like additional information, please contact our Physician Recruitment Coordinator at mdrecruitment-nycfc@med.nyu.edu or visit us online at www.med.nyu.edu/nycfreeclinic.

WHY VOLUNTEER

- Volunteer for the only clinic in New York to offer comprehensive free health services.
- Practice medicine in its purest form, considering only the patient's wellbeing and not factoring cost in treatment decisions.
- Demonstrate your commitment to serving the uninsured and underserved.
- Teach and mentor the next generation of physicians and healthcare professionals.
- Work with an eclectic patient population presenting with a diversity of medical issues.

New York City Free Clinic
16 East 16th Street
New York, NY 10003



phone: 917-544-0735

website: www.med.nyu.edu/nycfreeclinic



INFORMATION FOR PHYSICIANS

THE NEW YORK CITY FREE CLINIC

Serving the uninsured, homeless & disenfranchised of New York City

NEW YORK CITY'S HEALTHCARE CRISIS

The current healthcare crisis in New York City cannot be overstated. As many as one in four New Yorkers, some two million people, do not have health insurance. In fact, one in every twenty uninsured Americans lives in New York City.

Lack of health insurance remains a significant barrier to accessing healthcare. More than 800,000 New Yorkers did not receive needed medical care in the past year alone, 75% of whom were uninsured. This delay or absence in receiving needed care may lead to more dire health outcomes in the near future. It is then essential that other resources providing care to the uninsured be developed, supported, and expanded to reach out across the five boroughs.

OUR MISSION & SERVICES PROVIDED

The New York City Free Clinic (NYCFC):

- believes quality healthcare is the right of all individuals, families, and communities;
- believes such care must be provided regardless of socioeconomic or health status;
- provides comprehensive free healthcare to the uninsured, homeless, and disenfranchised.

All services offered by the NYCFC are free, including:

- basic primary care & prevention
- immunizations
- physical exams
- men's & women's health
- laboratory testing
- social worker services
- specialty referrals to all medical specialties
- public health insurance eligibility screening and registration

WHO WE ARE

The NYCFC is an all-volunteer group of New York University medical students, undergraduates, physicians, and community partners that provides comprehensive free healthcare to New York's uninsured. Located in Manhattan's Union Square, the NYCFC is open 9am-3pm every Saturday.

Since opening in March 2002, the NYCFC has provided free healthcare for more than 800 New Yorkers through 1,500 patient visits. The majority of our patients come from Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens. Yet in just the last year the NYCFC saw patients from all five boroughs and 30 of New York City's 34 communities.

The NYCFC differs sharply from other New York area low-income health clinics in two key ways. First, while most other clinics operate on a "sliding scale" fee based on patient income, the NYCFC is truly free for all uninsured. Secondly, the NYCFC is the only free clinic in New York that offers specialty referrals free of charge to its patients, providing the full range of services as available to any insured patient.

The NYCFC is a product of the deep commitment and passion of our volunteers to providing equal access to quality care for the uninsured. More than 400 healthcare professionals, students, and community members have volunteered at the NYCFC in its brief history. All personnel associated with the NYCFC are volunteers and are not financially compensated by the clinic.

The NYCFC is made possible through the partnership of New York University School of Medicine, the Institute for Urban Family Health, Bellevue Hospital Center, and New York University Medical Center.

THE NYCFC IS:

A partnership of community members, healthcare providers, and students striving to meet the needs of their community's underserved.

A key access point for the uninsured into government insurance programs.

The only clinic in New York that offers specialty referrals free to its patients.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the role of physician volunteers?

Physicians who volunteer at the NYCFC oversee four to six clinical teams, each made up of one preclinical and one clinical medical student. The student clinical teams take the medical history and conduct the physical exam. Each clinical team then presents its patient's case to the physician, and together they develop an assessment and plan. The physician volunteer thus serves in two key capacities: (1) ensuring provision of quality care for patients; and (2) teaching medical students as they continue to refine their clinical skills.

How can I volunteer?

Contact our Physician Recruitment Coordinator (mdrecruitment-nycfc@med.nyu.edu), who will provide you with more information about the clinic, answer your questions, and help you complete the necessary forms to volunteer.

What kind of time commitment is involved for volunteers?

There is no required time commitment. The clinic runs 9am-3pm every Saturday. Ideally, we prefer that volunteer physicians work one 4-hour shift (half-day) per month so as to become familiar with how the clinic runs and build mentoring relationships with students. However, we appreciate the limited availability of physicians, so your commitment can be as much or as little as your interest and schedule allow.

Will I be covered for malpractice while working at the clinic?

Yes. If you can extend your current coverage for free, we will work with your insurance company to make the appropriate arrangements. If you cannot extend your current coverage, we will provide free malpractice coverage for you.

Where can I get more information?

Visit us online at www.med.nyu.edu/nycfreeclinic or contact our Physician Recruitment Coordinator at mdrecruitment-nycfc@med.nyu.edu.