

COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

RBHS faculty are very committed to community service activities; many of the clinical and community service activities in which they will participate are included among the signature programs, emerging signature program, educational initiatives, and clinical initiatives identified above. Other clinical and community services have been and are being provided on an ongoing basis by RBHS schools, centers, institutes, and the behavioral health care unit, especially services focused on behavioral health, dental medicine, environmental and occupational health, health related professions, medicine, nursing, and pharmacy. All activities address community and state-wide needs and fulfill aspects of Rutgers' mission.

In the next five years, many clinical and community service activities are likely to be developed as part of the community health and health systems emerging signature program as that program evolves. Generally, these activities will be developed in coordination with Rutgers scholars with interests in community health and community leaders and state and federal legislators. Implementation will require capacity building within RBHS, including new platforms and sites for the delivery of health care services. In meetings with RBHS leaders, Camden, New Brunswick, and Newark community leaders and health care providers identified multiple programs that will provide needed services to their communities.

The following will be considered for implementation in the next five years:

- work with the Camden, New Brunswick, and Newark school systems to develop pipeline, training, and immersion programs in health care fields for high school students;
- train Camden, New Brunswick, and Newark community members as community health workers;
- enhance access to primary care and mental health services for Camden, New Brunswick, and Camden residents through development and expansion of ACOs, federally qualified health centers, and other community health centers;
- train Spanish-speaking Camden, New Brunswick, and Newark community members to serve as interpreters in RBHS primary and affiliated hospitals; and
- work with state legislators to develop incentive programs to encourage RBHS students to remain in New Jersey after graduation.

Other community services may emerge from the creation of new programs, such as those provided by interprofessional education programs. For example, RBHS and other Rutgers students may receive training in coordinated care settings, including an ACO, a federally qualified health center, and/or other community health settings, in which enhanced health-related services are provided to community members during the course of their training.

Finally, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has held conversations with the RBHS chancellor regarding its tentative identification of New Brunswick as a city of interest for its healthy cities program. This program has been developed by RWJF to support academic and community partnerships that will address social determinants of health, access to health care, and health disparities. If New Brunswick and Rutgers are selected for this program, funding would be available to support the development of many of the proposed initiatives identified above.