



**The National Center**  
for Complex Health and Social Needs

## Student Hotspotting: Interprofessional Complex Care Education

The Interprofessional Student Hotspotting Learning Collaborative (Student Hotspotting) is an annual program that trains interprofessional teams of students from schools around the country to learn to work with individuals who have complex medical and social needs using a patient-centered approach. Because addressing patients' complex health and social needs requires engaging with multiple healthcare and social service systems, interprofessional teams are especially well-suited to work with these patients.

Student Hotspotting is a unique educational opportunity combining interprofessional education with on-the-ground experience working directly with patients. Mentoring and case conferencing round out the program, giving students first-hand knowledge of the personal and systemic barriers patients face. Students then bring this new perspective to their institutions.

Students from the 2016 cohort provided insight into the benefits of participating in Student Hotspotting. Some findings from the participants' assessment of the program are outlined here.



### Student Hotspotting Professions



#### Non-Medical Professions

- Public health
- Social work
- Business
- Anthropology
- Community health
- Healthcare compliance
- Law
- Medical education
- Microbiology
- Policy
- Clinical psychology
- Pharmacy



#### Medicine

- MD
- DO
- Dentistry
- Optometry
- Podiatric medicine



#### Nursing

- Nursing
- Nurse practitioners



#### Allied Health Professions

- Physician's assistants
- Physical therapy
- Health sciences
- Health administration
- Medical dietetics
- Occupational therapy

Student Hotspotting Professions data (above) were taken from our 2016-2017 Student Hotspotting cohort survey. Students who had dual majors could select multiple professions.

The full 2016 evaluation report is available by emailing [research@camdenhealth.org](mailto:research@camdenhealth.org).

### **The program's interprofessional focus brought together unique care teams**

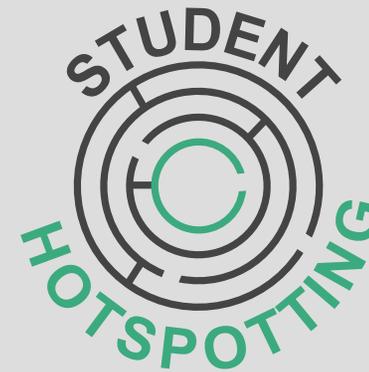
Gaining new perspectives on the same problem was cited as especially valuable to students who participated in the Student Hotspotting program. In addition to medical and allied health professions, the 2016 cohort included students representing business, anthropology, law, policy, and other disciplines not traditionally included in healthcare who brought wide-ranging philosophies and practices to their teams.

### **Interprofessional teams broadened students' understanding of problems, solutions, and navigation**

The truly interprofessional nature of the teams afforded students the opportunity to learn which resources are available and how to help patients navigate the complicated healthcare and social service systems. Students felt that working together as a team generated a collective focus on care that was often able to neutralize existing authority and rank structures that are common in healthcare settings.

### **Working closely with patients reinforced and deepened students' interest in serving patients with complex needs**

Students noted that working with patients in the community or within their homes and developing personal relationships with them were among the most valuable parts of their Student Hotspotting experience. Before participating in Student Hotspotting, students stated they were interested in working with underserved populations. After the program, most students either maintained their level of interest, intensified their interest, or shifted from an international to a domestic focus.



Applications for the 2018 Student Hotspotting cohort are now open. To learn more about the Student Hotspotting program, visit <https://www.nationalcomplex.care/offerings/student-hotspotting/> or email [studenthotspotting@camdenhealth.org](mailto:studenthotspotting@camdenhealth.org).

The Student Hotspotting Learning Collaborative is an initiative of the National Center for Complex Health and Social Needs, based on the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers' complex care intervention. The 2018 Hotspotting Hubs are Samuel Merritt University, Southern Illinois University, Thomas Jefferson University, and University of Utah. Student Hotspotting partners include the Association of American Medical Colleges, Primary Care Progress, the National Academies of Practice, the Council on Social Work Education, and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.