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# Bridging the Gap in Medication Access

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# Bridging the Gap in Medication Access

## BTG Interns:

Kathrine Baldwin, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine  
 Brandon Fong, Drexel University College of Medicine  
 Daniel Gedeon, Drexel University School of Public Health  
 Tashi Lhamo, Drexel University School of Public Health  
 Matthew McGuire, Thomas Jefferson University -- Jefferson College of Pharmacy  
 Sandra Nannozi, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing  
 Maya C. Muhammad, MPH, City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health  
 Mary Hess, PharmD, FASHP, FCCM, Jefferson College of Pharmacy  
 Pat Lanutti, DO, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine  
 Ann L O'Sullivan, PhD, FAAN, CRNP, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing  
 Candace Robertson-James, DrPH, Drexel University College of Medicine

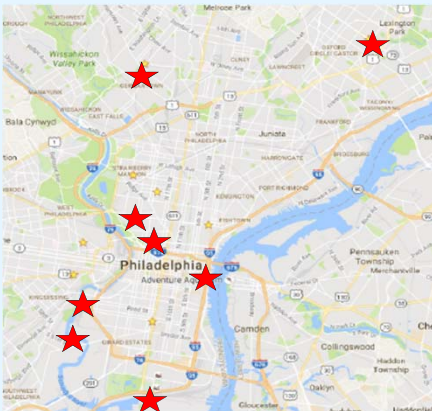
## Community Preceptor:

## Academic Preceptors:



## Introduction

The Philadelphia Department of Public Health's eight health centers are distributed throughout the city to provide accessible, affordable, quality health care.



Locations of Health Centers in Philadelphia

## Patient Assistance Program

The BTG interns ensured the continuity of access to medications from receiving a prescription until obtaining the medication on their own. Additionally, interns administered patient satisfaction surveys to help improve services at the centers.

## BTG Healthy People Focus Areas

- Health Care Access
- Chronic Disease Management
- Health Communication

## Description of Activities

- Advocate for patients unable to afford or obtain their prescription medications
- Promote medication adherence by connecting patients to resources to obtain medications and distributing them on arrival
- Monitoring both the initial applications and refills to prevent gaps in continuity of treatment
- Coordinate with physicians to ensure patients will receive medication
- Appeal assistance program rejections
- Administer patient surveys through interviews

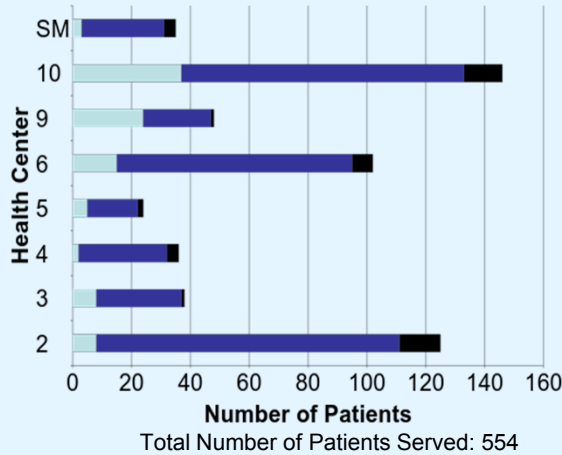
## Philadelphia Community Health Centers

- Provide high-quality medical care for Philadelphian residents
- Healthcare accessibility regardless of health insurance status
- Comprehensive services including, Prenatal Care, Family Planning, HIV testing, Ob/Gyn, Dental, lab tests, x-rays, nutrition counseling, social work support, assistance in insurance application.

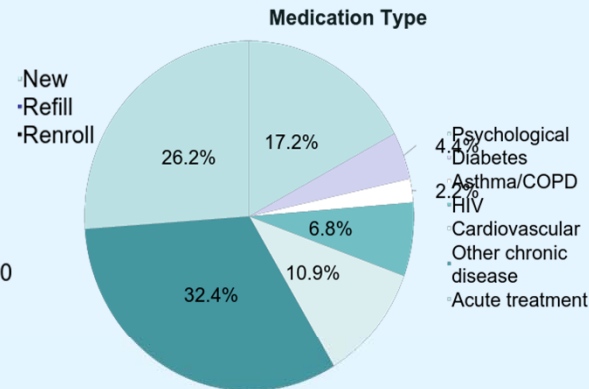


Prescriptions waiting for Patient Pick-up

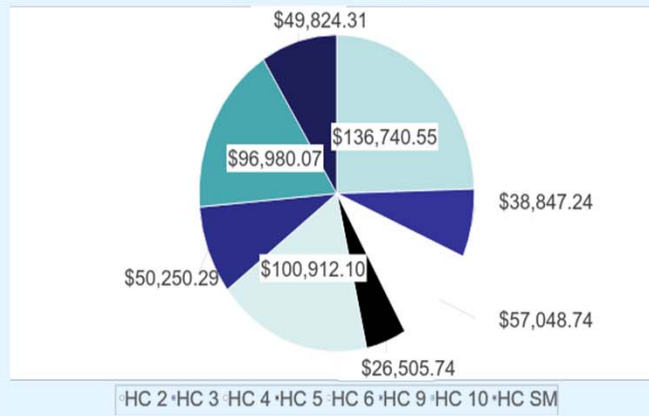
## Patients Assisted through PAP



## Categories of Medications Prescribed



## Medication Cost Saved



Total Money Saved by BTG Interns: \$557,109

## Reflections

- Helped build awareness to the struggles in the community and different social determinants
- Better understanding of the complexity of the healthcare system and knowing resources available to these populations
- Importance of access to healthcare regardless of health insurance status
- Working as part of a multidisciplinary team in providing better healthcare to patients