Health Leads provides students with a unique opportunity to make a significant impact on the health outcomes of individual children and families. In partnership with providers in urban clinics, Health Leads’ volunteers connect low-income patients with the basic resources that they need to be healthy. Via straightforward, preventative referrals to government and community resources – such as food assistance, child care, employment, and GED classes—Health Leads’ volunteers enable families to avert crises and to access increased income and education, which have been documented to result in better long-term health outcomes.

Health Leads believes that students have what it takes to make real change – for individual families and for our country’s healthcare system. We are always seeking passionate, committed, social justice-minded students to join our movement.

**Highlights of the HL-NY program:**
- Connect with hospital staff to ensure quality care to all patients
- Shadowing opportunities with hospital staff and clinicians
- Hands-on exposure to the patient, visitor and family member experience
- Become confident in face-to-face and over-the-phone patient interaction
- Learn to analyze and manage difficult cases
- Attend group learning and guest speaker sessions with other students
- Take the initiative in or join in on program improvement projects
- Engage in conversation in current trends in public health and health policy
- Reference letters upon successful completion of program requirements

**Mandatory requirements (please read carefully):**
- Weekly 3-hour clinic shift
- 1-hour weekly group reflection session
- 1-3 hours a week of individual research and phone call follow-up at home. Progress with patients must be logged and updated constantly online in case management database
- If accepted, new volunteer training on **Saturday, September 24**! This is the only date and volunteers must be able to attend. Acceptance into the program is based on your ability to attend this training session.
- HIPAA training and medical clearance in a timely manner is a must. Applicants should have ready access to their own immunization records. Process begins immediately after acceptance into program.
- This is a two-semester (Fall, Winter, Spring, or Summer) commitment.

**Health Leads New York (HL-NY)**

HL-NY currently operates in five family health centers and hospitals across New York City. Our student volunteers come from Barnard, City College, Columbia, and NYU. In 2010, HL-NY trained and deployed 95 volunteers to connect more than 500 low-income patients and their families to the resources they need to be healthy.

In 2010, 80% of HL-NY graduates entered jobs or graduate studies in the fields of health and poverty, with nearly 90 percent of them reporting that Health Leads had a “high” or “very high”
impact on their post-graduate plans as compared to six other factors potentially influencing this decision.

- **Bellevue Hospital Center Pediatrics Family Help Desk**
  In 2006, HL-NY launched a Family Help Desk at Bellevue Hospital’s pediatric out-patient clinic. Staffed by volunteers from New York University, the clinic is a vibrant, bustling space. The Bellevue patient population is a diverse group. Patients hail from all five boroughs of New York and represent a number of different immigrant communities. The main languages spoken are Spanish, Chinese and Bangladeshi. The majority of the patients in the clinic live on limited incomes. Since 2010, the volunteers at Bellevue have served more than 400 clients. Volunteers work closely with physicians and other healthcare providers to address patient referrals, but also receive a high number of clients from patient walk-ups. Students at Bellevue are given the opportunity to shadow physicians and participate in research.

- **Woodhull Medical Center Pediatrics Family Help Desk**
  Woodhull is the site of our first Brooklyn-based Family Help Desk. Launched in the fall of 2010, Woodhull primarily serves the North Brooklyn community, which includes Bushwick, Bedford Stuyvesant, Williamsburg, and Greenpoint. Health Leads volunteers at Woodhull have helped families primarily with childcare, housing conditions, food assistance, adult education, and job training. Since the desk’s launch, Woodhull’s volunteers have served over 250 families. During each shift, volunteers spend time working with clients, doing presentations to clinical staff and patients, and shadowing providers. Our program works very closely with the Social Work department, the Pediatric Asthma Program, the new Wellness Clinic, and the New York Legal Assistance Group. This site is for volunteers who would like to shadow a provider, possibly speak Spanish, and interested in urban health and disease.

**How to Apply!**

To apply, complete our online application by Friday, 9/16. The application can be found at [http://www.healthleadsusa.org/get-involved/volunteer/](http://www.healthleadsusa.org/get-involved/volunteer/) and will be available by 9/8.

**Important application dates:**

- **Tuesday 9/7 and Wednesday 9/8:** NYU Campus Information Sessions, 6:30-7:30pm, Kimmel, 7th floor
- **Tuesday, 9/13:** NYU Service Fair, 5:00-7:30pm, Kimmel Center, Rosenthal Pavilion, 10th fl.
- **Friday, 9/16 by midnight:** Submit your completed application via the online system. Applicants who are selected to advance will be contacted to schedule an interview.
- **Sunday, 9/18:** Interviews conducted on campus by student Program Coordinators.
- **Tuesday, 9/20:** All applicants will be notified of acceptance decisions no later than 10 pm.
- **Saturday, 9/24:** Fall training all day. Attendance is mandatory for new volunteers. No exceptions can be made.

**Contact us with any questions!**

For questions about training requirements or the online application system, contact Deysia Levin at [dlevin@healthleadsusa.org](mailto:dlevin@healthleadsusa.org) or Sarah Hewes at [shewes@healthleadsusa.org](mailto:shewes@healthleadsusa.org)