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Future doctors are giving back to the community

Medical students required to do community service



Justin McLeod
Reporter
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ROANOKE, Va — Some future doctors in Roanoke are trading their stethoscopes for thinking caps as they try to help out the community.

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Students from the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Jefferson College of Health Sciences are taking part in community service projects throughout the Roanoke Valley.

For example, students from the new med school are teaching health awareness at James Madison Middle School in Roanoke twice a week. They have to design the lesson plan. This week, the med students are teaching them about heart disease.

The students say they are enjoying the experience. Nathan Ogden, a first year student at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, told News 7 "the Valley has done so much for as a school. They welcomed us so well and we want to contribute and give back and really show the community that this school is here for good and we're here to help out and we really want to be a part of this community."

The students are required to do up to 17 hours of community service this semester. The hope is they'll continue to volunteer on their own once they become doctors.

Elizabeth Glazier, a first year student at the Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine told News 7 "I have certainly loved every minute of this. It's been a wonderful opportunity to get involved in the community and the way I haven't been able to do in the past. It's brought about new interest and new ideas of different ways we can help and I think being involved in the community is the best ways to be better physicians."

Some of the other community service projects include tutoring at William Fleming High School, serving Habitat for Humanity, and pitching in at the Ronald McDonald house.

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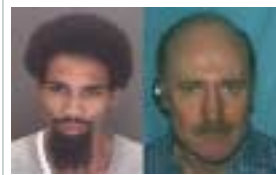
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