

Service Learning Assignment

For this service-learning assignment, I found a lot of nonprofit organizations looking for volunteers. I am lucky to find one that is in my desired field. I chose the Western Tidewater Free clinic that is located in Suffolk. There is a list of experiences volunteers can have with this organization. The main one is working one on one with patients. Another one is learning a new language preferably Spanish. Also taking blood pressure, temperature, and weight. These three experiences are very important to know. A good experience to have is reviewing charts. If you do not know how to do this then you will be very confused when looking at a chart. When you volunteer they allow you to give flu shots to patients. They allow this with the supervision of a doctor of course. It is also good to know how to relay case information to the physician.

My organization's mission is to give efficient services to people in the tidewater area who cannot afford any other health service. They provide many services such as medical, dental, and vision care. Also, patient education, pharmacy services, mental counseling, and much more. They address only a certain part of the community's needs. They provide health care services for at little to no cost to individuals with lowered income. This organization is very important to the community. It is important because it offers health services to individuals who are not financially stable or for individuals without insurance. If it were not for this organization people with low income would be very sick and have to suffer in silence. I did manage to find a video about this organization on YouTube. It is titled "Western Tidewater Free Clinic: Helping Hands, Health, Hope". The people talking about their experiences are so emotional and thankful. If I were a low-income individual then I would absolutely adore this organization.

My opinion about this free clinic has changed and grown in a positive way. I have more respect for them because all the great things they do. It has also grown because they provide affordable healthcare. They go above and beyond to treat their patients. They also are not selfless and enjoy doing their job. Another great quality about this organization is how all of the health services are in one location. It helps because patients do not have to go to different locations for every health need.

This organization relates to my intended major because it offers dental care. They also included that they are looking for a licensed dentist and hygienist to work for them. I hope they are still looking for a hygienist after I graduate from college. This will be a good place for me to start my career off at. A degree this organization can relate to is a nurse and medical assistant. I would not like to be a medical assistant because they do not get paid enough money. Although, I would most likely choose a nurse as my parallel major. I would choose this because it is a job that pays well, and it is also in the medical field. Being a nurse is very rewarding because you get to help patients and make them feel at ease.