

## **Doc4aDay**

Doc4aDay is a community outreach program provided through the Maine Medical Center Dept. of Medical Education. This is a half-day program designed to spark an interest in a career in health care by targeting disadvantaged high school students who show academic promise. Doc4aDay involves an introduction about the pathway to healthcare career, a hands-on suturing segment in the skills lab, participation in high-fidelity simulated patient scenarios and a question-and-answer session. Medical students, as well as other health professions learners, act as the teachers and partner with participants by coaching them directly in their roles in the patient scenarios and teaching them the hands-on skills. Sessions are held in the Hannaford Center for Safety, Innovation and Simulation in Portland, ME, and can also be taken “on the road” to more remote and/or rural sites.

By participating in the Doc4aDay program, it is our hope that it will pique enough interest in the high school student participants that they may consider a career path in the field of medicine, when they otherwise may not have.

Currently two Doc4aDay sessions are held per year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

Benefits to health professions students who participate:

- Develop teaching and communication skills in a group setting.
- Utilize clinical expertise and experience through development of and participation in simulated patient scenarios and the hands-on skills lab.
- Experience the value of working with a multi-disciplinary team to deliver patient simulations and model a team approach to patient care.
- Develop experience in the logistical & funding aspects, as well as possible expansion, of a community outreach program.
- Demonstrate and develop professionalism by serving as a physician role model and by sharing enthusiasm for and personal experience about a medical career.
- Experience the rewards of serving as an ambassador for and teaching about the medical profession.

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