

Service-Learning Site Descriptions

Worcester, Fall 2026

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
School of Pharmacy – Worcester/Manchester

***Descriptions are subject to change. ***

SCHOOLS and OTHER PROGRAMS INVOLVING WORKING WITH CHILDREN

Worcester Public Schools (<https://worcesterschools.org>)

The Worcester Public Schools system is recognized as one of the best urban school districts in the country. The system aims to provide a quality education to a diverse group of students, regardless of socioeconomic or cultural background. MCPHS students provide tutoring, mentoring and classroom assistance primarily in various schools where there are critical needs for the services our students can provide. Though all instruction in the schools is in English, some of the schools have sizable populations of students whose first language is other than English. These students may benefit from working with MCPHS students who can communicate in a language other than English.

**A background check is required.*

Elementary Schools

Belmont Street Community School

Tutoring math/science to 5th/6th graders.

City View School

Assisting with reading, science lab, math tutoring.

Grafton Street School

Pre-K Science and literacy, K-2 small group support in literacy and math, grades 3-5 support in math and science, support P.E. teacher during gym class.

Jacob Hiatt Magnet School

Tutor students in math and science, help with enrichment activities, assist with the literacy block, develop a science or fitness club, and/or work with students in labs.

McGrath Elementary School

Assist teachers in the classroom to support student learning.

Thorndyke Road School

Assist teachers in the classroom to support student learning.

Rice Square School

Teaching science experiments and/or tutoring classes of 3rd, 4th or 5th graders.

Middle/High Schools

University Park Campus School

Work with students in grades 7 – 12 in the classroom to tutor and support student learning.

Multi-school program

A.V.I.D. (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

AVID is a seventh- through twelfth-grade program in several Worcester Public Schools, it aims to prepare students in the academic middle for four-year college eligibility. It has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students, and in closing the achievement gap. MCPHS students work in the public school systems to tutor and work on problem solving with AVID students.

OTHER PROGRAMS WITH YOUTH

A.C.E. (African Community Education)

(<https://acechildren.org>)

ACE students come from many nations, but they have all come to learn, achieve, and succeed. ACE's goal is to help them achieve their goals, by providing a safe and supportive environment for learning. MCPHS Students will assist with after-school tutoring: this weekday tutoring program is available to refugee students at all grade levels for up to three hours each day after school. After school tutoring also includes periodic special programming, such as computer classes, MCAS prep courses and violence prevention workshops. Monday-Friday from 3:00pm- 6:00pm. Tutors are not required to stay for the entire 3 hours or come every day. All they ask is a minimum 2 hour a week commitment.

*A background check is required.

ELDER CARE

Coes Pond Village

Located in the Airport Hill district of Worcester, Coes Pond Village offers one and two bedroom apartment homes to adults ages 55 and up. The community was designed to offer its residents a full

range of services including a community room, greenhouse, beauty and barbershop, hobby room, outdoor gathering areas, and gardens. MCPHS students will be working with older adults with dementia in a group activity room playing games, reading, assisting with technology etc.

ELDER, LOW-INCOME, LACK OF ACCESSIBLE HEALTHCARE

MCPHS Pharmacy Outreach

This organization, located in the MCPHS building, provides toll-free prescription information and referrals for Massachusetts residents. MCPHS students would be assisting employees in their outreach to the community.

Audio Journal

(<https://audiojournal.org/>)

Audio Journal is an organization that connects individuals with a visual impairment, or an inability to access print material, to their communities through broadcasting of local news, information, and entertainment, with exclusive programs and content.

Particularly looking for students with:

- Comfortable working with a blind or visually impaired individual to assist them in recording
- Experience with any audio/video recording and editing software ('Audacity', 'Audition', etc.) and automation software ('Spyder', 'WireReady', etc.
- Experience with public reading and recording.
- Comfortable explaining how an Amazon Echo Dot device works to an elderly blind person.
- Must be willing to conduct live audio recordings.

Catholic Charities

(<https://www.ccworc.org/>)

Catholic Charities Worcester County is committed to meeting the needs of the poor, the homeless and the infirm and to enhancing the quality of life for all.

Students volunteering at the food pantries play an important role in helping serve individuals and families in need throughout our community. This is a hands-on opportunity to make a direct impact in the lives of others while gaining experience in teamwork, organization, community service, and basic office and computer skills. Languages spoken by community: Haitian, Creole, Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, and Arabic.

*A background check is required.

Tasks may include:

- **Sorting and Organizing Donations:** Unpacking, sorting, and shelving incoming food donations to keep our pantry organized and accessible.
- **Assembling Food Bags:** Creating pre-packed food bags or boxes for distribution to clients based on household size or dietary needs.
- **Filling Hygiene Kits:** Packing personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, and other essentials into hygiene kits for individuals and families.
- **Restocking Shelves:** Ensuring pantry shelves remain full and organized throughout the day.
- **Client Assistance:** Greeting and assisting clients during pantry hours, helping them find what they need or loading items into their vehicles.
- **Special Projects:** Supporting seasonal programs such as holiday meal distributions, school supply drives, or donation sorting events.

Location Information:

Worcester Area Office: 10 Hammond Street Worcester MA 01610

Leominster Area Office: 196 Mechanic Street, Leominster, MA 01453

Southbridge Area Office: 79 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550

Milford Area Office: 200 Main Street, Milford, MA 01757

Pernet Family Health Service

(www.pernetfamilyhealth.org)

Pernet Family Health offers a range of supportive services & programs for members of the surrounding community.

MCPHS volunteers will most likely be working with staff and clients in the food pantry.

Seven Hills Foundation ASPIRE!

(www.sevenhills.org)

This organization provides development, education and training programs for the developmentally disabled, primarily for adults. They welcome MCPHS students to help with daily activities, serve lunch, provide companionship, or perform other similar tasks (with an emphasis on non-verbal communication skills) at any one of four sites: Hope Avenue (Worcester), Greendale (Worcester), West Boylston and Devens. Students are encouraged to participate with clients in a wide variety of activities from horticulture to saori weaving.

*A background check is required.

Southeast Asian Coalition

(<https://www.seacma.org/>)

The Southeast Asian Coalition is a not-for-profit organization that supports, promotes and advocates for the success of the Southeast Asians of Central Massachusetts in mainstream society. MCPHS can work with the youth programs, in the ESL classes, the food pantry, or the community activities group.

Training Resources of America (TRA)

TRA makes it possible for thousands of educationally and economically disadvantaged youth and adults to improve the quality of their lives.

We do this by:

- * Increasing their basic reading, language and math levels
- * Improving their English speaking/comprehension capabilities
- * Obtaining a GED
- * Learning new skills
- * Finding and retaining gainful employment
- * Improving opportunities for increased earnings and job advancement
- * Becoming active and productive members of their communities.

Students will help tutor in either the English Language or Adult Education Program