

Educators 4 Education host its Second annual Youth Career Development and Health Awareness Camp

By: Yashvi Shah

Educators 4 Education (E4E) and Drexel School of Medicine partnered to host the second Career Development and Health Awareness Program camp for 20 young men, ages 14-17. The Camp began on June 23, 2025 and ended on June 27, 2025. E4E partnered with Drexel University College of Medicine, and received funding from the City of Philadelphia Community Expansion Grant.

Holly Akabuo, Yashvi Shah, and Zaria Beckley from Drexel University College of Medicine, alongside Sydney Lam and Michael Jin from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, served as camp facilitators throughout the week. They guided the bright young participants in building peer connections and exploring a wide range of healthcare careers. The vision for E4E was driven by a shared commitment to reducing educational disparities. Many students experience adverse childhood events (ACEs) that impact their learning and growth. One of the goals of this program is to equip students with tools to overcome these obstacles, grounded in the 7 Cs of resilience: competence, confidence, connection, character, contribution, coping, and control. To help students develop these skills, our program's curriculum focuses on life skills, mentorship, and career development—particularly within healthcare—to empower youth to pursue the futures they envision.

During the camp, the 20 high school students engaged in a variety of activities and sessions. They learned about sports injuries and how to properly splint and cast various injuries with an orthopedic surgeon from Jefferson Health. Additionally, they participated in a



CPR training course. The students also had the opportunity to visit the Gross Anatomy lab and Simulation center at Drexel University College of Medicine, and learn from faculty and physicians there. Finally, the students visited Nafees Lab Innovations, where they participated in hands-on scientific experiments. Throughout the course of the week, they also developed invaluable professional skills, ranging from creating presentations to public speaking skills.

Noah, age 17, one of the young men that participated in the camp, reflected on what he has learned and enjoyed about his experience saying “One thing I learned is that mental health does not only affect how a person may feel but also their physical health and how that is altered.” Noah further reflected on the overall impact of the program, stating, “I enjoyed the anatomy lab we did because it was different from anything I have ever done in my life. It was pretty fascinating to experience.”

Most students do not get early exposure to the vast number of opportunities available for those

with an interest in healthcare, medicine, or science. By exposing the students to a variety of topics in medicine and careers in healthcare, one of the goals of this camp was to

bridge that gap and inspire young students in Philadelphia to explore new things, follow their interests, and dream big.



KIDS DON'T GAMBLE..... WANNA BET?

Fast facts

- *Nearly 90% of teenagers have gambled at least once in their lifetime*
- *According to international surveys, young people are two and one half to three times more likely than adults to develop a gambling problem.*

Why do teens gamble?

- Problems at home
- Poor role models
- Low self-esteem

Parents, remember...

- Underage gambling is illegal
- Ask questions early
- Offer the right kind of support

**For support please call
1-800-426-2537**

www.wannabet.org

