

Centro Nueva Creación: 2021 Summer Camp Experience

Student Interns: Jorge Olan, Drexel University College of Medicine; Cindy Silvero, Drexel University School of Nursing and Health Professions

Academic Preceptor: Jeremiah Goldstein, MD, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University College of Medicine

Community Preceptor: Maribel Lozada-Arzuaga, Centro Nueva Creación

COMMUNITY PARTNER

Centro Nueva Creación is a non-profit organization that aims to empower local youth through intentional + interactive programming that fosters a genuine love for learning. Further, Centro advocates for health and wellness in its education as well as promotes cultural awareness via exposure to Latinx foods, arts and culture.

PROJECT

The BTG interns participated in lesson planning & instruction for the kindergartner students attending the after-school summer camp at Julia de Burgos school. Specifically, the interns focused on general topics in cardiovascular health and oral hygiene as well as the importance of exercise and nutrition using various models, coloring books, storybooks, puppets, and more. Further, the BTG interns demonstrated the humility of social servitude by organizing a care package distribution drive for unsheltered individuals that included socks, food, water, masks, and a positive, homemade message from one of the kindergartner students.



PROJECT RESULTS

Jorge Olan: "I was truly humbled and inspired by the strength in community that surrounds Centro Nueva Creación. I took great pride in seeing the children understand and absorb the intentionality behind our cardio and oral health sessions, and thanks to this I gained a more complete understanding of public health and its reach in the classroom. It's crucial that our educators continue to advocate in the classroom on behalf of preventative care such that discussions surrounding nutrition, health and wellness become a norm in any child's educational development. As for me, I gained a much deeper sense of the impact of effective communication in a team setting, which will come in handy not only in pediatrics but also in almost any other personal + professional environment. However, more than anything else, it was seeing the children's smiles and hearing their laughs that really lit the fire beneath me and pushed me to be the best version of myself day in and day out."

Cindy Silvero: "I believe that this has been an amazing experience filled with a lot of learning and practice for my future career in music therapy. I am glad that I had the opportunity to work with kids, since my past clinical experience was with inpatient psych for adults and seniors in a retirement center. Even though this summer experience was not solely focused on music therapy, I was still able to utilize my skills in organization, leading groups, and adding my musical expertise into the lesson plans and activities with the children. I also really enjoyed teaching guitar to the kids. This was definitely the best part of my summer, and I could not be more thankful for this wonderful experience with Centro Nueva Creación."