Community Action, Research, and Education (CARE) Program

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Selected students are fully funded (approx. $3,800) for 8 weeks of work

Community Action, Research, and Education (C.A.R.E.) Program

- Community Action: Serve as a surrogate family member responsible for *all* resident care needs (emotional support, feeding, medications, toileting etc.)
- Research: Conduct agency-driven project
- Education: Complete on-line curriculum

C.A.R.E. Fellow Responsibilities

- Serve as a surrogate family member responsible for resident care needs (feeding, toileting, medications etc.)
- Offer emotional support
- Provide resident care narratives and document care decisions
- Complete on-line curriculum
- Conduct research project that benefits the home

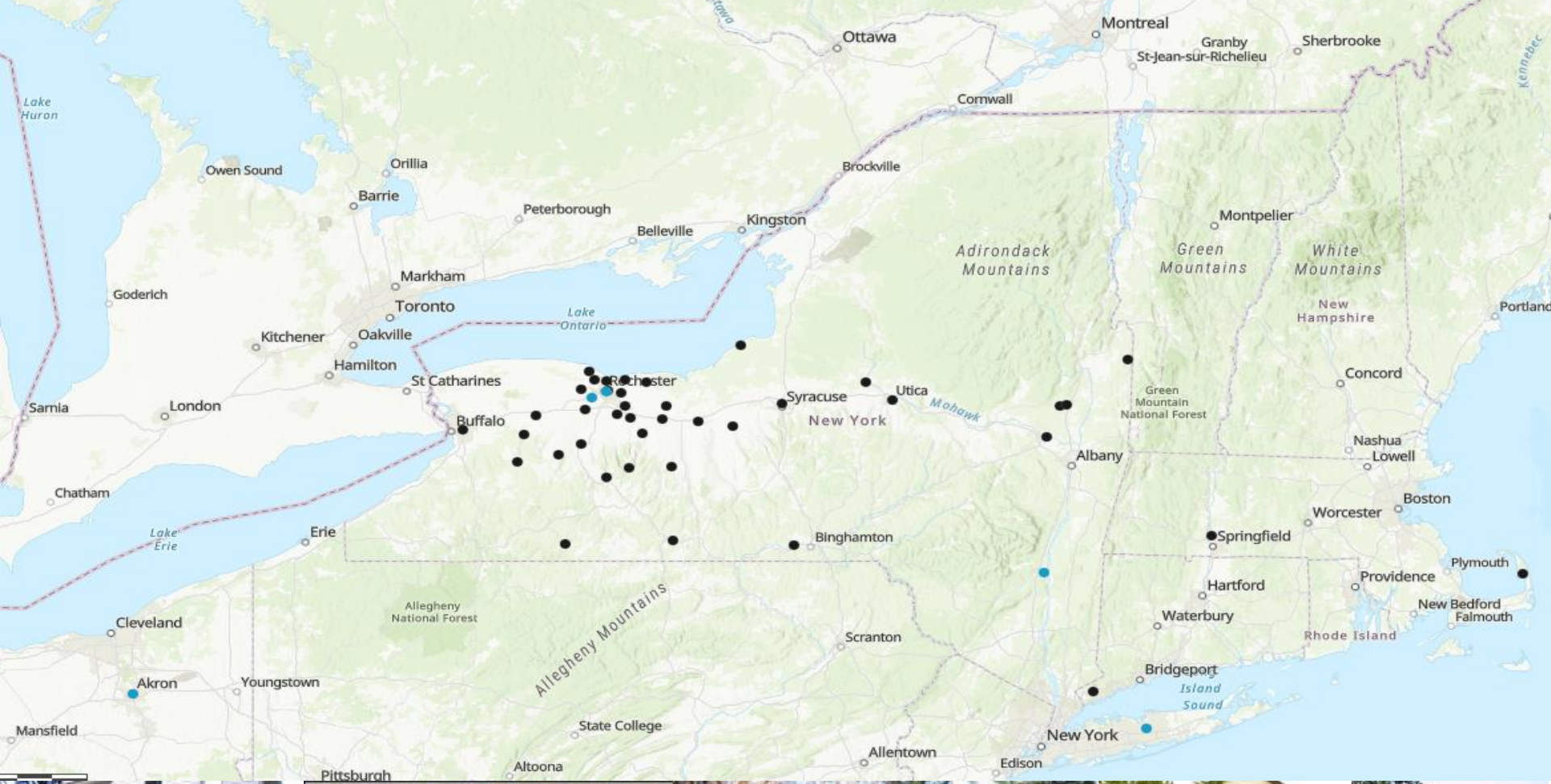
Homes for the Dying in the Capital District

Joan Nicole Prince Home, Scotia

Mary's Haven, Saratoga

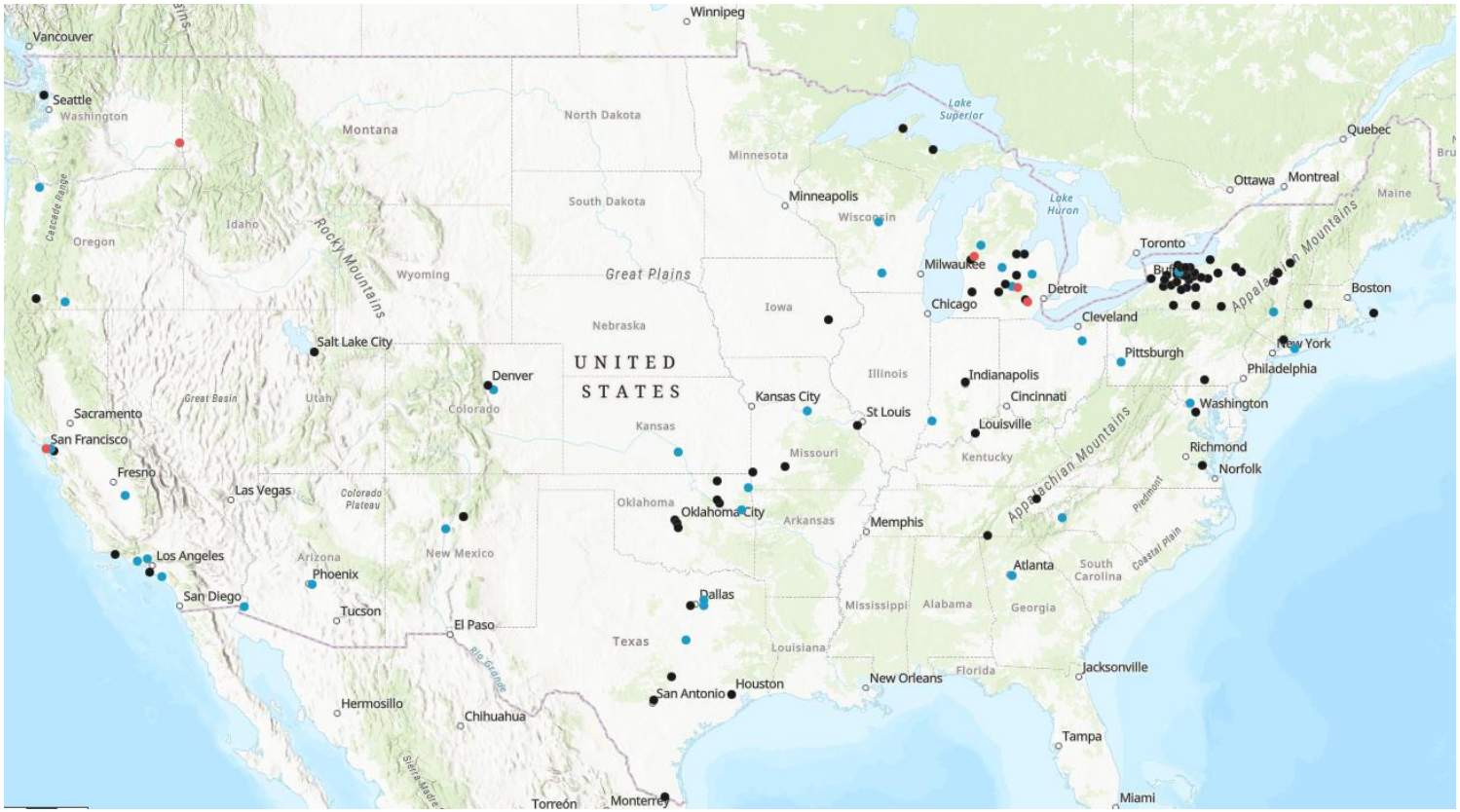
Gateway House of Peace, Ballston Spa

- A caring residence for terminally ill patients in need of a home during their final days
- 2 bedroom
- Prognosis < 3 months
- 24/7 care provided free of charge
- Residents must be enrolled in hospice
- Volunteers from the community (and CARE fellows) serve as caregivers



40 Comfort Care Homes in New York State

Comfort Care Homes in the U.S.



Black=active home

Link to MAP

Blue=in development

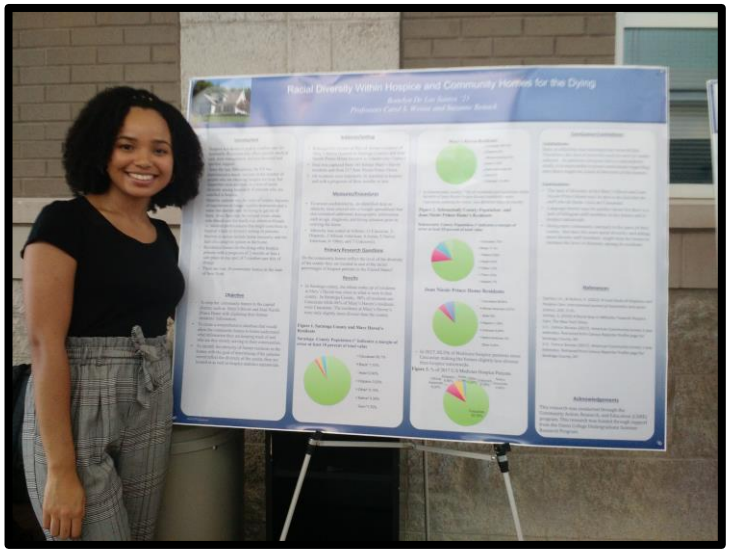
Requirements. All applicants must…

- Commit to the full (35 hrs/week) program from June 17th-August 9th that will include work daytime, night, evening, and weekend shifts that could begin as early as 6:50 am and end as late as 11:00 pm (schedule will vary week to week);
- Work as a member of a caregiver team providing support to residents, family members and friends visiting residents
- Conduct research that includes patient chart reviews and summaries of caregiver narratives;
- Arrange for room and board and transportation to and from your site (some assistance may be available for this).

Digitally Driven Learning/Reflection

Research: Medical Records Review

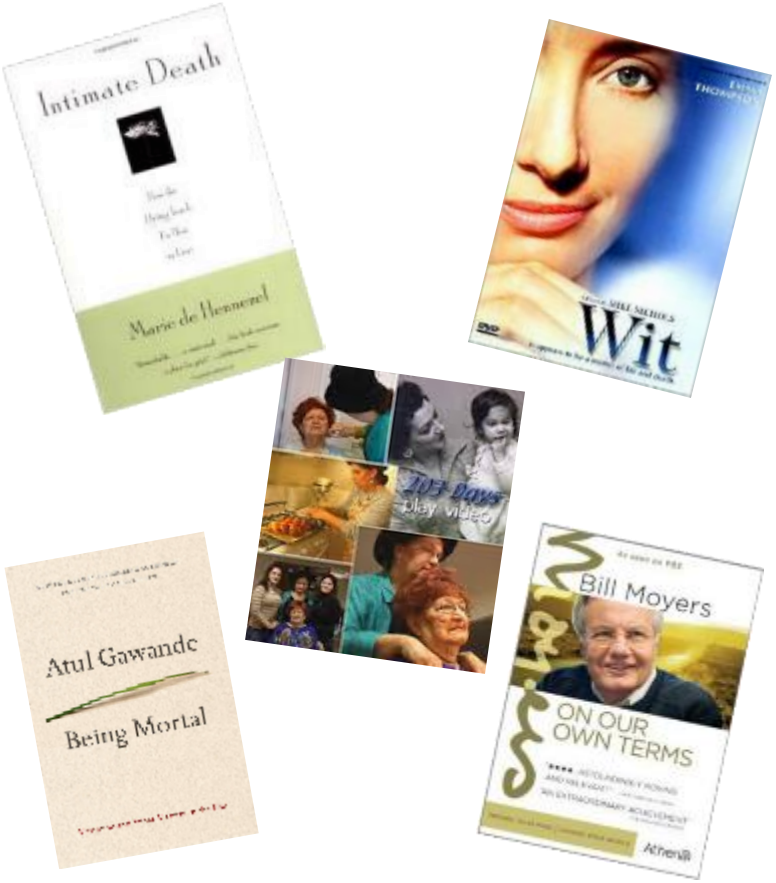
- Archival research, chart review
- Retrospective
- Transcription of caregiver narratives for qualitative research
- Create uniquely designed dataset for quantitative research (i.e. Tracking medication use)



C.A.R.E Curriculum

Ten self-directed learning modules with readings, links to videos, reflection exercises on the following:

- Psychosocial factors in end of life care
- Communication and cultural competency
- Symptom management
- Working as a member of a team
- Preserving dignity at end of life



Approximately 35 hours of assignments meant to be completed in conjunction with 200+ caregiver hours

Developed with support from the Bender Scientific Fund of the Community Foundation for the Greater Capital Region

Benefits of participating in CARE

- 200+ hours of clinical experience (direct patient contact);
- Education and training in palliative care leading to “Certificate of Completion”;
- Opportunity to observe hospice care team members and resident care staff;
- Opportunity to conduct and present a community based research project; and
- Stipend ($3,800 for 8 weeks) to replace earnings from summer employment and to be used toward room and board

Testimonies of previous CARE fellows

When I first started the C.A.R.E fellowship I had no idea how much I would learn in just 8 weeks. I have acquired so many skills that will help me on my journey to becoming a physician, but more importantly, I have truly learned how to be a caring, respectful, and supportive person- values that will stay with me forever.

I am learning how to both provide for patient's medical needs while treating them with respect, dignity, and compassion. I believe that this newly discovered ability will be invaluable to my future as a health care professional.

Identify/visit a home prior to applying

Exisitng partners

- Joan Nicole Prince Home (Scotia, NY)
- Gateway House of Peace (Ballston Spa)
- Mary's Haven (Saratoga, NY)
- Abraham House (Utica/Rome, NY)
- Hospeace House (Naples, NY)
- Advent House (Fairport, NY)
- Harmony House (Chicopee, MA)

SCAN to find a home that might host you as a CARE fellow this summer

NOTE: Prior training and/or familiarity with a home will strengthen your application

How to apply: 2 steps

For Funding

- Identify faculty member who might be interested in medical records review who would take you on a summer research student.
- Inform me of your intent to apply
- Complete summer research application HERE

For Final Acceptance to Fellowship

- Visit a home and meet with the volunteer coordinator so that you understand the work
- Inform me of your interest
- Solicit references that speak specifically to your potential as a caregiver.
- Complete application HERE

UNION

UNION
CLEVELAND
OHIO

Gateway
HOUSE OF PEACE
A COMMUNITY SUPPORT HOME

Our ultimate goal after all is not a good death but a good life to the very end.

~Atul Gawande

Questions?