

Heal Fellowship Impact Report

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Leadership Note

The HEAL Fellowship was created to identify and support young leaders who are passionate about advancing health equity within their communities. During the 2024–2025 cycle, the fellowship brought together 47 fellows across 33 universities, creating a network of students committed to leading health initiatives on their campuses and in surrounding communities.



Through their leadership, the reach of the HEAL movement expanded significantly. By the end of the cycle, HEAL leadership presence had grown from 33 universities to 103 universities, demonstrating the ripple effect that empowered student leaders can create.

This report highlights the projects, programs, and leadership development outcomes that emerged during the fellowship year

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About the HEAL Fellowship

The Health Equity Accelerator Leadership (HEAL) Fellowship is a leadership development program designed to equip students with the tools and opportunities needed to address health challenges within their communities.



Vision

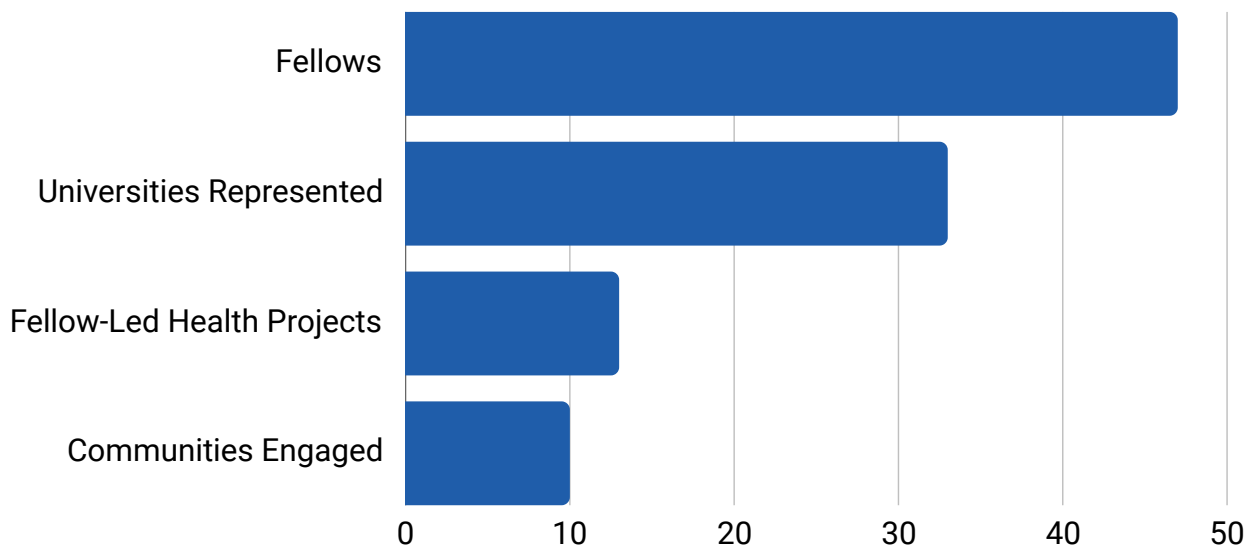
The fellowship provides participants with:

- Leadership exposure
- Project implementation experience
- Collaborative learning
- Community engagement opportunities

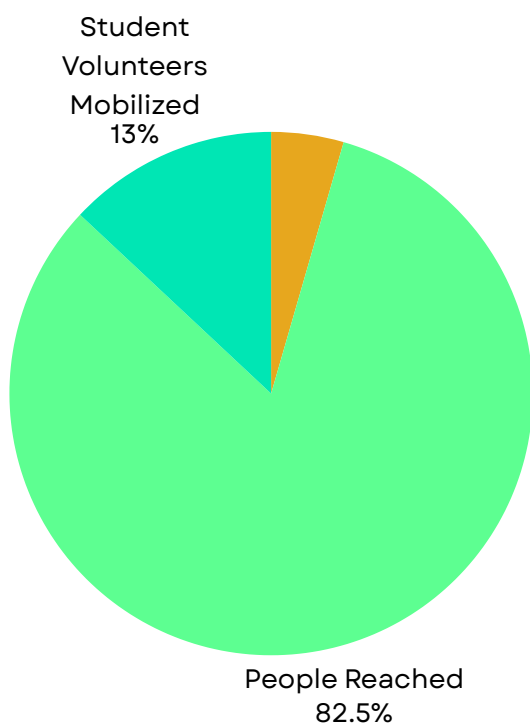
Fellows are encouraged to design and lead initiatives that promote health awareness, education, and advocacy.

Fellowship Snapshot

- 47 Fellows
- 33 Universities Represented
- 13+ Fellow-Led Health Projects
- 10+ Communities Engaged



Data One



Data Two

- 1,900+ People Reached
- 300+ Student Volunteers Mobilized
- 103 Universities Reached Through HEAL Leadership Network



Fellowship Model

The HEAL Fellowship is built around a leadership pipeline that moves students from participation to impact.

Students enter the fellowship with an interest in improving health outcomes in their communities.

During the program they gain:



Leadership skills



Advocacy exposure



Project management experience



Collaboration opportunities

By the end of the cycle, fellows emerge as leaders capable of organizing initiatives and mobilizing others.

Expansion and Network Growth



One of the most significant outcomes of the fellowship cycle was the expansion of the HEAL network.

At the beginning of the program:

33 universities were represented within the fellowship.

Through the work of fellows and the growth of campus engagement: HEAL leadership presence expanded to **103 universities**.

This growth demonstrates the ability of the fellowship to act as a catalyst for scaling youth-led health leadership.



Fellow-Led Community Impact

Fellows implemented several initiatives addressing key public health challenges.

Program themes included:

- Menstrual health education
- Oral health awareness
- Malaria prevention
- Blood donation advocacy
- Hypertension awareness
- Diabetes education
- Hepatitis awareness

Many of these initiatives were organized within schools, university communities, and local neighborhoods.



Blood Donation Advocacy

Blood donation awareness campaigns organized by fellows mobilized community members to support life-saving donations.

Through these initiatives:

68 units of blood were mobilized for donation.

These campaigns also helped increase awareness about the importance of voluntary blood donation.



Community Health Campaigns

Several fellows organized community discussions and awareness programs addressing issues such as:

- Hypertension prevention
- Diabetes awareness
- Malaria education
- Sexual and reproductive health

These programs created spaces where community members could learn, ask questions, and access reliable information.





Volunteer Engagement

Fellows mobilized a large number of student volunteers to support their initiatives.

Volunteers contributed by:

- Assisting in outreach programs
- Helping organize events
- Participating in awareness campaigns
- Supporting logistics and coordination

Their involvement strengthened the reach and effectiveness of fellow-led projects.



Stories from the Fellowship

Across the fellowship network, several participants transitioned from students interested in health to leaders organizing initiatives within their communities.

Some fellows led their first community health program during this cycle.

Others mobilized volunteers and built teams that continue to operate within their campuses.

These experiences illustrate the leadership development at the core of the fellowship.

Lessons Learned

The fellowship cycle reinforced several important lessons.

Young people are capable of delivering meaningful health impact when given structure and support.

Peer collaboration increases the scale of initiatives.

Community engagement works best when programs are designed with local contexts in mind.

Leadership development must be paired with real opportunities for action.



A photograph of three young professionals: a man in a traditional cap, a man in a white shirt and tie, and a woman in a black headwrap, all smiling against a blue background.

What's Next for the Fellowship

The next phase of the HEAL Fellowship will focus on:

- Expanding the number of fellows
- Strengthening mentorship systems
- Supporting research initiatives
- Scaling fellow-led projects
- Increasing collaboration across universities
- The long-term vision is to build a strong community of young leaders capable of influencing health systems and policies.

Closing Reflection

The HEAL Fellowship continues to prove that leadership development and community impact can go hand in hand.

When students are trusted with responsibility and supported with structure, they are capable of creating meaningful change.

The growth from 33 universities to 103 universities within a single cycle is a powerful demonstration of what young leaders can achieve when they are connected through a shared mission.

The work of the fellows represents not just programs completed, but the foundation of a growing movement for health equity.



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