

## **TUFH 2020** Abstracts

Title	Through and For the Community": How UP Pagsama Works for Sustainable Development
Туре	Oral Presentation Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment
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Country	Philippines
Abstract No	TUFH204

Content

Background: The University of the Philippines College of Medicine envisions its students to be community-oriented physicians in the context of the Primary Health Care approach. UP PAGSAMA, the longest-running community-based organization in the college, has produced and continues to hone medical students to be partners for health and committed social responders for sustainable progress while working with the Filipino communities. Method: Educational discussions are held at least twice a month tackling a variety of topics, including local and international health issues, frontline rural experiences, and screening of documentaries and social commentaries. Outside of the university, the organization holds community integration opportunities where its members join in the community-organizing efforts of partner non-government organizations. There is also a structured application process which involves discussions on the social determinants of health, the Alma Ata Declaration on Primary Health Care, and the current health situation in the Philippines, among others. Results: Through the different activities and discussions organized by UP PAGSAMA, its members are able to participate in community-oriented efforts to establish sustainable change in the communities. Its members are also able to develop a mindset focused on the multifactorial nature of health problems and the Primary Health Care approach. UP PAGSAMA has produced community-oriented and community-based physicians, taking the lead in promoting public health in the country. Conclusion: UP PAGSAMA hones its members to be future physicians who are community-oriented, if not community-based, working towards sustainable development through and for the community.