

**“Enhancing Interprofessional  
Collaboration and Learning for  
Strengthening Primary Health Care”**

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## TUFH 2021 ABSTRACTS

Title	JAMSA ENGAGING HEALTH PROFESSIONS STUDENTS IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, COLLABORATION, AND PRACTICE
Type	Oral Presentation Community-Based Education for Health and Social Care Students
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Abstract N <sup>o</sup>	TUFH800
Content	<p>Background The Jamaica Medical Students Association (JAMSA) mandate includes driving student engagement in primary health care through social accountability and interprofessional education, collaboration, and practice. Through student and youth-led initiatives and projects, JAMSA provides opportunities for students to be immersed in the practice of community health and primary health care, developing interest and encouraging commitment through exposure. Method Throughout the year JAMSA leads and teams in interprofessional primary health care student – driven initiatives. Two noteworthy examples include: 1)Community health fairs in rural and underserved communities. JAMSA is one of 7 health professions school’s student volunteers who provide interprofessional education, collaboration, and practice in health outreach and service. 2)COVID-19 Health Education Task Force JAMSA leads a joint staff-student task force across multidisciplinary health professions students and schools campaign producing evidence-based information and infographics via social media debunking COVID-19 pandemic related misinformation. Results Supplementation of the formal health professions education curriculum with the informal curriculum through interprofessional primary health care activities not only mutually develops both, but also develops practical appreciation and understanding of interprofessionalism and primary health care. Students report increased appreciation and understanding of health workforce team roles and dynamics both anecdotally and formally via survey. Additionally, they also begin to appreciate and understand the role of health system science from a practical standpoint. Conclusion The Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary intersections of University of the West Indies (UWI) Mona Campus health professions students in the primary health care setting strengthens interprofessional education, collaboration, and practice.</p>