

# A Service-Focused, Multilevel Advocacy Framework for Student Pharmacists

Nicole Slater, PharmD<sup>1</sup>, Joe Cusimano, PharmD<sup>1</sup>, Sarah Parnapy Jawaid, PharmD<sup>1</sup>, Renee Thomas, PharmD<sup>2</sup>, Kelsey Morgan, PharmD<sup>1</sup>  
Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy, Shenandoah University, <sup>1</sup>Winchester, Virginia and <sup>2</sup>Fairfax, Virginia

## OBJECTIVE

To describe how the Bernard J. Dunn School of Pharmacy drives service-focused advocacy within the community and beyond to enhance the public's perception of pharmacy.

## BACKGROUND

The university invests in pharmacy's future through partnerships promoting student pharmacist advocacy. Through these opportunities, student pharmacists serve the community, enhancing public perception of the profession. Faculty lead a grassroots campaign with institutional support, using a structured approach to teach and model advocacy, empowering students to take ownership of the profession.

## RESULTS

Opportunities for student advocacy were facilitated at the local, state, national, and international levels. Locally, student pharmacists participated in over 25 health fairs and community outreach events, helping hundreds. Through a grassroots campaign, Winchester's mayor recognized National Pharmacy Week, acknowledging the invaluable role of pharmacists on the healthcare team.

At the state level, students and faculty mentors advocated for the profession with legislators, joining a movement resulting in passing pharmacist provider status in Virginia and passing a pharmacist test-treat-refer bill for influenza, COVID-19, strep, and urinary tract infections.

Nationally, 48 students received university funding to attend national pharmacy meetings, providing opportunities to network and create policy. Fourteen students presented posters and participated as delegates in policy meetings.

Internationally, the university sent 15 students and faculty on international mission trips, advocating for the profession while addressing health disparities.

These partnerships within the local community, state, national and international organizations empowered students to advocate for themselves and the pharmacy profession, helping the public see their value.

## CONCLUSIONS

Institutions should provide and support advocacy opportunities to strengthen the public's perception of pharmacy at the local, state, national and international levels.

## 2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR HIGHLIGHTS OF ADVOCACY AT SU

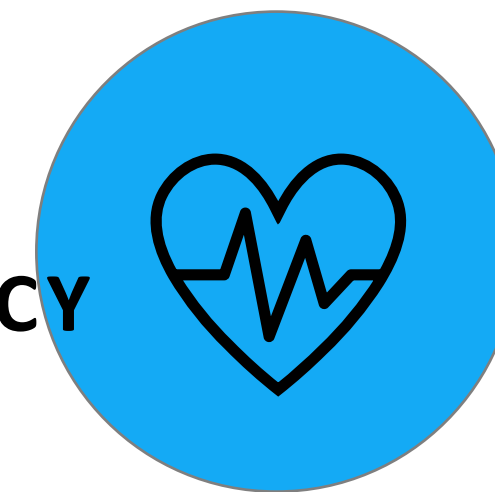
### ADVOCACY MISSION

By engaging in personal, patient, and professional advocacy, our students develop skills that enable them to advocate for themselves, their patients, and the pharmacy profession for the duration of their careers.

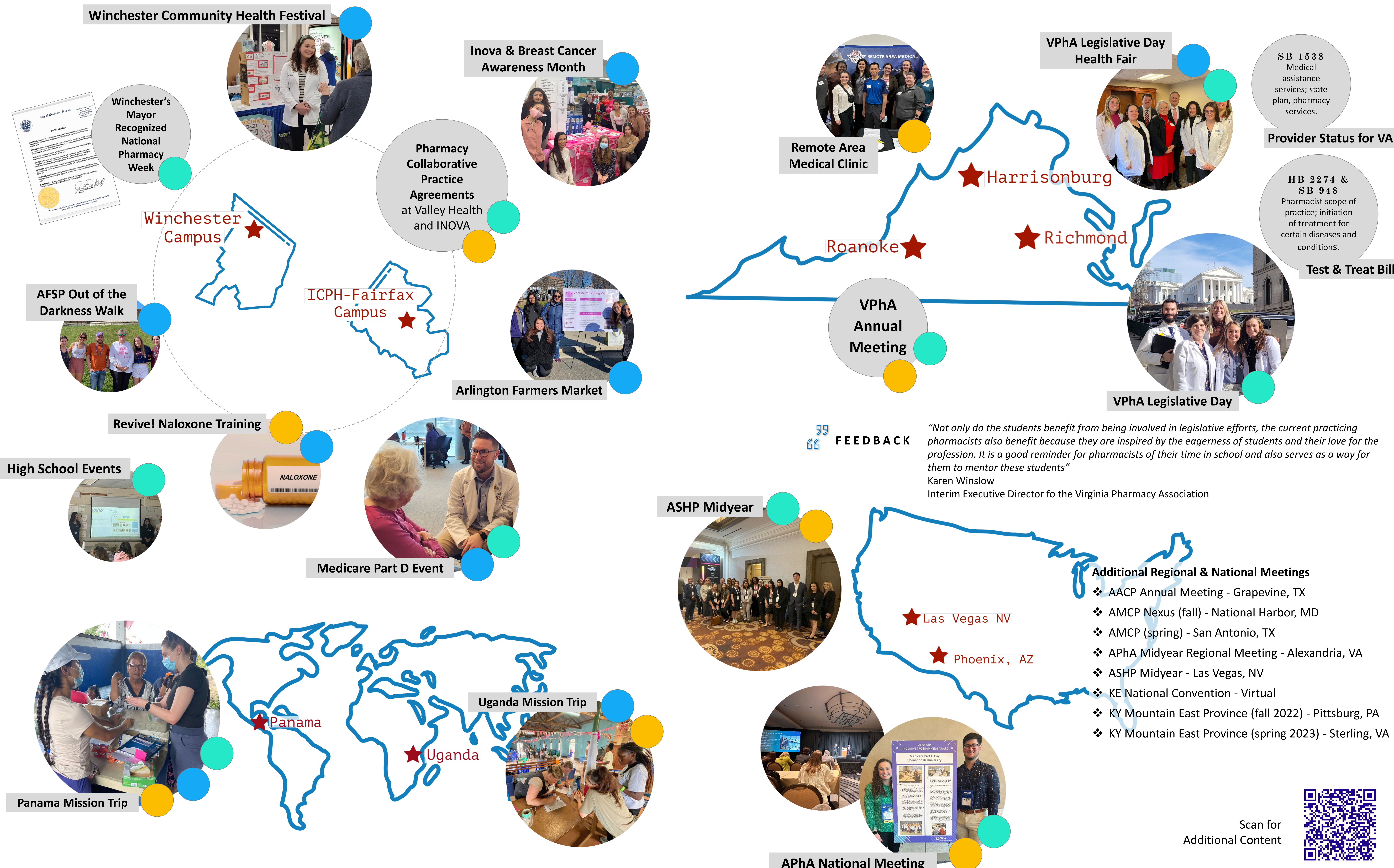
PERSONAL  
ADVOCACY



PATIENT  
ADVOCACY



PROFESSIONAL  
ADVOCACY



Scan for  
Additional Content

