



PCOM®

OFFICE OF CAMPUS AND
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
2026 ANNUAL
REPORT

OFFICE OF CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Office of Campus and Community Partnerships (CCP) plays a vital role in strengthening PCOM's connection to the broader community and ensuring the institution's resources contribute to the public good. We work with students, faculty, staff, alumni and external stakeholders to address community health priorities, expand clinical training opportunities, and develop stronger partnerships with local organizations.

CCP consistently transforms institutional priorities and emerging community needs into scalable programs with measurable outcomes. The following accomplishments produced measurable impact across our three campuses, multiple academic programs, regional community partnerships, and rural healthcare workforce initiatives.

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS 2025-2026 AT A GLANCE



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIP

- + **1,036** students engaged through major healthcare youth outreach programming across all three campuses
- + **270** PCOM Students participated in youth outreach programming across all three campuses
- + **414** students applied to the Opportunities Academy with 175 students attending
- + **38** K-12 schools and community organizations partnered with CCP to host youth outreach programs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, ENGAGEMENT AND WORKPLACE EXCELLENCE

- + **26** medical students completed **Resilient Communities of Southwest Georgia** resilience training.
- + **12** fourth-year students participated in the **Community Health and Patient-Centered Care** elective.
- + **7** professional development workshops delivered to Philadelphia third year medical students
- + **47** faculty and staff completed the Lead The Change Certificate Program
- + **53** students participated in Lead the Change

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

The Office of Campus and Community Partnerships strengthened the integration of patient-centered care, trauma-informed practice, humility and compassionate care, and social influences of health throughout the medical education continuum.

Examples include:

- + Primary Care Skills: trauma-informed and patient-centered care, managing difficult encounters
- + Medical Humanities: disability justice and medicine; humility, compassion, and patient-centered care
- + Fourth-year Community Health and Patient-Centered Care elective
- + Rural Health Track Certificate
- + Resident professional development
- + Resilience programming
- + Community-based experiential learning
- + Third-year medical students monthly professional development: Generations in Healthcare

DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED A MULTI-CAMPUS STUDENT LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Office of Campus and Community Partnerships adapted existing Lead The Change manager modules into a student-focused certificate program designed to equip PCOM students with leadership skills to

thrive in clinical, academic, and professional environments. Between January and May 2026, 53 PCOM students participated in the program.

Students reported behavioral and professional growth, including greater willingness to:

- + Advocate for themselves and others and seek mentorship and career opportunities.
- + Address conflict constructively and regulate emotional responses.
- + Establish boundaries and communicate more intentionally.
- + Invite diverse perspectives and ensure others have opportunities to contribute.
- + Create environments where peers and colleagues feel safe to speak, ask questions, and share ideas.
- + Apply leadership strategies across academic, clinical, professional, networking, and student organization settings.

Lead The Change Student Testimonials

"As a participant in the Lead the Change Certificate program, the experience felt intentional and genuinely engaging. We were consistently pushed to reflect on how concepts like emotional intelligence show up in our own behavior, decision making and leadership skills."



Lead The Change Student Testimonials

"Overall, I walked away with a stronger awareness of how leadership isn't just about direction or authority, but about how you manage yourself and create environments where others can show up fully."

BUILT A SCALABLE RURAL HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA)

This work resulted in PCOM South Georgia securing a new funding initiative launched by AACOM Innovations in Graduate Medical Education Development Grant in 2026, providing external resources to develop and implement the Rural Health Track and creating a framework that connects medical education, graduate medical education, clinical immersion, community engagement, research, telehealth, behavioral health, and workforce retention. The initiative represents a transition from individual community programs to a comprehensive rural workforce strategy with potential for long-term institutional and regional impact. Funding amount: **\$35,000**.

STRENGTHENED BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMMING: (PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA)

PCOM South Georgia's role continues to expand partnerships in regional behavioral and community health through its formal leadership in Resilient Communities of Southwest Georgia (RCSWGA). CCP became a Co-Lead

Agency in the regional initiative, supporting trauma-informed systems change, workforce development, resilience programming, and cross-sector collaboration. This work demonstrates PCOM's transition from a participant in South Georgia regional initiatives to a strategic leader in trauma-informed systems change. Secured RCSWGA Funding in the amount of **\$50,000**.

Measurable impact:

- + **26** medical students completed resilience training.
- + 4-hour training series established.
- + Campus and Community Partnerships staff completed Resilient Georgia training
- + PCOM is positioned as a formal Co-Lead Agency.
- + **9** counties included in the regional engagement strategy.

CLINICAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY-BASED ROTATIONS

Expanded PCOM's clinical education infrastructure and strengthened community-based training opportunities for medical and behavioral health students. The partnership between PCOM and Eagleville Hospital expanded opportunities for medical students to receive clinical training in Addiction and Psychiatric Medicine. The partnership also creates complementary opportunities for Mental Health Counseling students to participate in Behavioral Health internships, strengthening interdisciplinary learning and exposing learners to the intersection of substance use, behavioral health, and whole-person care.



ADVANCED COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT

The OCCP expanded opportunities for community-based research and scholarly dissemination. Since 2021, twenty-one community-based research projects have afforded students across academic programs in community health studies in partnerships with k-12, faith-based, nonprofit, and grass-roots organizations.

CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

As part of the OCCP's Youth Outreach Programming, 270 PCOM students served as mentors and teachers. PCOM students have the opportunity to build their communication, collaboration, health literacy, and leadership skills through these experiences.

Youth Outreach Student Testimonials

"Being able to learn and consider how differently people of the same community experience life was truly special, and something I will carry with me into my future practice as a physician."

"I was able to make connections with faculty, build my resume, learn from peers and enhance my education by creating or supporting in teaching lessons."

"The most valuable part of this experience was learning how to deliver engaging lesson plans on difficult or conceptual topics, in a more colloquial and digestible way. This skill that I have gained is something that will be vastly useful to me as a primary care provider, in regards educating my future patient population."

ADVANCED WORKPLACE EXCELLENCE THROUGH THE LEAD THE CHANGE EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

In 2025–2026, 47 PCOM employees completed the Lead The Change Employee Certificate Program. Assessment results showed gains in leadership confidence: 3% initially felt very confident distinguishing mentorship from sponsorship, while 82% felt very confident navigating those relationships afterward. Comfort with difficult workplace conversations rose from 7% to 53%. Following the program, 82% felt very or extremely confident managing emotions under stress, and 82% reported gaining practical leadership tools throughout the program. PCOM employees also described listening more intentionally, making space for colleagues' ideas, and leading more focused meetings.

Lead the Change Employee Testimonials

"The Lead The Change Certificate Program gave our cohort the opportunity to be both vulnerable and authentic while navigating everyday challenges that we may not otherwise have had the space or support to explore. The topics and dialogues were thoughtful, intentional, and insightful. I continue to apply many of the skills developed throughout the program's courses."

"It is a wonderful opportunity to share insights about leadership growth, across departments and disciplines, in a safe and welcoming space. It doesn't matter what level or background anyone is from - we all have potential to grow and learn from one-another's experiences and perspectives. All topics begin at beginner level, are relevant to all levels of leadership and applicable to a wide variety of people and settings."



COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PARTNERSHIPS

The Office of Campus and Community Partnerships continues to strengthen and expand community outreach and youth outreach programming across all three campuses.

NATIONAL BEEF (PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA)

National Beef employees received health education under the supervision of PCOM faculty. Some employees received blood pressure screening for the first time. This work demonstrates the ability to convert community partnerships into direct health services and student learning opportunities.

- + **90** blood pressure screenings were completed.
- + **13** PCOM medical students participated.

ATHLETES IN MEDICINE (PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA)

Launched in spring 2026, Athletes in Medicine is a new healthcare workforce pipeline designed specifically for student-athletes.

The initial implementation included:

- + **7** sessions
- + **28** instructional hours
- + **22** PCOM medical student facilitators
- + Approximately **560** student-athletes' engagements reached

Topics include nutrition, injury prevention, sleep, recovery, health and wellness, and more.

The program represents a scalable model that simultaneously supports community health education, healthcare career exploration, and medical student leadership development.

OPPORTUNITIES ACADEMY

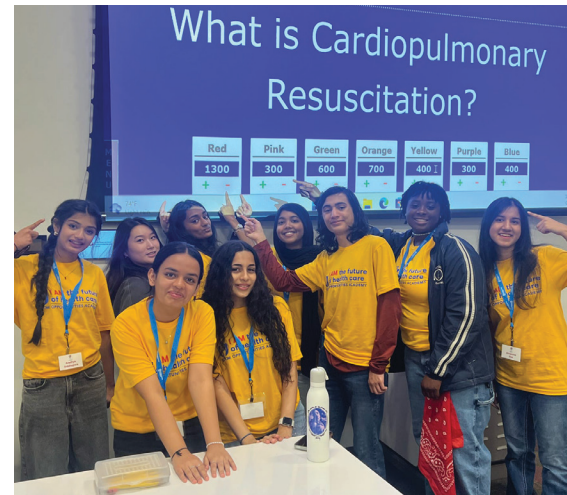
In 2026, Opportunities Academy welcomed 175 high school students across PCOM's three campuses. Each campus offered hands-on experiences that introduced students to healthcare careers and strengthened their college readiness.

HANDS-ON INTUBATION EXPERIENCE: (PCOM SOUTH GEORGIA)

One of the most distinctive features of the 2026 Opportunities Academy was that high school students had the opportunity to learn and practice intubation techniques in a simulated healthcare setting. This gave participants rare, hands-on exposure to a clinical skill typically associated with advanced medical training and helped make healthcare careers feel tangible and achievable.

EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (PCOM)

Students had the opportunity to participate in breakout sessions for the first time during the 2026 program. Students were able to choose between breakout sessions in the anatomy lab, medical ethics, mental health, histology, and infectious diseases. Two student clubs,



five faculty members, and 2 Opportunities Academy alumni participated in the breakout sessions, providing additional co-curricular experiences for our students.

STUDENT-DESIGNED HYDRATION CHALLENGE (PCOM GEORGIA)

A Community Engagement intern developed a sports medicine activity that invited Opportunities Academy students to create their own sports drink. After learning how water and electrolytes affect the body, students selected ingredients, named and priced their drinks, and presented a pitch explaining their formula's benefits and potential risks. The challenge brought chemistry and health concepts into a practical exercise while students practiced collaboration, creativity, and public speaking.

INSIDE OUT: MIDDLE SCHOOL ANATOMY DAY (PCOM)

In collaboration with Admissions, PCOM developed and launched Inside Out, a middle-school pathway initiative that links community engagement and early healthcare career exposure. This initiative further expands PCOM's youth outreach program strategy by introducing healthcare careers at an earlier stage of the educational continuum.

EXPANDED PARTNERSHIP WITH TGR LEARNING LAB

Campus and Community Partnership partnered with the TGR Learning Lab to host a Healthcare Careers Industry Day for SLA Beeber and Upper Darby High Schools. 65 high school students heard from PCOM students and alumni in a panel and participated in breakout rooms with faculty, staff, and students.

EXPANDED YOUTH OUTREACH THROUGH THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INTERNSHIP

Through a partnership with Georgia State University established in 2025, the Office of Campus and Community Partnerships hosted 29 undergraduate interns in 2025–2026. Interns majoring in biomedical sciences, biology, neuroscience, psychology, political science, and criminal justice earned internship hours while supporting PCOM Georgia's youth outreach and community engagement work.

Interns were expected to mentor and supervise young participants, lead educational activities, collaborate with community partners, and complete an independent project aligned with their interests and the office's mission. Their projects produced hands-on learning experiences for K-12 students, including medical-themed escape rooms and forensic challenges.

Interns also represented PCOM at the Atlanta Science Festival, facilitated breakout sessions at the Gwinnett Science Fair, and mentored students through Opportunities Academy, Medical Explorers, and STEM Saturday. These experiences gave interns opportunities to practice leadership and communication while helping younger students explore science and healthcare.

LAUNCHED STEAM AT MASON FOR FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS

The Office of Campus and Community Partnerships collaborated with PCOM faculty and students, and Mason Elementary School to launch STEAM at Mason, reaching 168 fifth graders in 2025–2026. Monthly visits to the STEM-certified school extended PCOM

Georgia's youth outreach to an elementary school that feeds into a middle school PCOM has worked with since 2023.

Through a yearlong project on microorganisms, students practiced research, design thinking, and communication. They created and branded soaps, sold them at Mason's STEM Fair, and taught community members ways to reduce the spread of harmful bacteria.

Mason educators reported that students looked forward to PCOM's visits and that the lessons strengthened collaboration and communication while connecting classroom learning to STEAM careers.





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