Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC) serves patients in Tennessee, northern Alabama, southern Kentucky, and beyond. The Medical Center is home to Vanderbilt University Hospital (adult care), Monroe Carell Jr. Children’s Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital, Vanderbilt Stallworth Rehabilitation Hospital, The Vanderbilt Clinic, Vanderbilt Health One Hundred Oaks, and many other patient care settings.

Vanderbilt University Hospitals—comprising the adult, children’s, and psychiatric hospitals—have approximately 57,000 discharges annually. VUMC also provides 1.7 million outpatient visits, including 110,000 to the emergency departments of those three hospitals. In 2012, VUMC provided approximately $477.4 million in uncompensated care through its hospitals and clinics. It is also noteworthy that VUMC has the only Level 1 trauma center, Level 4 neonatal intensive care unit, dedicated burn center, and comprehensive center offering all types of solid organ transplants in the area.

Extraordinary patient care is only one part of the VUMC mission. The clinical enterprise is inseparably linked to the education of the next generation of leaders in health care and biomedical science and cutting edge discovery research with real-time translation to improvements in human health.

Partnering with Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

- In August 2013, the National Center for Special Education Research awarded a team of Vanderbilt University professors $10 million to develop new math and reading strategies aimed at improving student success. The five-year grant, which will establish an Accelerated Academic Achievement (A3) Research Center, will enable the researchers to study instructional programs targeting students with the most severe learning disabilities in grades 3 to 5. Over its five-year span, the Vanderbilt A3 center will identify 2,000 to 3,000 students from Nashville schools to participate.

*Vanderbilt Students Volunteering for Science is a service organization at Vanderbilt University dedicated to science outreach and committed to bringing inquiry-based, hands-on science lessons to middle school students.

**The Pathfinder Hotline is a statewide multi-language help line that connects the Tennessee disability community with service providers and information.
Vanderbilt's Peabody College of education and human development has partnered with Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) to promote math and science achievement for students in grades 3 to 6 in high-need schools. The national effort, led by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and recently named the recipient of a $3 million Investing in Innovation grant from the U.S. Department of Education, will focus on elevating student achievement by improving teacher preparation and early-career teaching support.

The Teaching and Learning in Urban Schools program is an exciting partnership between Peabody College of education and human development and MNPS. The two-year master's degree program is designed for graduates of accredited teacher licensure programs with teaching certificates in science, math, or reading in grades 5 to 8. Students pay no tuition and begin teaching as full-time school employees in the fall of their first year at a school that is collaborating with Peabody. Enrolled students must also commit to teaching in MNPS classrooms for three years following graduation.

Vanderbilt's Aerospace Club collaborated with Peabody College to introduce seventh-graders from Wright Middle School in Nashville to the field of engineering, many for the first time. During the five-week educational experience, students were introduced to basic engineering concepts and able to participate in hands-on experiments.

TN-SCORE Outreach Initiatives

In October 2010, Tennessee was one of seven states selected by the National Science Foundation to receive an EPSCoR Award, totaling $20 million five years. This is one of the largest federal science grants ever awarded to the state. The collaboration, known as Tennessee Solar Conversion and Storage Using Outreach, Research and Education (TN-SCORE), draws upon the state's expanding energy industry and brings together researchers from Tennessee universities and Oak Ridge National Laboratory to boost energy-related research and education across the state. The Vanderbilt Institute of Nanoscale Science and Engineering (VINSE) is playing a key role by conducting research and training undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty from across the state.

With the support of TN-SCORE, VINSE is leading an effort to bring STEM education to students in grades 5 to 12. According to Sarah Ross Satterwhite, program coordinator for VINSE, “Our goal is to get science out of the textbook and give Tennessee teachers the tools to help their students develop a genuine interest and stronger skills in science and math.” In 2012, 1,106 students in the 5th District benefited from on-site field trips to tour VINSE facilities, classroom demonstrations, and teacher trainings.

Nashville’s Entrepreneur Center

In an effort to promote the commercialization of Vanderbilt technology, Vanderbilt has a newly designated space at Nashville’s Entrepreneur Center (EC) incubator. The Vanderbilt School of Engineering and the Center for Technology Transfer and Commercialization are collaborating to bring talented individuals with promising technologies to the EC where they will benefit from its excellent programs and be provided with access to mentors, entrepreneurs, investors, and others who can assist in turning innovations into real companies and products.

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