

SIX IDEAS TO MENTOR AND IMPACT A HEALTHCARE STUDENT'S LIFE

➔ Open up your practice



You can impact a Christian healthcare student by simply having them come to you. Consider inviting students into your practice as they do their clinical rotations. Many local schools are looking for preceptors to work with their students, and many Christian students are eager to work and precept with Christian healthcare professionals.

➔ Open up your home



Opening up your home can open up the hearts of the students you invite. An easy way to make a meaningful and lasting connection with student is to show hospitality and to share a meal together. Students may feel like they are unable to accept many invitations and opportunities because of their busy schedule, but rarely will they turn down a generous invitation for a home-cooked meal.

➔ Serve together on a medical mission trip



Do you want a significant opportunity to have a life-on-life impact with a student? If so, then go on a mission trip together. Serve with a student, either locally or on a short-term global mission outreach. These medical mission trips are not only a blessing to those that are served, but they also bless the team members. One of those tangible blessings is the opportunity it creates in cultivating meaningful relationships among the healthcare professionals and students.

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YOU CAN IMPACT THE NEXT GENERATION

You have a unique opportunity to make an impact in the lives of the next generation of Christian healthcare professionals. To do so, it doesn't have to be difficult, complicated or complex, all it requires is a willingness and availability to God and students.

There isn't a "one-size" fits all mentality to impacting students. We've provided a half dozen ideas to get you started. This list isn't comprehensive nor is it exhaustive. Rather, the ideas we have touched on are simply meant to spur on your thinking and inspire your creativity.

Using these ideas, you can find a meaningful and relevant way to invest in students. Christian students need Christian healthcare professionals to invest and speak into their lives. Prayerfully consider how God may be calling you to take that next step.

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➔ Lead a small group



True life change and impact comes when a person becomes a student, a learner and a lover of the Word of God. You can impact students by leading them in studying the Word together, providing accountability and praying together. These small groups are best to be done as single-gender groups in order to provide a safe and transparent environment.

➔ Scholarship students



Impact a student's life by helping them go to a life-changing conference or on a mission trip. Too often students don't have the necessary financial resources for these opportunities, but you helping to underwrite a student's expenses can make all the difference in getting them there. Opportunities such as the Global Missions Health Conference and CMDA's Global Health Outreach trips are opportunities worth helping a student take advantage of.

➔ Speak at a CMDA chapter meeting



Speaking to a local student chapter can make a difference. Students want to hear from those that have gone before them, and they want to hear how

you've integrated your faith into the practice of medicine. Yet, they don't just want to hear only success stories; they want to hear the real life challenges (and even failures), too. Speaking, yet only briefly, at a CMDA chapter meeting may seem like a small opportunity, but it truly can make a big impact.



As God gives you opportunities to invest in the lives of students, you'll find the occasion to delve deep into each other's life. As you do, it is important for you as a mentor to be able to ask thoughtful questions concerning how they (as a student) are doing in navigating and negotiating the world of medical school as a follower of Christ. Here are some possible questions that may help create meaningful conversation as you interact and do life together.

- How is your faith being affected and impacted by your healthcare training both in positive and negative ways?
- What are you learning about yourself and about God through your medical school experience?
- How is your healthcare training affecting your personal time with God, negatively or positively?
- How is your sense of God's call being clarified during this time at medical school?
- How are you seeing your character being tested in medical school?
- What are your hopes and dreams for a medical career as a Christian healthcare professional?

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If you have any questions and need some assistance in connecting with healthcare students in your area, contact us at regions@cmda.org.