

Bridging the Gaps



Philadelphia FIGHT Inclusive, Accessible, Integrated Health Care

Student Interns

Bridget Cichon, Thomas Jefferson University, Sidney Kimmel Medical College
Ashhad Qureshi, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Academic Preceptors

Hillary Bogner, MD, MSCE, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine
Maria Hervada-Page, MSS, Thomas Jefferson University, Sidney Kimmel Medical College
Christopher Renjilian, MD, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Community Preceptors

Mario Cruz, MD, Philadelphia FIGHT Pediatric and Adolescent Health Center

COMMUNITY PARTNER

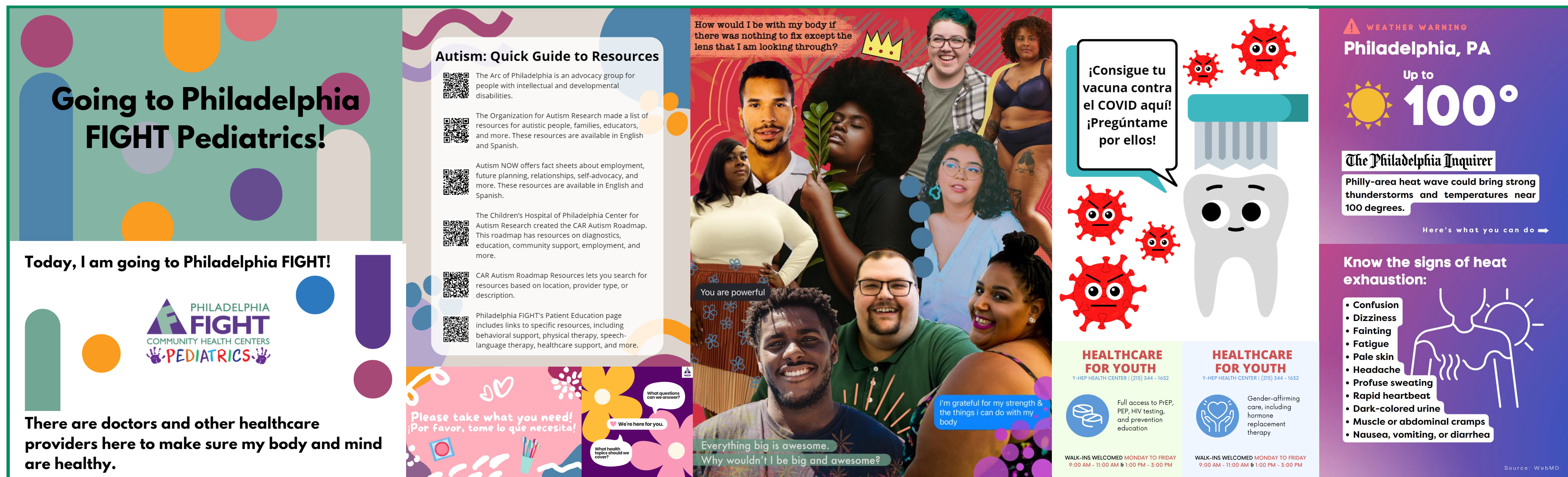
Philadelphia FIGHT Pediatrics and Adolescent Health Center, located in Center City Philadelphia, provides high-quality, comprehensive primary care to address the physical and emotional health needs of children and youth up until the age of 24.

As a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), FIGHT welcomes patients of all income levels, races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations, insurance statuses and nationalities, regardless of ability to pay.

Link: <https://fight.org/programs/pediatric-and-adolescent-health-center/>

TEAM EXPERIENCE

The Bridging the Gaps student interns at Philadelphia FIGHT Pediatrics and Adolescent Health Centers worked on updating educational resources. More specifically, the students worked to create bilingual patient education materials for FIGHT's website and social media about topics such as autism, mental health support, stories about going to the doctor and dentist, and virtual tours. Additionally, the students created and executed plans to make the FIGHT environment more inclusive, such as designing more interactive and friendly waiting rooms, toy bins for patient use, and decorating exam rooms. The students also assisted in research efforts in areas of audiometry, child abuse reporting, and gender affirming care. Finally, the students observed patient care and assisted staff with day-to-day operations and patient needs.



REFLECTION

Bridget Cichon: I am grateful that I had the opportunity to serve the FIGHT community this summer. The healthcare teams at FIGHT have created an immensely inclusive environment that serves a diverse population of patients. I have greatly enjoyed working with the staff, the patients, and my co-intern to improve the patient care experience. The combination of the high-quality integrated care, inclusive space, and accessibility of resources at FIGHT has created an environment that I hope to emulate as a future healthcare provider.

Ashhad Qureshi: It was a privilege to be a part of a health center that recognized the importance of utilizing a holistic approach to address the needs of its community, while truly celebrating that community. I was able to witness the extensive collaboration across the multitude of disciplines, which forms the cornerstone for the excellent integrated care at FIGHT. I was in awe of everyone I worked with and their deep commitment to serving the community, which consists of many folks belonging to historically marginalized groups. I also learned a lot about the administrative and operational aspects of a FQHC and the role providers have in those spaces. With the mentorship of Dr. Cruz and the support of my co-intern, I was able to realize the kind of impact one could have even in the short span of seven weeks. As a future provider, I hope to work at and cultivate a similar environment of collaboration, inclusion, and community-centered care.