



# GROWING STRONGER

2024 marked a momentous milestone in PCOM's history, as the College celebrated 125 years of unwavering commitment to students, faculty, staff and community members. In December 2024, the Community Wellness Initiative (CWI), generously supported by its title sponsor, Independence Blue Cross, helped celebrate this anniversary by providing Health Aid Kits to 500 vulnerable families across Philadelphia.



Each kit included a \$125 grocery gift card to address food insecurity, particularly during the holiday season.

As PCOM honors its rich history, it also looks forward to the future with renewed energy. In concert with community members, students, faculty, alumni and sponsors, CWI will continue to build on the foundation of the past 125 years, striving to reach even greater heights in service to the community.

CWI continues to embrace PCOM's mission to transform health professions education by integrating human connection, and throughout 2024, launched projects designed to transform and enrich the lives of the communities that PCOM serves. This annual report reflects on growth and impact, highlighting how CWI shaped lives, advanced knowledge and fostered collaboration.

## MESSAGE FROM STUDENTS

"When I started at PCOM, I was eager to give back to the community. Volunteering with CWI has enhanced my experience as a student by helping me connect what I've learned in the classroom to real-world community engagement, and it has truly been one of the most rewarding parts of my journey at PCOM.

– Jane Ogagan, (DO '26), PCOM (pictured left)

"The Community Wellness Initiative was the highlight of my first years at PCOM. CWI offered me nearly limitless opportunities to be involved throughout Philadelphia. CWI's work emphasizes the values I hope to utilize as a future physician: community, compassion, and wellness. I am incredibly grateful for the initiative. I look forward to watching CWI's growth over my next few years at PCOM."

– Emily Navarreto, (DO '26), PCOM (pictured right)






# HEALTHY PEOPLE 2030 CHAMPION RECOGNITION

In February 2024, PCOM was recognized as a Healthy People 2030 Champion by the Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion (ODPHP) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Being named as a Healthy People 2030 Champion highlights PCOM's demonstrated commitment to helping achieve the Healthy People 2030 vision: a society in which all people can reach their full potential for health and well-being across the lifespan. Less than 200 organizations across the United States have earned this honor, and PCOM is thrilled to be counted among them.



	2021	2022	2023	2024
 <b>COMMUNITY EVENTS</b>	10	42	87	95
 <b>STUDENTS ENGAGED</b>	50	70	150	258
 <b>COMMUNITY MEMBERS SCREENED AND EDUCATED</b>	810	3,000	6,000	8,120

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024

THROUGH ITS COLLABORATIONS WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS AT ALL PCOM LOCATIONS, CWI VALUES BUILDING TRUSTED RELATIONSHIPS AND WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF THOSE IT SERVES. IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO HAVE A PRESENCE; ADDRESSING HEALTH CONCERNS AND BARRIERS TO OPTIMUM HEALTH IS ESSENTIAL.

### PCOM

**Wellness Garden:** CWI collaborated with Greener Partners to create a garden at the PCOM Healthcare Center on Lancaster Avenue. This vibrant new addition will enrich health and wellness education by providing hands-on activities that empower patients and community members to participate actively in their health.

### PCOM Georgia

**Hamilton Mill Presbyterian Church:** PCOM Georgia formed a new partnership with Hamilton Mill Presbyterian Church (HMPC) to expand community engagement and offer opportunities to help

individuals in vulnerable neighborhoods. Students provided blood pressure screenings and health education to community members at the HMPC food pantry.

### PCOM South Georgia

**Rural Health Initiative:** PCOM South Georgia, supported by CWI, spearheaded a collaborative rural health initiative at the 2024 Sunbelt Ag Expo in Moultrie, Georgia. The event attracted thousands of attendees and featured educational talks, health screenings, CPR training, and demonstrations of advanced medical technology.

**THANK YOU!** 



CWI extends its heartfelt gratitude to all sponsors for being an integral part of this remarkable journey. Their generous support and commitment have empowered CWI to build on PCOM's 125-year legacy and launch transformative projects that change lives. PCOM's mission has been fulfilled through these incredibly valuable partnerships, and CWI is thrilled to have had such a tremendous and positive impact on the lives of so many people in 2024.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!**

**COMMUNITY WELLNESS INITIATIVE**  
**PCOM PHILADELPHIA TITLE SPONSOR: INDEPENDENCE BLUE CROSS**  
CWI WAS THRILLED TO RECEIVE SUPPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS.

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Delaware Valley Community Health	Lehigh Valley Health Network	Sleek Consulting
Diodata Gable Foundation	Lincoln Financial Group	Temple Health
East End Advisors	Marsh McLennan Agency	Weis Markets
Elliott-Lewis		WPVI-TV/6abc



Contact Flo Byarms, Director of Community Wellness Initiative, to discuss partnering with PCOM at any of our campus locations.  
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For CWI sponsorship opportunities, contact Victor L. Sawyer, Sr., Institutional Advancement Administrative Assistant.  
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