



News Release

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Fifth Graders Become Doctors for a Day

TTUHSC School of Medicine Students to Host Mini Camp

Fifth graders from Wolffarth Elementary School will become doctors for a day. The Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) Student National Medical Association (SNMA) will host the Doctors for a Day Mini Camp noon to 3 p.m. Jan. 31 at the TTUHSC Academic Classroom Building, 3601 Fourth St., first floor.

The mission of the camp is to inspire and inform the elementary students to experience a day in the life of a medical student. Briget Hyde, SNMA president and second-year TTUHSC medical student, said the organization created the event as an interactive and fun way to expose students to the field of medicine.

“Doctors for a Day gives the students opportunities to discover medicine in an engaging environment but most importantly, our hope is the experience will cultivate a student’s interest in medicine as a potential career path.”

Students will receive a hands-on experience at the TTUHSC F. Marie Hall SimLife Center diagnosing patients with different medical scenarios, working with ultrasound equipment to learn how they are used by physicians, working with simulation mannequins in the simulation lab and seeing an emergency simulation act. Hyde said it is important to start sowing the seeds of higher education at these early and pivotal stages.

“We want to get students thinking about medicine as early as elementary school, especially underserved and underrepresented minorities,” Hyde said. “Many students never may have imagined they too can go into this profession. When minority students see medical students, who look like them in white coats, our hope is that the students will walk away knowing they too can become a doctor. The experience is invaluable and immeasurable.”

The event is supported by Steven L. Berk, M.D., dean of the TTUHSC School of Medicine, the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health and the TTUHSC School of Medicine Office of Admissions.