



SWITCH

STUDENT WELLNESS INITIATIVE
TOWARD COMMUNITY HEALTH

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About SWITCH

- Student-run health clinic offering culturally aware interdisciplinary services to the core communities of Saskatoon
- Operating since 2005 out of Westside Clinic
 - 1528 20th St W
- Compared to other student run clinics in Canada:
 - Longest running
 - Highest number of shifts
 - Most services offered



Vision & Mission

- All residents of Saskatoon have equal access to healthcare, nutrition, education, and employability skills to better arm them with tools to create opportunities for themselves.
- SWITCH augments the training of future professionals while improving the health, education, and skills of people from Saskatoon's core communities, ultimately achieving lasting positive change for everyone involved.

What does a shift look like?

- Present on each shift are:
 - A physician mentor
 - A social work mentor
 - 1-4 professional mentors from other fields
 - Outreach student volunteers
 - Clinical student volunteers

- Prebrief
- Shift
- Debrief



When are shifts?

- Monday and Wednesday evenings: 5-9
 - Clinic hours: 5:30 - 8
- Saturday afternoon: 12-4
 - Clinic hours: 12:30 – 3
- Events:
 - Women's Pamper Night – Feb 15th
 - Zombie Run
 - Charity Breakfast
 - Tax Clinics



Who Volunteers at SWITCH?

Outreach team:

Any and all students!

- Arts and Science
- Kinesiology
- Edwards School of Business
- High school

Clinical team:

Professional colleges:

- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy and Nutrition
- Social Work
- Physiotherapy
- Clinical psychology

Experiential Learning

- Clinical team
 - Directly apply knowledge from classes to real cases and interact with real patients
 - Practice skills with direct supervision from specific mentors
 - Learn about career opportunities in their field
 - Networking with successful professionals in their field
- Clinical and Outreach teams
 - Interact with clients
 - See Social Determinants of Health and their direct effects
 - Learn about career opportunities
 - Understand the complexity of medicine and social justice
 - Understand the complex health care system in Saskatchewan
 - Learn about culturally safe and patient-centered care
- Supervisor positions

Career Skills

Teamwork

- Work with an interdisciplinary team to provide care for clients

Communication

- Between other students and mentors
- Importantly, with clients
 - Waiting room
 - Programming

Cultural Understanding

- Predominantly Indigenous clients
 - Discuss stories
 - Expand worldview

Leadership Opportunities

SWITCH is a Student–Run Clinic at all levels

- Outreach and Shift Supervisors
- Board of Directors
- Committees

What does this mean?

SWITCH augments student training to produce confident and competent health care professionals in all fields, who enter the work force understanding complexities and intricacies related to their discipline, and can provide not only adequate care, but also culturally safe, empathetic, inter-professional and patient-centered care.

Find us:

- At our website: switchclinic.com
- Email: info@switchclinic.ca
- On Facebook: [@SWITCHClinic](https://www.facebook.com/SWITCHClinic)
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