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Pharmacy Students Creating Formularies for Ghana Villages

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – Over the past two years, students from the Cedarville University School of Pharmacy have worked closely with Cedar Medical Clinic in Ghana, where they help a local physician make a difference and spread the Gospel to the African nation.

Phillip Thornton, Ph.D., vice chair and associate professor of pharmacy practice, will travel to Ghana on Thursday, Feb. 11 on a 10-day missions trip. Thornton will travel with Phil Black, a retired pharmacist from Beavercreek and advisory council member for Cedarville's School of Pharmacy.

Cedarville's pharmacy students created formularies, which are detailed lists of prescribed medications for Cedar Medical Clinic. Thornton and Black will deliver the students' work while in Ghana. Last year, Cedarville's pharmacy students raised money to purchase an ultrasound machine and other equipment for the clinic.

The Clinic in Ghana was founded for the purpose of serving patients from several nearby villages that lack proper health care.

In order to help Black give out a greater amount of medication to patients in Ghana, third-year professional pharmacy students Jordan Long (Chillicothe, Ohio), Trevor Stump (Syracuse, Indiana) and Mallory Thompson (York, Pennsylvania) have helped develop and optimize the formulary process for the trip.

"We continue to stress one of our missions to serve the underserved and how we can use our resources to reach others for the Gospel," Thornton said.

The process involves finding the most effective medications for a variety of conditions and dispensing the right formulas in the right dosage for Black to take with him to Ghana on his annual trips.

"I met Phil two years ago at the Global Missions Health Conference and he told me about the opportunity for Cedarville students to get involved with formulary development," Long said. "In the future we hope that Cedarville students will also be able to accompany Phil on the trips, so that they can see the impact they are having on the people in Ghana."

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,711 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.