



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### 2022-2023 HOUSTON GALVESTON SCHWEITZER FELLOWS: YEAR OF SERVICE

*Seventy-one Undergraduate and Graduate Student Fellows and Seven Scholars from Texas Children's Hospital are Improving Community Health & Developing Lifelong Service Leadership Skills*

**HOUSTON** (October 2022) – The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship Houston Galveston has the privilege of mentoring 67 graduate student Senior Fellows and 11 undergraduate Junior Fellows in the 2022-23 class, including **two** Junior Fellows from Prairie View A&M University, who are immersed in a year of learning to address the unmet health needs of vulnerable communities in our region. The Fellowship also provides mentoring to develop lifelong service leadership skills and advance physician-humanitarian Albert Schweitzer's message of service.

These Fellows from Prairie View A&M University join approximately 250 other 2022-23 Schweitzer Fellows at 13 chapters throughout the U.S., partnering with local community-based organizations to develop and implement yearlong mentored service projects that improve the health and well-being of underserved people. ASFHG is proud to have the only Junior Fellow program in the country.

Students from Prairie View A&M University are:

- Grace Brooks and Edom Kidane, who are initiating a supportive, community-oriented sisterhood at YES Prep Public Schools that cater to the underserved community of young girls of color with a focus on mental health, self-esteem, and healthy relationships.

"This year's class of Fellows reflects an extraordinary range of diversity. Almost 80% of our Fellows and Scholars are individuals of color, and 20% are the first in their families to graduate from college. We are also diverse in educational background, with Fellows studying medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, social work, and public health. We celebrate this diversity and believe it contributes to the success of our Fellows' projects," said Dr. Andrea Link, Executive Director of ASFHG.

Fellows complete these year-long mentored community service projects in partnership with community agencies and schools like Interfaith Ministries for Greater Houston and YES Prep while receiving training in leadership, cultural competency, project management, and the social determinants of health. A strong focus is placed on sustainability so the project can continue beyond their Fellowship year.

Upon completion of their year, Fellows become Fellows for Life and join a vibrant network of Schweitzer alumni who are skilled in and committed to addressing the health needs of underserved people. Fellows for Life report back that ASF is integral to sustaining its commitment to serving people in need.

The Fellowship invites students from PVAMU to consider applying to be a Schweitzer Fellow for the upcoming academic year. Those interested in learning more or exploring the opportunity should contact the ASFHG Program Director, Carol Jacob, directly at [Carol.Jacob@asfhg.org](mailto:Carol.Jacob@asfhg.org). The application deadline is Feb. 5, but those interested are encouraged to discuss the proposed project with Carol and learn more about the Year of Service before applying.

Launched in 2008, the ASFHG is funded by private donations, the support of charitable foundations and academic institution sponsorships. More information is available on the website at [www.asfhg.org](http://www.asfhg.org).

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**About Prairie View A&M University:** Designated an institution of “the first class” in the Texas Constitution, Prairie View A&M University is the second-oldest public institution of higher education in the state. With an established reputation for producing engineers, nurses, and educators, PVAMU offers baccalaureate degrees, master’s degrees, and doctoral degree programs through eight colleges and schools. A member of The Texas A&M University System, the university is dedicated to fulfilling its land-grant mission of achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. For more information regarding PVAMU, visit [www.pvamu.edu](http://www.pvamu.edu).

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