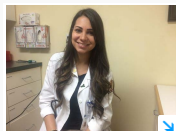


## FSU medical students get hands-on experience at Volunteers in Medicine in Stuart

Kenrick Thomas, YourNews contributor Published 5:03 p.m. ET May 29, 2018



(Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY KENRICK THOMAS/VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE STUART)

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STUART — Getting hands-on experience for medical students is crucial to their careers.

The partnership Volunteers in Medicine (VIM) Clinic has with Florida State University (FSU) College of Medicine has made this opportunity available.

Two FSU students, Karolain Garcia and Marvin Diejuste, came to VIM for their Chronic Care

Course.

Students are assigned a new patient each week.

The students perform a history assessment and physical under the guidance of Dr. Howard E. Voss. They follow these patients adjusting their care and medication throughout the year.

They therefore have a unique experience of basically having their own practice.

They have the opportunity to follow treatments or even patients' failure to respond to the best efforts possible.

They are able to call in specialists and order the best tests from Martin Health System.

Garcia attended Florida International University before starting her education at FSU College of Medicine. She's considering family medicine, but she's keeping her options open.

Diejuste graduated from the University of Central Florida, with a bachelor's degree in biology before going to FSU College of Medicine. He's interested in internal medicine.

Both students came to VIM on a bi-weekly basis and got hands-on experience with patients. It was their first time having that level of access to a patient in an exam room.



Marvin Diejuste, working at the VIM facility. (Photo: CONTRIBUTED BY KENRICK THOMAS/VOLUNTEERS IN MEDICINE STUART)

"It's the only place where you get to see what life is like as a doctor," said Garcia. "You

get the opportunity to work with people who are underserved and need the services. I like the feeling of giving back to people who are not getting a lot in return."

Learning from Dr. Voss has been extremely helpful for both students. He goes over each case with his students and answers any questions they may have.

"I'm learning how to do an interview with a patient, a physical exam, and I'm getting clinical knowledge," Garcia said. "It's a full experience learning from Dr. Voss."

said Garcia. "The staff is very welcoming to the students and your opinion matters, it's a great feeling."

Examining a patient for the first time is an eye-opener. Dieujuste has learned a lot of information he'll be able to use.

"I've learned how to utilize my time efficiently and being able to connect with a patient in a major way," said Dieujuste. "I understand how to be aware of everyone's situation and different factors that play into someone's health."

Garcia and Dieujuste have finished their clinical education at VIM and will now move on to the next phase of their journey.

"The first part of the Hippocratic Oath states our obligation as doctors to teach those who come after us" said Dr. Voss. "I'm pleased to have taught medical students for the past 50 years, the last 10 have been Florida State University students. It's been wonderful preparing these young medical students for their coming careers."

The VIM Clinic in Stuart provides free health care for uninsured Martin County residents who qualify.

For more information, call 772 463-4128, or visit online at [www.vimclinic.net](http://www.vimclinic.net).

