

ARMEN HENDERSON

Dade County Street Response

2022 Global Fellow



BIG BOLD IDEA

Provide culturally competent health care, medical outreach, and disaster relief for Black and Brown communities in Miami-Dade County by organizing and educating medical professionals.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Dade County Street Response (DCSR) gives medical professionals at all levels of their career a chance to step outside the hospital doors and into the communities most affected. Through multi-specialty education, training, and programming alongside reputable community organizations, DCSR explores harm reduction with an abolitionist's lens. Programming includes a street medicine team, a mobile crisis response, a trauma recovery center network, an urgent care facility, and a disaster relief team, all available free and year-round for those living in Miami.

PERSONAL BIO

Armen Henderson is the founder and executive director of Dade County Street Response (DCSR), which integrates medical education and training with service delivery and social justice. Upon graduating medical school at Meharry Medical College, Armen realized the direct correlation between low life expectancy of poor working-class people and their lack of access to the social determinants of health (irrespective of access to healthcare). In between caring for patients during his medical residency, Armen was also an organizer with the Miami Chapter of Dream Defenders. As an organizer, he not only worked on campaigns that would lift the living standards of his patients, but he also developed an approach to medicine that prioritized marginalized people, offered services for free, and minimized harm. DCSR was birthed out of this novel approach to healthcare. Armen currently serves as the director of health programs with Dream Defenders and is also an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine.

Issue area

Racial Equity

Organization/Fellow Location

Miami, United States

Impact Location

North America

United States

Organization Structure

Nonprofit

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