

Introduction

- ❑ Cure Found is a student organization at MSU aiming to spread Cystic Fibrosis (CF) awareness.
- ❑ Cure Found was founded in January 2022 by three high-achieving undergraduate students who have hosted various events such as informational meetings, workshops, social events, and volunteer/shadowing opportunities.
- ❑ This club was started by Atef Choudhury, Naim Mashni, and Alexis Mashni in order to spread CF awareness and allow pre-med students to have access to top-tier medical opportunities which will serve as resume builders for medical/graduate school applications.
- ❑ Cure Found is partnered with the MSU CF Center and the Bonnell Foundation. Dr. Ryan Thomas, M.D serves as the faculty advisor.
- ❑ Cure Found's mission statement is as follows: Cure Found is committed to offering top-tier pre-medical opportunities geared towards learning more about Cystic Fibrosis and pulmonary medicine.



Figure 1: Atef Choudhury, Ryan Thomas, M.D, Naim Mashni, and Alexis Mashni at Cure Found's Fall 2022 kick-off meeting



Figure 2: Cure Found MSU's Official logo



Figure 3: Co-presidents, Alexis Mashni, Atef Choudhury, and Naim Mashni at the fall 2023 kick-off meeting.

Motivation

- ❑ CF is a rare, genetic disease that currently has no cure for it and a lot of individuals across campus are not fully aware of what this disease is and how it affects an individual's day-to-day life.
- ❑ For co-president Atef Choudhury, Cystic Fibrosis hits close to home for Atef as his nephew was diagnosed with CF upon birth back in 2017. After observing his and his family's struggles, Atef was committed to spreading awareness for this rare, genetically inherited disease that currently has no cure for it. In the future, Atef hopes to attend medical school and specialize in pulmonary medicine or hematology/oncology.
- ❑ For co-president Naim Mashni, volunteering and getting involved in the local community has been a passion for him. Founding and serving as co-president for Cure Found follows Mashni's history of community engagement. Mashni was awarded "20 under 20" by the Arab America Foundation for his history of volunteerism and involvement in the community. In the future, Mashni hopes to attend medical school and specialize in Cardiology.
- ❑ Co-president Alexis Mashni has been involved in community engagement and volunteering since she was young. From an early age she realized her aspiration to become a physician in the future stems from wanting to help people and do the greater good for the community. Founding this club is one way she can give back to the community and learn more about her medical ambitions. In the future, Alexis hopes to attend medical school and become a family physician or plastic surgeon.

Significant Events/Experiences

- ❑ In March 2022, Cure Found's premiere general club meeting took place which was hosted by Dr. Ryan Thomas, M.D. Dr. Thomas presented on pulmonary medicine and Cystic Fibrosis.
- ❑ In April 2022, Dr. Ruma Srivastava, M.D presented and students were able to learn about a pediatric pulmonologist's day-to-day life.
- ❑ In September 2022, Cure Found hosted their first volunteer/social opportunity where over 50+ members were able to make capes and cards for CF kids. These capes and cards were distributed to kids across the MSU CF Center with the help of Dr. Thomas, M.D.
- ❑ In October 2022, Cure Found hosted a medical school student panel where students from University of Michigan Medical School, Wayne State University SOM, and Michigan State University COM presented and answered FAQs about the process of applying to medical school and their experience as medical school students.
- ❑ In November 2022 and April 2023, Cure Found hosted a suture clinic featuring an Emergency Medicine physician and a Physician Associate where over 90 club members gathered to learn the basics of suturing, specifically a simple interrupted suture.
- ❑ In November 2022, Dr. Samya Nasr, M.D of University of Michigan Medical School joined Cure Found to share her journey to becoming a pediatric pulmonologist and her contributions to the CF community such as introducing the disease in Egypt.
- ❑ In December 2022, Cure Found hosted an IV Injection Clinic featuring a Physician Associate where members worked with a simulation kit to learn how phlebotomy and IV injections work.
- ❑ In January 2023, Cure Found members created over 50 goodie bags for CF patients which were donated to MSU's CF Center for pediatric patients.
- ❑ From January-February 2023, Cure Found collaborated with the Bonnell Foundation and started the "Dares4CF" fundraiser in order to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis awareness.
- ❑ In March 2023, Cure Found hosted a frog dissection lab ft. where over 40+ students joined to learn more about frog anatomy
- ❑ In September 2023, Cure Found hosted their annual kick-off meeting featuring the Bonnell Foundation and Dr. Thomas, M.D. Members created goodie bags, capes, and cards for CF patients at MSU CF Center and the Bonnell Foundation.



Figure 4: General members participating at Cure Found's suture clinic led by an Emergency Medicine Physician.



Figure 5: Bracelets and goodie bags that were made by club members and donated to MSU's CF Center for children with Cystic Fibrosis.



Figure 6: Cure Found's 2023-2024 Executive Board Team at the Fall 2023 kick-off meeting.

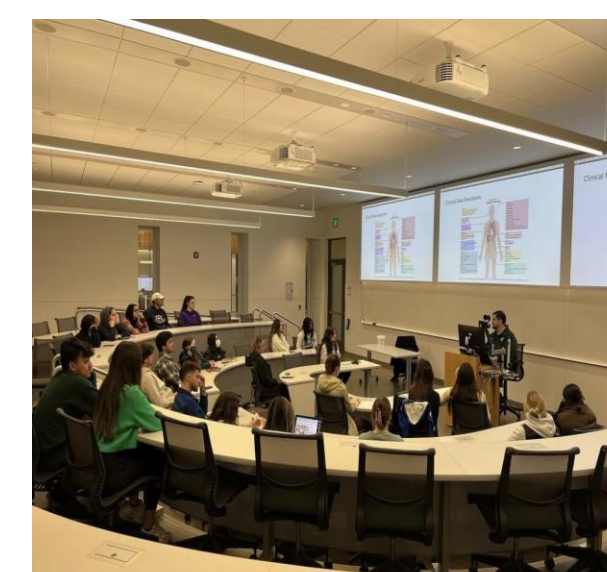


Figure 7: Cure Found's premiere club meeting where Dr. Thomas, M.D presented on Cystic Fibrosis and pulmonary medicine to general club members



Figure 8: Cure Found members volunteering their time at the Spring 2023 volunteer event for Cystic Fibrosis children.



Figure 9: Cure Found members at the Fall 2023 kick-off meeting listening to Laura Bonnell's Cystic Fibrosis experience and her foundation's mission for Cystic Fibrosis advocacy.

Future Goals and Plan of Action

- ❑ Cure Found MSU hopes to expand their club and accept/recruit 50+ members per semester in order to further the club's mission statement and spread Cystic Fibrosis awareness.
- ❑ Cure Found hopes to help reach CF Foundation's goal that "one day CF will stand for Cure Found".
- ❑ Cure Found plans to continue hosting more pre-health related events such as suture clinics, dissection labs, volunteering opportunities, shadowing opportunities, and more.
- ❑ Cure Found hopes to continue fundraising with the Bonnell Foundation in order to help promote their mission of providing financial support to parents who have a loved one with CF.
- ❑ Cure Found will continue offering shadowing opportunities through the MSU CF Center and Dr. Ryan Thomas, M.D. There are currently 16 different shadowing opportunities scheduled with Dr. Ryan Thomas, M.D for the executive board and general club members.
- ❑ Cure Found hopes to provide educational workshops to club members to learn more about the science behind Cystic Fibrosis and the research gaps involved with this disease.
- ❑ Cure Found will continue offering volunteering and fundraising opportunities in order to raise Cystic Fibrosis Awareness and allow pre-medical students to learn more about pulmonary medicine.

Conclusion

- ❑ In conclusion, Cure Found is aiming to get involved in the local community by raising Cystic Fibrosis awareness and allowing pre-medical students to learn more about pulmonary medicine.
- ❑ The founders and executive board members of this club are all high-achieving pre-medical/health students aiming to gain volunteering, shadowing, and clinical experience whilst doing the greater good for their community.
- ❑ Cure Found hopes to continue expanding their club in order to offer various opportunities for all members such as, but not limited to, volunteerism, community engagement, and clinical opportunities.
- ❑ Through the collaboration with the Bonnell Foundation, MSU's CF Center, and Dr. Ryan Thomas, Cure Found is able to offer these opportunities for select members who are interested.
- ❑ Cure Found's goal is to help ensure that "one day CF stands for Cure Found".

References

"Cystic Fibrosis Foundation." Home | Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, <https://www.cff.org/>.