ABSTRACT
Since 2006 the number of homeless people within New York City has nearly doubled. According to data provided by the Department of the Homeless, the struggle of maintaining stable housing disproportionately affects minorities. The Downstate Street Medicine Outreach Association is a newly formed student run organization which identifies, assess, and address the needs of the unsheltered homeless population within a 1.5-mile radius immediately surrounding the Downstate campus. Since the start of this project in January we have established partnerships with Brooklyn specific city services of Center for Urban Community Services, Breaking Ground and the Downstate Brooklyn Free Clinic. We have additionally acquired ten student volunteers, two physician volunteers and purchased start-up supplies to outfit our outreach teams. Our group has contacted one unsheltered person thus far and will continue to conduct outreach events and reach more people. We plan to establish contact with six potential unsheltered homeless individuals we have identified before the end of Spring.

BACKGROUND
NYC Statistics and organization outline
- 59,957 homeless people living within NYC, 337 of which do not utilize shelters within Brooklyn
- Homeless shelter utilizers are predominately Black and Hispanic 85.8% of people
- This Street Medicine program is based out of SUNY Downstate with Kings County partnership
  - Service for all unsheltered homeless living within a 1.5 mile radius of Downstate
  - Basic first aid, counseling, housing assistance, networking with local services, preventative care and demographic analysis
- Outreach is delivered via walking outreach teams of three students and one physician

Organization Structure:
- Directors
  - Executive and Deputy
- Staff Officers
  - Training, Equipment, Financial, Personnel, Q/A Safety, Public Relations
- General Members
  - Scribe, Outreach Leader, Safety Manager

OBJECTIVES
Organization building objectives:
- Physician and student volunteer recruitment
- Creation of Bylaws and Training Modules
- Ongoing contact with the unsheltered homeless population in a 1.5 mile radius of Downstate

METHODS
- Creation of the Downstate Street Medicine Outreach Association was pursued in three objective based phases:
  - Phase 1: Gaining University support and formal recognition as student organization. We planned an in-person canvassing assessment to prove need and secure support. Survey modeled after University District Street Medicine group.
  - Phase 2: Includes Staff and Executive Officer recruitment followed by the creation of organization operating documents. These documents will include but are not limited to By-Laws, SOPs, Safety and engagement rules, Training Modules, etc.
  - Phase 3: Includes active member recruitment followed by training and our first street outreach patrol. Phase three will be a constant exercise in member recruitment and optimization of the street outreach process. Member recruitment will occur through Downstate-wide advertising open to all Downstate students who wish to help and will occur frequently every year as new students enter the school.

RESULTS
- Acquired ten student volunteers and filled all Staff positions
- Acquired two Physician volunteers
- In contact with one 62 year-old man and have identified six additional people

CONCLUSIONS
- Student Interest is prevalent with a list of over 20 students who are applying to join our group
- There is a population of unsheltered homeless in proximity to us who are receptive to outreach
- A stable foundation has been established and the organization is expected to grow