

**Student Hero (CHT)
Juan Chavez, MPH (c)**



Juan Chavez is a graduate student at Touro University California (TUC). He will receive his Master in Public Health in May 2015. Juan has a passion for community health and addressing health care access for underserved populations. Before coming to TUC, he received a Bachelor's of Science in Biology Molecular Emphasis with a minor in Chemistry from Dominican University in San Rafael. His intention upon completion of the MPH program is to apply to medical school and pursue a career as a family practitioner. Juan has broad work experience in the field of public health. He has extensive health education experience through Lift/Levantate, a non-profit organization in Marin County where he provided education in diabetes, nutrition, and physical activity. In addition he interned at Kaiser Permanente, co-organized various health fairs as part of the Bi-National Health Week and the California Human Development. He has also worked as a medical interpreter for various organizations. His most recent work at TUC includes managing the Solano County School Based Oral Health Project where he oversees data collection, data management, and oral health education at various elementary schools in Vallejo. He also volunteers his time at the Student Run Free Clinic and the E.N.E.R.G.Y. Project where he uses his bi-lingual skills to assist with Spanish speaking clients. Juan completed his field study internship at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies at UCSF. His Capstone thesis focuses on the effectiveness of the Oral Health Project with regard to accessibility and behavioral practices among low income children in Vallejo. This abstract has been submitted to APHA 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition in Chicago—2015