

## Jaylen Wingfield

Gilman International Scholarship Alumni Ambassador Barbados, 2015

"Working with the HIV/AIDS Commission of Barbados, I had the opportunity to explore the roles that sexual health and habits play into Caribbean culture, while also exploring the social work and mental health professions."

During his service-learning experience abroad, Jaylen worked with the HIV/AIDS Commission of Barbados to provide sexual health counseling and other services to the citizens of the Caribbean island country. Jaylen studied the many ways that sexual health and culture impact the Caribbean, as well as initiatives and programs the government and local organizations have in place to address health concerns. Jaylen served under a local social worker who not only worked for the commission but also provided lab services and therapy related to sexual health practices out of a local clinic.

Jaylen's experience abroad offered insight into his profession and field of study. Furthermore, it provided an opportunity to experience the culture of the Caribbean, debunking commonly accepted outlooks and stereotypes of Caribbean society, including norms and attitudes toward the LGBT community. He has applied his experience and knowledge throughout his professional journey in spaces such as education, mental health, and social welfare.

- Studied human services at the University of Delaware
- Provided counseling related to safe sex practices
- Gained insight into the professional world of social work and mental health



