**Project: Air Dispersion in Allegheny County**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Anthony J. Sadar</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-578-8125</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Air Quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>3901 Penn Avenue (Lawrenceville)</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Description**

At least twice a day, the National Weather Service (NWS) launches sounding equipment to quantify conditions in the upper atmosphere. In the Pittsburgh area, the soundings are initiated at about 6:15 a.m. EST and 6:15 p.m. EST. Records of the data collected are available in tabular and graphical form. In addition, ACHD has installed a sodar/RASS unit to sense upper atmospheric wind and temperature changes in the Mon Valley.

The goal of this project is to analyze the NWS and ACHD data to characterize diurnal air dispersion potential in Allegheny County and to determine the spatial and temporal representativeness of the data.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

The intern will examine meteorological sounding and related data to determine atmospheric dispersion potential by day/night, month, season, and or other pertinent time period.

The intern will be expected to create an analysis report including, as appropriate, detailed tables, graphs, figures, and textual description of dispersion conditions in Allegheny County.

**Specific Qualifications**

Previous work with large data sets and statistical analysis skills would be helpful.
Pittsburgh Summer Institute in Applied Public Health Practice (PSI)
Project: Animal Bite Surveillance

Preceptor Name | Lauren Brungo & Kristen Mertz | Phone | 412-578-8340
--- | --- | --- | ---
Bureau | Community Health Promotion and Disease Prevention | Department | Immunization
Practicum Location | 425 First Ave (Downtown) | Number of students needed for this project | 1

Project Description
The Allegheny County Health Department is required by law to follow up on all animal bite exposures to prevent the spread of rabies, which is almost always fatal in humans. All reported exposures are investigated and recommendations are made for follow-up care and/or prophylaxis for rabies if needed. ACHD also provides testing for animals involved in human exposures to determine whether prophylaxis is needed.

This project has 2 main components:
1) Investigation of animal bites reported to ACHD to ensure proper follow up and care
2) Analysis of the 2017 animal bite data

The work will involve following the protocol for animal bite follow-up, making telephone calls, cleaning and analyzing data, and preparing tables and graphs. The intern will be working part time with the Immunization Program and part time with the Epidemiology group.

Primary Activities and Deliverables
1. Investigate animal bites reported to ACHD. Information is gathered primarily via telephone calls with bite victims, pet owners, and health care providers
2. Ensure that adequate care and prophylaxis are provided, if indicated
3. Work with animal control agencies and other community partners to ensure that testing or quarantine of animals is done in a timely manner
4. Clean the animal bite database (remove duplicates, look for irregularities)
5. Analyze data
6. Prepare tables and graphs for main variables of interest
7. Prepare a short summary of animal bites in Allegheny County in 2017

Specific Qualifications
1. An interest in learning about rabies and its impact on public health.
2. Good oral communication skills and comfort talking to the public via telephone.
3. Good data management and analytic skills. Experience using SAS.
**Project Description**

This practicum opportunity is with ACHD’s Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program. The invasive Asian Tiger Mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, is a day biting nuisance and vector of several diseases of man and domestic animals. It is adapted to breed in small, water holding containers that litter neighborhoods, leading to heavy infestations in several urban & suburban areas. The purpose of the study is to document the abundance & distribution of this and other similar mosquito species in Pittsburgh and to identify the particular micro-environments that allow it to breed in afflicted neighborhoods. The student will set traps, collect specimens, learn to identify co-infesting species of mosquitoes, conduct area wide surveys and interviews with residents who complain about mosquitoes. The intern must complete 200 hours from the middle of June 2018 to at least the end of August, 2018 (approximately 12-15 hours per week). If the intern chooses, the project may continue until the end of October. A personal vehicle for field work and a valid driver’s license are a requirement.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

The intern will be required to keep all surveillance data in an organized fashion in an Excel spreadsheet. They will also be required to compile the current data with historical data to communicate and visualize the spread of *Aedes albopictus* in Allegheny County. Some experience with ARC GIS mapping would be very useful to the project.

- **Mosquito surveillance** *(collecting mosquito life stages in field using various methods & traps).*
- **Mosquito rearing in lab** *(rearing mosquito eggs to larval & adult stages at ACHD Housing office by flooding eggs in water until they hatch. Larvae require daily/weekly maintenance until they are large enough to identify to species.)*
- **Mosquito Taxonomy** *(Learning to identify mosquito species using a microscope and taxonomic keys.)*
- **Maintaining an Excel spreadsheet of surveillance results.**

**POTENTIAL SECONDARY ACTIVITIES**

- **Public education** *(e.g. conducting door-to-door neighborhood outreach, surveillance for breeding sites, responding to mosquito complaint calls, organizing neighborhood clean-up activities, etc.)*
- **Tick Taxonomy.** The intern may also learn to identify ticks that are submitted for consult on the potential for transmitting tick borne disease.
- **Public Health Pests** *(Interest in pursuing a study of other current public health pests (rats, flies, bed bugs, etc.), will be supported as much as possible.)*

The intern will begin learning about mosquitoes by reviewing a set of E-Modules by the American Mosquito Control Association. Journal publications on the Asian Tiger mosquito will also be made available on line. The intern will then accompany the preceptor on surveys for potential breeding conditions in neighborhoods that are known to be infested as well as areas where little or nothing has been found to date. Mosquito larvae will be collected from stagnant water. Several types of traps will be set to collect mosquito eggs and adults. Trap sites will be located in urban, densely populated neighborhoods.

**Specific Qualifications**

The preceptor will have a County vehicle for much of the survey work. The intern may sometimes be required to set or retrieve traps on their own. A valid driver’s license and use of a personal vehicle will sometimes be needed. The student must be physically able to conduct such work for the duration of the summer. A GPS device would be helpful. Some skill with ArcGIS software would be useful to create maps to communicate the spread of this invasive mosquito. The intern must be able to represent ACHD with professionalism.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Bill Todaro &amp; Leah Lamonte</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>412-350-4046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Housing &amp; Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>3190 Sassafras Way, Strip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Modules**

- Asian Tiger Mosquito Vector Control
- Public Health Practice (PSI)
- Environmental Health
- Tick Taxonomy
Project: Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Lauren Orkis</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-578-8346</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>BASE</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Epi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>542 4th Ave (Downtown)</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Description**

The Allegheny County Health Department will be completing a Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) to assess opioid overdose awareness. A CASPER is a CDC method for rapid epidemiologic data collection and is designed to be conducted in a post-disaster setting or as an exercise in a non-disaster setting. This assessment will focus on select opioid overdose hotspots of Allegheny County and will survey households in randomly selected hotspot census blocks. The objective will be to complete 210 door-to-door household surveys (7 surveys in 30 randomly selected census blocks). This CASPER will assess knowledge of the opioid epidemic, substance abuse treatment options, naloxone use and safe medication disposal. This effort will serve as a unique opportunity to directly engage with our community members who are on the front lines of the opioid epidemic in our county. The project will provide an educational opportunity for households sampled as well as an important assessment opportunity that will inform future Allegheny County targeted interventions for opioid overdose prevention. In addition, this CASPER will serve as an important exercise for volunteer surge capacity deployment. Volunteers will also receive extensive training on both the topic area as well as CASPER survey sampling methods.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

- Assist with coordination of CASPER volunteer training sessions
- Assist with planning of CASPER volunteer deployment
- Create forms and databases for CASPER data collection
- Participate in CASPER exercise (exercise will occur over one or two weekends)
- Enter and analyze CASPER volunteer evaluation forms
- Write a summary report describing volunteer evaluation data
- Enter and analyze CASPER survey data
- Assist with writing CASPER After-Action Report

**Specific Qualifications**

1) Access to a vehicle preferred.
2) Proficient in Microsoft Excel and Word. Experience with Access and/or Epiinfo preferred.
3) GIS experience preferred.
Pittsburgh Summer Institute in Applied Public Health Practice (PSI)

Project: Child Death Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Jen Fiddner</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-578-8002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Assessment, Statistics, and Epidemiology</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>542 Fourth Ave</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Description

The mission of the Allegheny County Child Death Review Team (CDR) is to promote the well-being of children and reduce the number of preventable child fatalities within Allegheny County. This is accomplished by conducting in-depth case reviews of deceased Allegheny County residents aged 0-21 years. The review team is comprised of representatives from the Allegheny County Health Department, Allegheny County Department of Human Services, the Allegheny County Medical Examiner’s Office, City of Pittsburgh EMS, Allegheny County Office of Juvenile Probation, and UPMC Children’s Hospital, among others. This practicum will involve matching the 2016 and 2017 CDR case lists with vital statistics, analyzing vital statistics data as well as review data from the National CDR Case Reporting System, and developing issue briefs that may be shared with elected officials, prevention partners, and the public.

Primary Activities and Deliverables

Duties:

1. Analyze birth and death certificate data
2. Match CDR case list to death certificate data
3. Analyze case review data in the National CDR Case Reporting System

Deliverables:

1. Issue briefs for each manner of death
2. Power Point presentation

Specific Qualifications

Experience and comfort working with statistical software such as SAS
Experience and comfort working with Microsoft Excel
Strong writing skills
Interest in data analysis and injury prevention
Project: Fixed Asset Inventory Database Validation

What do you need to run a successful public health program? A lot more than you think!

The nature of this project is to complete an actual physical inventory of all fixed assets in the Allegheny County Health Department. These assets are the material items that we need to keep our programs and clinics up and running daily. These include medical equipment, laboratory equipment, computers, environmental monitoring equipment, and more! The Health Department has purchased a new asset management database program called Asset Panda, which is replacing our previous Fox Pro Database. Each asset will either be recorded or scanned with a handheld scanner (this will be fun!) to create a database and be verified against the previous database. The information collected will help us get a good indication of what assets we have, and also, what types of inventory and supplies need to be re-ordered. The existing database will also be used to help identify what fixed assets are missing or unable to be located (there may be a hunt!), so we can accurately report them to the Allegheny County Controller’s Office. The overall project goal is to obtain an up-to-date database of all fixed assets within the Health Department, and ensure the transition from Fox Pro to Asset Panda goes smoothly.

This is a great opportunity to see every physical aspect of a local health department from an operational point of view and learn how logistics support public health practice. Who knows what you’ll discover? You may find an ancient public health artifact.

Primary Activities and Deliverables

The student intern will be out and about visiting all ACHD locations, clinics, laboratories, and offices to verify current assets by location, user, and tag number. By doing so, they will help create and maintain a current inventory of fixed assets. The student will also be responsible for identifying gaps between the old and new fixed asset databases. The student can also help with any predictions for inventory ordering and recycling.

Specific Qualifications

- Comfortable using Microsoft Office.
- Experience using databases and/or extracting information from them.
- Willingness to travel to all ACHD locations throughout the county, either by bus or vehicle (Some of the travel will be with ACHD staff in county vehicles).
- Some bending and lifting required to complete the project.
- The student will be meeting almost everyone in the health department – You must be comfortable engaging with new people on a daily basis.
- An interest in the administrative and/or operational aspects of a local health department.
Pittsburgh Summer Institute in Applied Public Health Practice (PSI)
Project: Hepatitis B and C Surveillance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Kristen Mertz</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-578-8323</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Assessment, Statistics, and Epidemiology</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Infectious Disease Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>542 Fourth Ave (Downtown)</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project Description**

The goal of this project is to identify infants possibly infected with hepatitis B virus (HBV) or hepatitis C virus (HCV) who have not been tested. It involves linking HBV and HCV case reports with birth certificate data for Allegheny County residents. The first step is to identify women delivering who are identified as having HBV on HCV by notation on the birth certificate. The second step is to link HBV and HCV case reports with birth certificate data to identify other HBV- or HCV-positive women who delivered infants but had no history of infection noted on the birth certificate. The third step is to estimate the number of infants who are infected given that their mother may have been infected at time of delivery. The last step is to compare the estimated number of infants infected to those reported as cases in the Pennsylvania Electronic Disease Surveillance System (PA-NEDSS). The work will be done under the supervision of ACHD epidemiologists.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

**Duties:**
1. Analyze birth certificate data
2. Link HBV and HCV case data to birth certificate data
3. Estimate the number of HBV- and HCV-infected infants delivered
4. Compare the number of estimated HBV- and HCV-infected babies to those reported in PA-NEDSS.

**Deliverables:**
1. PowerPoint presentation
2. Education materials for OB practices

**Specific Qualifications**

Experience working with SAS and Excel
Experience with data set linkage desired
DrPh student is preferred, but not required
**Preceptor Name**: Leah Lamonte  
**Phone**: 412-350-3651

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureau</th>
<th>Housing &amp; Comm. Enviro.</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Vector Control</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>3190 Sassafras Way – Strip District</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Project Description

This practicum opportunity is with ACHD’s Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program. The majority of the experience will be spent in the field trapping adult mosquitoes in Allegheny County to be tested for arboviruses such as West Nile virus. For more information about mosquito surveillance in Allegheny County and Pennsylvania, visit [www.westnile.state.pa.us](http://www.westnile.state.pa.us).

The intern must be available to work from May 16 – September 28, 2018 on Monday through Thursday for approximately 20 hours per week. There is a requirement for the intern to work until the end of September therefore flexibility will be given around class schedule. A personal vehicle for field work and a valid driver’s license are a requirement. After the initial 200 hours worked as required by PSI, the intern will be paid $9.50/hour.

### Primary Activities and Deliverables

**PRIMARY ACTIVITIES:**
- Mosquito surveillance (using gravid traps to collect adult mosquitoes 2 nights per week (10-15 traps) once trapping locations are learned)
- Sorting and preparing mosquitoes to be shipped for laboratory testing
- Database entry of surveillance results

**POTENTIAL SECONDARY ACTIVITIES:**
- Mosquito larvicide treatments in wetlands (intern may participate if available to work in April 2018 when treatments take place)
- WNV Catch Basin Program (intern may participate in one un-paid evening of this program for extra exposure to mosquito control activities)
- Public education (e.g. door-to-door neighborhood outreach, responding to mosquito complaint calls, neighborhood clean-up activities, etc.)
- Revising/creating vector control pamphlets & educational material
- Any other mosquito study that the intern would like to use for graduate thesis/essay material

The intern will learn trapping locations from the preceptor for the first few weeks, and then trap on their own for the remainder of the summer. The intern will assist the preceptor in meeting a weekly trap minimum as set in the 2018 Mosquito-borne Disease Control Grant provided by the PA Department of Environmental Protection to ACHD. All surveillance data will be entered into a database within one day of field work.

### Specific Qualifications

A valid driver’s license and personal vehicle are mandatory to transport mosquito traps to and from the field. Mileage will be reimbursed at the Pennsylvania Mileage Reimbursement Rate (currently $0.535/mile) for the entirety of the internship. The intern must be able to lift 50 pounds and be willing to haul traps in their personal vehicle that may get dirty and have an odor from the bait used to lure mosquitoes. The majority of time will be spent in the field therefore the intern must be physically able to conduct such work for the duration of the summer. A personal GPS device would be helpful when driving around to locate trap sites. When interacting with the public, the intern must be able to represent the Vector Control Program with professionalism and provide information about the roles and responsibilities of the program.
# Pittsburg Summer Institute in Applied Public Health Practice (PSI)

## Project OB/GYN and Midwife Outreach for Universal Lead Testing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Martina Gesell</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-578-2316</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Public Policy and Community Relations</td>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>542 Fourth Avenue (Downtown)</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Project Description

The universal lead testing regulation went into effect January 1st, 2018. In preparation for this new requirement, the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) is developing a comprehensive communications strategy to educate multiple audiences on the risks of lead exposure and strategies to prevent and mitigate it. In the past months, we have developed new educational brochures for residents and mailed informational materials to doctors’ offices. We are also in the process of awarding mini-grants to ten organizations to conduct outreach and education in the areas we have identified as a priority; and organizing a workshop with school nurses from all over the county.

For the purposes of this project, we plan to contact OB/GYN and midwifery offices. Maternal lead exposure during pregnancy can cause fetal lead exposure, which may impact the fetus growth and neurodevelopment. The intern will be required to put together a list of OB/GYN and midwifery practices to be contacted, make phone calls, answer questions as required, and send materials. We will work with an information designer to develop materials tailored to this target population (brochures, posters, etc.). We will train the intern on the topic of lead exposure and provide support to answer questions.

## Primary Activities

- Identify OB/GYN and midwifery practices to be contacted. Create a list with contact information (phone number, email, mailing address).
- Help develop targeted materials in collaboration with the information designer.
- Make phone calls to practices. Leave messages and answer questions as required.
- Keep track of phone calls and send materials as needed.
- If time allows, conduct research on good practices to raise awareness about the importance of requesting risk assessments and lead testing in pregnant women.

## Project Deliverables

- List of OB/GYN and midwifery practices in Allegheny County, including contact information.
- Database compiling phone calls information (date contacted, questions asked, etc.)
- Educational materials targeted to pregnant women, OB/GYN and midwives.

## Specific Qualifications

- Ability to use Excel
- Outgoing personality and comfortable talking on the phone and answering questions from medical providers.
- Interest in lead exposure and maternal and child health.
The kind of products sold where people shop influences their buying behavior. So does the placement of those products. Have you ever bought a candy bar at the grocery store checkout? Those decisions add up, and over time, these behaviors can lead to the manifestation of chronic disease. Tobacco companies know what makes consumers more likely to buy what they’re selling, which is why they spend about $1 million per hour at the “point of sale”. In 2018, ACHD aims to visit each of the more than 1200 stores in Allegheny County that sell tobacco to measure the “4Ps” of tobacco marketing in our community: the type of goods sold (product); their price; associated advertisements (promotion); and placement of ads and the products themselves. Ideally, we are looking for a pair of students to participate in data collection activities in key neighborhoods, analyze and visually represent the data collected, and identify policy opportunities to improve health by reducing tobacco use in Allegheny County while coordinating with Live Well Allegheny and healthy corner store initiatives.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

Students will be asked to work closely with ACHD staff and community partners to design, implement, and interpret qualitative and quantitative surveys.

Deliverables will include qualitative and quantitative datasets/reports of data collected in the course of the project, as well as policy recommendations.

**Specific Qualifications**

This project will require some travel, so a valid Port Authority pass is required. Familiarity with statistical software (STATA, SAS, SPSS) preferred. Familiarity with GIS preferred, but not required.
Project: Public Health Workforce Development

**Project Description**

A well-prepared workforce is critical for effectively delivering public health services in the community. Recently, workforce development and training has become a focus area for local health departments across the country, and plays a major role in Public Health Accreditation, which ACHD has recently achieved. This project will have three main components: 1) preparing for a department-wide assessment of the core competencies for public health professionals; 2) conducting a qualitative assessment of training needs throughout the department; and 3) assisting with an audit of ACHD’s competency-based job descriptions. All three of these activities directly support workforce development and training.

The student intern will be interacting primarily with program managers and administrators in all ACHD bureaus and programs. This is a great opportunity to learn about all the different types of programs and services a local health department offers, as well as gain valuable experience in the administrative aspect of public health practice. It’s also a great way to collect data for a masters’ essay or thesis. There is also opportunity to return to ACHD in the fall or spring to help administer and analyze the core competency assessment.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables**

The student will primarily be involved in the following activities:

1. Preparing the survey tool for the next self-assessment of core competencies for public health professionals.
2. Interviewing deputy directors, program managers, and key administrators about training needs in order to inform the 2019 Workforce Development Plan. The student will be expected to track training needs and link them to the public health core competencies in Excel.
3. Working with program managers to audit competency-based job descriptions to ensure that they are accurate and meet the requirements for Public Health Accreditation.
4. Assist in implementation and/or evaluation of any trainings planned during the PSI.

**Specific Qualifications**

- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Comfortable interacting with ACHD leadership and management.
- Excellent organizational skills and punctuality (there will be a lot of meetings and we will be out and about!)
- An interest in the administrative aspect of public health practice.
Preceptor Name | Norm Tonti
---|---
Phone | 412-578-8356

| Bureau | Public Policy and Community Relations |
| Department | Emergency Preparedness |

Practicum Location | Various ACHD locations
Number of students needed for this project | 1

**Project Description**

The Preparedness Program at ACHD is responsible for All-Hazards Planning for emergency situations that pose a threat to public health (for example, infectious disease outbreaks, chemical releases, extreme weather, flooding, power outages, radiological exposures). A large part of ACHD’s preparedness program focuses on responder safety and health (CDC Preparedness Capability 14). This involves identifying responder health and safety risks, identifying personal protective needs, coordinating with partners to facilitate risk-specific safety and health training, and monitoring responder safety and health actions.

The student will play an important role in implementing responder safety trainings at ACHD, including CPR, First Aid, Respirator Fit Testing, and HAZMAT operations. The student will also be involved in various preparedness activities, such as tabletop exercises focused on anticipated or emerging health threats, as well as some planning work with community partners involved in response activities.

Please note that this practicum will require traveling to various health department locations throughout the county. All locations are easily accessible by bus.

**Primary Activities**

- Assist with implementing responder safety trainings for all ACHD staff.
- Play a key role in the training process from start to finish – including planning, registration, tracking, certification, and evaluation.
- Ensure that all ACHD staff members are up-to-date with required preparedness trainings.
- Assist with running the ACHD Safety Committee meetings.
- Help plan preparedness drills, exercises, and other fun activities.

**Project Deliverables**

The deliverables of this project will be met by assisting with the implementation of all responder safety trainings planned during the course of the internship. A significant outcome will also be to take on an active role in planning future trainings.

**Specific Qualifications**

- Strong organizational skills;
- Comfort with public speaking in a small classroom setting;
- An interest in learning about public health preparedness.
Pittsburgh Summer Institute in Applied Public Health Practice (PSI)

Project: Review of Best Practices in Traffic Safety Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preceptor Name</th>
<th>Nicole Barnett</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>412-247-7962</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau</td>
<td>Community Health Promotion and Disease Prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Chronic Disease Prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practicum Location</td>
<td>807 Wallace Ave (Hosanna House, Wilkinsburg)</td>
<td>Number of students needed for this project</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Description

Injuries affect every single person, regardless of socioeconomic status. In the first half of life, more Americans die from violence and injuries than from any other cause, including cancer and HIV. The Traffic Safety Education Project is a program housed at the Allegheny County Health Department that focuses on reducing the number of local injuries and deaths due to vehicle crashes. Funded through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, the program is required to provide education to those inhabiting PennDOT District 11, or Allegheny, Beaver, and Lawrence Counties. The Traffic Safety Education Project has many different safety focus areas including aggressive driving & speeding, bicycle safety, child passenger safety, distracted driving, impaired driving, enforcement & judicial outreach, mature driver’s safety, motorcycle safety, pedestrian safety, and teen driver safety. This project would be a thorough literature review of injury prevention practices and theories to make important program recommendations. The review would be on injury prevention as a whole, but would have a traffic safety focus whenever possible.

Primary Activities and Deliverables

The deliverables will be a summary of the literature review and program recommendations, presented in a report or white paper format, as well as a presentation. Recommendations will include suggested TSEP program changes, trends in injury prevention, and a program evaluation proposal. The recommended program evaluation proposal will focus on a subject area or target population covered by the TSEP program - for example, an evaluation instrument determining effectiveness of bicycle safety education in for early elementary aged children.

Specific Qualifications

- Quantitative and Qualitative evaluation skills or related coursework
- Use of Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, and Outlook)
- Effective time management skills
- Suggested Coursework: Health Program Evaluation and/or Program Planning, Applied Research Methods
Project: Women, Infants, and Children Clinic Flow Study

Preceptor Name | Patricia Waag | Phone | 412-350-4059
--- | --- | --- | ---
Bureau | Community Health Promotion and Disease Prevention | Department | WIC Program
Practicum Location | Allegheny County | Number of students needed for this project | 3

Project Description
The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program in Allegheny County serves income-eligible and medically or nutritionally at-risk pregnant women, breastfeeding and bottle-feeding mothers, infants and children up to the age of five. The program provides services in nine clinic locations throughout the county to over 15,000 participants annually.

The primary focus of this project will be to perform time studies on each of the appointment types visiting the WIC Clinics. Types of appointments include a first time (Welcome to WIC) appointment, a new baby appointment, a health evaluation (HE) appointment, etc. The WIC offices are very busy environments and this information will help us understand how we can improve our clinical flow. Students will also perform time studies on the overall clinic flow in each of the nine WIC Offices. After data collection, the students will work together to analyze the study and provide feedback and recommendations to the WIC management staff.

Primary Activities and Deliverables
A data base should be created for each of type of timing study performed, as described above.
An analysis of the data should be written in a report form, including recommendations on appointment times and office flow.
A presentation of findings and recommendations will be given to the WIC management staff members, at the project’s conclusion.

Specific Qualifications
Excellent computer skills
Ability to create spreadsheets in Excel and analyze data.
Must be able to provide objective recommendations at the end of the project.
Must have the ability to travel to all nine WIC locations in Allegheny County, either by bus or automobile (For a list of Clinic locations, please visit: [http://www.achd.net/wic/locations.html](http://www.achd.net/wic/locations.html)).

Important: To work in a WIC clinic, you must provide us with an original Child Abuse Clearance, Pennsylvania Criminal History Clearance, and an FBI Clearance. Both ACHD and Pitt Public Health staff can help provide information on how to obtain these once you are accepted into PSI.