

Our Vision

A healthy Louisville where everyone and every community thrives.

Our Mission

To achieve health equity and improve the health and well-being of all Louisville residents and visitors.

Values

Collaboration, Grit, Innovative, Integrity, Quality

LOUISVILLE METRO PUBLIC HEALTH & WELLNESS

*Spring 2022
Student Experiences Catalog*



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
AND WELLNESS

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/health-wellness>

NOTE TO STUDENTS

Practicum and internship opportunities are available at the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness (LMPHW). Projects fall into a variety of public health concentration areas (epidemiology, health promotion, biostatistics, etc.). We have detailed a few specific projects that are currently available. Please refer to the division and project descriptions throughout and contact our academic health coordinator to discuss a project included here or an idea for one that is not featured in this catalogue at LMPHWinterns@louisvilleky.gov.

You can find much more information on the department by visiting <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/health-wellness>. For further information on the types of data collected and monitored by LMPHW, please visit: <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/health-wellness/public-health-data-reports>.

LMPHW STUDENT EXPERIENCES OVERVIEW

The Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness (LMPHW) is an accredited independent health department under the leadership of Director/Chief Health Strategist Sarah Moyer, MD, MPH. We deliver programs and services primarily through two sections: Health Operations & Center for Health Equity (CHE). Health Operations includes the Clinical/Health Services Division, Environmental Health Division, Office of Emergency & Public Health Preparedness, Laboratory Services, and Leadership, Development, & Administration. The Center for Health Equity contains Partnerships, Performance, and Policy & Innovation. CHE aims to achieve equity in the social determinants of health throughout Metro Louisville using a “Health in All Policies” approach.

Students will have the opportunity to understand the functional and practical work of a Metropolitan Health Department serving a population of approximately 750,000. Distinctive populations have been identified as under served and divergent health outcomes are indicated in association with the social determinants of health. Students will earn practical experience through working alongside public health practitioners while they work on projects including the following:

- Public Health Administration
- Policy Development
- Strategic Planning
- Public Health Accreditation maintenance
- Results Framework
- Quality Improvement
- Maternal and Child Health
- Public Health Law – Food service and Public Facility Establishments
- Chronic Disease Prevention – Health Promotions
- Vital Statistics data analysis
- Disease Surveillance & Monitoring
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention
- Emergency Preparedness
- Drug Addiction – HIV/STD

Once you have browsed this catalog and selected a project of interest, please send a cover letter and resume to LMPHWinterns@louisvilleky.gov.

Title: Literature Review – Upstream approaches to childhood asthma

Division: Center for Health Equity

Concentration area(s): Child Health, MCH, Health Equity

LMPHW Advisor: Leanne French

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The student will complete a review of recent research (including grey literature) to identify more upstream approaches to reducing the excess burden of morbidity and mortality experienced by Black children with asthma. CDC funding currently pays for local health departments to provide supports to families that include supplies (e.g., vacuums, mattress and pillow covers, green cleaning supplies), all to reduce in-home asthma triggers, asthma education via home visits and/or telephonic supports. Because of the COVID pandemic, local health departments have significant unspent funds that may be able to be repurposed for preventive approaches at the systems level. This literature review will be used to inform conversations between Louisville Metro and the Kentucky Department for Public Health around the use of asthma grant funds to improve health equity as it relates to childhood asthma.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT

1. Conduct a literature review of recent journal articles and grey literature related to upstream, preventive solutions for reducing the disproportionate asthma-related morbidity and mortality experienced by Black children.
2. Pair these findings with any information about equity-focused asthma work by Louisville Metro Peer Cities (list will be provided).
3. Summarize key findings for an equity-focused approach to Asthma in Louisville Metro and share with the Asthma team in the Center for Health Equity.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Reviewing and summarizing study results
- Finding and summarizing learnings from grey literature.
- Developing a literature review and/or table to summarize findings and recommendations.

Number of students (min-max): 1

Estimated hours/week: 2-3

Estimated project duration: Up to one semester, if needed

Support needed (ie, specific software):
Internet browser and Wi-Fi

Title: Health Equity for Older Adults

Division: Center for Health Equity, Senior Medicare Patrol

Concentration area(s): Older Adults, Health Care, Equity, Research

LMPHW Advisor: Michelle List

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Kentucky Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) empowers and assists Medicare beneficiaries, their families and caregivers with preventing, detecting and reporting health care fraud, errors and abuse. As part of the Center for Health Equity, the KY SMP works within a health equity framework that promotes understanding and awareness of disparities and their causes among Medicare beneficiaries while providing services to Kentucky's 120 rural and urban counties. Additionally, the KY SMP seeks to advance equity in Medicare and improve the quality of care provided to racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations, such as rural beneficiaries and older adults adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality.

Toward this end, SMP requests three products to help build out this new work: 1) a review and summary of best practices for engaging and educating older adults through virtual technologies; 2) a summary of recommendations for engaging older adults who live in rural communities; and 3) a review of best practices for reaching and engaging older adults from racial and ethnic minorities.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT

1. Conduct a review published research and grey literature related to engaging older adults with information and training related to self-advocacy.
2. Disseminate project findings to SMP team members and network.
3. Develop a list of best practices for reaching older adult populations.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Experience using Microsoft Office products for communicating, documenting, and reporting results
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to pull together information and write a literature review
- Knowledge and interest working with older adults, health care, and health equity
- Organized; ability to work autonomously with direction from supervisor; dependable

Number of students (min-max): 1-2

Estimated hours/week: 3

Estimated project duration: one semester

Support needed (ie, specific software):

Wi-Fi

Title: Essential Needs Program Evaluation

Division: Center for Health Equity, Senior Medicare Patrol

Concentration area(s): Health Equity, Epidemiology, Health Policy/Ethics, Biostatistics

LMPHW Advisor: Haritha Pallam

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

To address the complex systemic changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, local government interventions were created to ensure necessary resources and skills are available to carry out a timely and effective response to the communities in need. Research suggests that these interventions help individuals develop heightened perceived control and motivation to exhibit preparedness behaviors (Najafi, 2017). However, public health emergencies evolve quickly, and their impact is further compounded by communities subjected to social inequities within Louisville (LMPHW, 2021). Therefore, response strategies are crucial to continuously understand how communities perceive emergencies and the people responding to it (WHO., 2019). Local responses to emergencies, including COVID-19, illustrate the need to find ways to build mutual trust through community engagement and collaboration with local leaders to adjust interventions over time based on the feedback and perceptions of affected and at-risk communities.

As part of the COVID-19 response, our aim is to collect and analyze unstructured feedback from the community members and potentially emergency response leadership (including LMPHW internal teams and external agencies) within Louisville area to try and answer several questions including: how did LMPHW COVID-19 response programs/ services help communities who regularly experience health inequities within Louisville Metro area? Were essential needs program (ENP) and services useful for communities within Louisville Metro area? What supports or services did community need during COVID-19 pandemic in 2020? Do they need the same resources in 2021/Now? For ENP services, Is the overall response planning and collaboration (with other agencies) adequate to enable Jefferson County population in limiting the community spread of COVID-19? How can we help create interventions and infrastructure that can mitigate complex systemic limitations on at risk populations caused by COVID-19 pandemic and future public health emergencies?

GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT

- Connects with project leads on COVID-19 response to understand the nature and scope of the existing COVID-19 programs and interventions at LMPHW.
- Perform literature review to find best models to create evaluation tools and metrics for ENP evaluation.
- Determining the evaluability of the equity dimensions of the COVID-19 interventions and Essential Needs program (ENP) program.
- Helps team lead design process and summative evaluation measures, framing the evaluation questions and appropriate survey tools/questionnaires as necessary.
- Pre-interview survey design, data collection and analysis for ENP consumers and leadership.
- Help understand the efficacy of the infrastructure created for ENP services and lessons learned to inform future interventions.
- Make sure ENP evaluation aligns with LMPHW comprehensive COVID-19 response research agenda.
- Help perform primary data collection, analysis and report findings to understand the impact and usefulness of ENP services as well as the overall COVID-19 response efforts.
- Additional tasks may be assigned as we progress through the project, or the above activities will be adjusted based on the student availability and subject area expertise

PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Perform literature review using PubMed and other platforms
- Design survey/evaluation tools
- Data collection, analysis (can use or learn how to use dedoose and MS office applications)
- Reviewing and summarizing study results

Number of students (min-max): 1-2

Estimated hours/week: up to 15 hrs/week

Estimated project duration: 2 semesters

Support needed (ie, specific software):

SPSS or R

Title: Gray St. Farmers Market

Division: Center for Health Equity

Concentration area(s): Health Promotion, Food Access, Building Strategic Partnerships

LMPHW Advisor: Alex Amare

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Gray Street Farmers Market (GSFM) opened in 2009 in an effort to increase availability of fresh foods to generally underserved areas known as food deserts. The GSFM has been a joint activity of the University of Louisville School of Public Health & Information Sciences and the Louisville Metro Dept. of Public Health & Wellness.

Up through 2019, the GSFM was open every Thursday from mid-May through the end of October, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the 400 block of East Gray Street, in front of UofL & Metro Louisville's Public Health buildings. The market featured 10-12 vendors each week, with the finest in local farm products including fruits, vegetables, prepared foods, eggs, grass-fed meats, breads, jams, granola, kettle corn, crafts, and more. Unfortunately, the GSFM was closed for the 2020 and 2021 seasons due to COVID-19.

GOALS/OBJECTIVES FOR THIS PROJECT

The GSFM is going through a period of transition after being closed for two seasons. Organizational capacity has changed among partner organizations and we are seeking new and creative ways to continue serving those who live and work in the East Downtown area.

- Maintain regular contact with market vendors and seek out new vendors as needed
- Promote the market through posting of yard signs and flyers
- Help work at the market, including:
 - set up and tear down, including tents, information booth, signs, and barriers
 - answering customer questions and running the EBT/Debit machine at the information booth
 - collect and record customer attendance (e.g. Count # of customers every 20 minutes)
 - help vendors during the market (e.g. getting water or sit at booth if a vendor needs a break)
 - collect EBT/Debit tokens from vendors at the end of shift and complete paperwork so vendors can be reimbursed
 - record weekly sales in the market database
- Write weekly market email newsletters to highlight the changing products available at the market
- Develop community outreach strategies promoting use of EBT (food stamp) and other vouchers
- Develop web content materials (e.g. as recipes, photos, videos, and stories about market vendors, customers, and special events)
- Promote and work at special events/promotions/performers/speakers/demonstrations/tastings to customers

PREFERRED SKILLS:

- Excellent communication, writing, and outreach skills
- Willingness to get dirty and do strenuous outdoor labor at least one day/week
- Experience working with farmers and knowledge of agriculture a plus
- Willingness to work with a wide variety of people
- Ability to work on multiple projects each week
- Customer service experience a plus
- Graphic design skills and experience with digital media (e.g. video, photography, web development) a plus

Number of students (min-max): 2

Estimated hours/week: 20

Estimated project duration: Feb-Oct

Support needed (ie, specific software): Computer

This project is a collaboration between LMPHW and Region IV Public Health Training Pathways to Practice Scholar Program. If you're interested in the project, please apply directly through their posting at <http://www.sph.emory.edu/r4phtc>.



For all other projects, please contact LMPHWinterns@louisvilleky.gov.

Region IV Public Health Training Center Pathways to Practice Scholar Field Placement Program Kentucky – Spring Scholar Position

AGENCY: Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness (LMPHW)

POSITION TITLE: Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness Intern

LOCATION: 400 E Gray St, Louisville, KY 40202

AGENCY WEBSITES: www.louisvilleky.gov/government/health-wellness

NUMBER OF POSITIONS AVAILABLE: 1 (Spring 2022)

DESIRED START DATE: Student may start as early as Nov 15, 2021, but start date is negotiable.

** Interested students should apply as soon as possible. Applications are reviewed and considered in the order they are received. Submit to Tamira M. Moon at tmmoon@emory.edu*

Note: To apply to more than one posting, submit separate applications specifying the position title in the subject line. Please be specific in your email and cover letter.

DESCRIPTION

The following position is offered as a field placement through the Region IV Public Health Training Center (<http://www.sph.emory.edu/r4phtc>).

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POSITION DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this spring intern position is to collaborate with the epidemiology team, along with others in CHE, to further study the impacts of racial and economic health disparities and their impact on the inequitable outcomes of COVID-19. This builds on prior research done by the team to determine the predictive value of the CDC’s social vulnerability index on COVID-19 outcomes and vaccine rates. Prior research indicated SVI themes that warranted further study - particularly with regard to hospitalization and death. The student will explore factors within those themes and has the opportunity to develop additional related analysis as it suits the study and their interest/expertise. Analysis may include descriptive statistics and predictive statistics such as logistic regression analysis.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Epidemiology and biostatistics skills required. Basic understanding of health equity topics/issues. Strong project management/organizational skills. Strong writing/communications skills.

PREFERED QUALIFICATIONS

GIS skills preferred, but not required. The agency is willing to train the student if interested.

THE STUDENT WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASSIST WITH THE FOLLOWING PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

1. Examine the factors within the SVI Housing and Transportation theme to determine which had the greatest impact on COVID outcomes.
2. Examine other SVI or related factors to identify other potential predictive factors of COVID outcomes and vaccination rates.
3. Develop maps and analysis of the findings that can be shared with multiple audiences (i.e., preparedness stakeholders, community members, other epidemiologists)
4. Meet with stakeholders to determine how to better prepare for future pandemics and/or improve our response to COVID-19 and vaccine uptake by the community.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES/SKILLS STUDENT MAY STRENGTHEN DURING PLACEMENT:

1. Analytic/Assessment
2. Communication
3. Cultural Competency
4. Leadership and Systems Thinking
5. Program Planning
6. Problem Solving
7. Public Health Science

TRAVEL: No.

POSITION TYPE: Region IV Public Health Training Center Field Placements (for MPH/MSPH students)

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Preference will be given to masters or doctoral level public health graduate students. Will consider Sociology (graduate); Part-time students (graduate). Past recipients of the Pathways to Practice Award are not eligible to apply again.

Your cover letter should include the semesters you are applying for (Spring 2022), the title of the position you are applying to, and citizenship or permanent resident visa status. In your resume, include the name of your degree program, department, year of study (e.g. 1st year MPH student), and expected graduation date. Please also send an unofficial transcript and writing sample.

WORK AUTHORIZATION: U.S. Citizen, Permanent U.S. Resident

Citizenship statement: The Region IV Public Health Training Center is a federally-funded program which has a citizenship requirement. To be eligible to apply for this position, you must be either a U.S. citizen, a non-citizen U.S. national, or a foreign national having in your possession a visa permitting permanent residence in the U.S.

AWARD LEVEL: \$3,500 award

* Note: Travel costs will not be covered by the program beyond the total \$3,500 award.

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK & DURATION: Approximately 15-20 hours a week for 10 weeks.

**Students may be limited in the minimum or maximum number of hours they can work per semester based on their university, school or degree's policies. If this work will be also be used as a graduation requirement, the student should verify those requirements and abide by their university policies.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Please read the "Student Scholar Field Placement Guidebook" for more details about the Pathways to Practice Scholars Program and requirements. It is located on the Field Placements page of the Region IV PHTC website: <http://www.sph.emory.edu/r4phtc>.

TO APPLY: Please submit the required documents following specifications above (unofficial transcript, resume and cover letter indicating the agency name and citizenship/visa status) to Tamira M. Moon at tmmoon@emory.edu with the subject line "Spring 2022 Applicant: KY - Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness.

***PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE AGENCY DIRECTLY**