

LOUISVILLE METRO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS

2019 Student Experiences Catalog

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



DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH
AND WELLNESS

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

NOTE TO STUDENTS

Practicum 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 available, however; we are willing to work with you to design mutually beneficial projects which suit your interests and skills and fill a need in LMPHW. Please refer to the division and project descriptions throughout and contact the appropriate individual to discuss a project included here or an idea for one that is not featured in this catalogue.

Please note these opportunities are unpaid, volunteer internships and student must provide his or her own transportation.

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: <http://www.healthylouisvillemetro.org/> and <http://www.louiestat.louisvilleky.gov/node/43/date/2016-02-04>

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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

HOW TO APPLY

Once you have browsed this catalog, please send a cover letter and resume (include project of interest title in your documents) to lmphwinterns@louisvilleky.gov.

Student experiences cohort will start January, May, and August of each year. Application deadlines:

- January Cohort – November 15
- May Cohort – March 15
- August Cohort – June 15

Please note that these opportunities are unpaid, volunteer internships, and students must provide their own transportation.

TITLE: Health Equity in Tobacco Prevention and Control

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project focuses to improve our tobacco control programs to achieve health equity using best practices and becoming aware of policies that have the potential to reach groups most affected by tobacco and reduce disparities due to tobacco use. In addition, this project will grade Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness' tobacco program to look for comprehensiveness based on the CDC's essential components of effective tobacco control programs: state and community interventions, mass-reach health communication interventions, cessation interventions, surveillance and evaluation, and infrastructure, administration, and management.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Assess current tobacco control and prevention programs at LMPHW.
- Using data, research populations of people most disproportionately impacted by tobacco in Louisville.
- Implement health equity strategies into current tobacco control and prevention programs offered through LMPHW.
- Create recommendations for improvements of LMPHW tobacco control and prevention programs.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Candidates must be masters or doctoral level public health students from accredited schools and programs of public health located in Region IV PHTC states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina. Students graduating in August 2019 can still apply, but must complete the program prior to graduation. Past recipients of the Pathways to Practice Award are not eligible to apply again.

Required qualifications for students include:

1. Strong research abilities
2. Must take initiative
3. Ability to work in group settings
4. Knowledge of common databases

Your cover letter should include 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 send an unofficial transcript.

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

Citizenship statement: The Region IV Public Health Training Center is a federally funded program that 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: \$3500 award

* Note: Travel costs will not be covered by the program beyond the total \$3500 award.

DURATION: Approximately 12 weeks

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK: Approximately 20 hours (200-400 total hours)

*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>.

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

TITLE: LGBT Louisville Substance Use and Abuse Report and Housing Report

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

LMPHW is a national leader in supporting public and private treatment options for substance abuse and needle-exchange programs via referrals, funding support, partnerships, and the SEP. On the flip side, there is a limited number of community support systems in place for quality housing. The local lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and other groups are largely left out of data samples and risk being ignored. Research shows people in the LGBTQ community are more likely to use all substances compared to their cisgender and heterosexual peers. Research also shows 40% of people who identify LGBTQ experience homelessness. LMPHW needs to take a deeper dive into substance abuse and homelessness in the LGBT community to better understand the why behind these disproportionate rates of use.

In order to begin closing the gaps in health outcomes for this population, LMPHW has begun taking steps toward making an LGBTQ community action plan. This project would help direct efforts to be included in the action plan. Our goal is to develop a plan that would be inclusive, accessible, attainable and nonjudgmental.

The major outcome for this project would be a document in the form of a report (one report for each issue: homelessness and substance abuse) accounting what we've learned so far and where our community believes it should go from here.

Example report: https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/cdph/policy_planning/PP_LGBTsubstanceabusebook.pdf

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Research substance abuse/housing and its insidious repetition for LGBTQ in every neighborhood, every racial and ethnic group, and across the socioeconomic spectrum.
- Become aware of specific policy topics to improve LGBTQ substance abuse/housing related strategies.
- Understand gaps in programming and education for LGBTQ patients for substance abuse/housing and make recommendations.
- Encourage dialogue through focus groups, peer interactions, and event outreach to engage LGBTQ community input.
- Create a report of findings and strategies and include anecdotes from LGBTQ community members.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Research skills (qualitative and quantitative); Targeted literature review; Willingness to attend outreach events; and Schedule 1:1 meetings with community members.

TITLE: LHAB Suicide Data

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project would support the work of the Louisville Health Advisory Board's (LHAB) Behavioral Health Committee in the focus area of suicide. LHAB would like to expand community wide efforts to targeted efforts for suicide prevention using local suicide data. The student would be responsible for the data collection and dissemination to LHAB group.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Analyze Louisville suicide trend data.
- Analyze Louisville suicide data across demographic categories (age, gender, race, zip code).
- Compare Louisville's data to our 19 peer cities.
- Research psychological assessment tools based on groups of similar demographics and seek ways to implement this with LHAB.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:

Candidates must be masters or doctoral level public health students from accredited schools and programs of public health located in Region IV PHTC states: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Tennessee, and South Carolina. Students graduating in August 2019 can still apply, but must complete the program prior to graduation. Past recipients of the Pathways to Practice Award are not eligible to apply again.

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AWARD LEVEL:

\$3500 award * Note: Travel costs will not be covered by the program beyond the total \$3500 award.

DURATION: Approximately 12 weeks

APPROXIMATE HOURS PER WEEK: Approximately 20 hours (200-400 total hours)

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

TITLE: LMPHW Research Agenda

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

As an Academic Health Department, LMPHW is actively engaging in creating research projects to connect academic methodology to our practical work. The student working with the Academic Health Coordinator will assist with research agenda setting and activities. They will also assist on LMPHW evaluation activities.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Conduct literature reviews on public health topics.
- Assist with writing for publications.
- Create databases to store literature and academic contributions.
- Assist with department evaluation activities.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Research - quantitative and qualitative data understanding, self-starter, idealistic.

TITLE: Assess the Effectiveness of Lethal Ovitrap in Reducing *Ae.albopictus* Populations in Urban and Suburban Areas

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness Mosquito Control Program has worked to protect the health of Louisvillians for 60 years from vector borne disease. In the mid 1990's an invasive species, *Aedes albopictus* arrived in Jefferson County and began establishing its population. Since that time, it has become one, if not the most pestiferous mosquito species in the area. Because of its habits, traditional evening and night spraying for adult mosquitoes is not highly effective. As emergent diseases (i.e. Dengue, Zika, Mayaro) vectored by this species of mosquito become established in the United States, it is imperative to have multiple strategies to reduce the numbers of these mosquitoes to reduce vector disease transmission.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Evaluate the effectiveness of lethal Ovitrap in Louisville.
- Perform mosquito surveillance in areas adjacent to and nearby Lethal Ovitrap to assess if a significant reduction of mosquitoes is observed.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Professionalism - ability to organize data and perform statistical analysis. Timely digital reporting of results, knowledge of Arcview 10.x is helpful; Microsoft Suite; collecting and reporting results.

TITLE: Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Community Needs Assessment and Toolkits

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will help the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program determine the social needs of the community the program services through accompanying Environmental Specialists and Nurse Case Manager on environmental investigations of residences where children with elevated blood lead levels reside;

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Design a community needs assessment and a survey that can be utilized during interviews and at community outreach events.
- Collect data through direct interviewing of pregnant women and families of a child with an elevated blood lead level.
- Evaluate the needs of these families.
- Identify resources throughout the community that may be available to these families.
- Create toolkits, presentations and other materials to be provided to families to help connect them with these resources.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Research and analysis; organizational skills; Microsoft Suite; excellent interpersonal skills; ability to work independently. Survey design for community assessment, conduct community assessment, survey data analysis, public speaking & community relations.

TITLE: Design a Web-based Food Safety Course for Louisville Metro Food Service Workers

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Because food safety knowledge is critical to reducing the risk of food borne illness, our goal with this practicum opportunity is the creation of a web-based general food safety class available at no charge and geared toward Louisville Metro food service workers.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Create an online basic food safety educational class appropriate for general food service workers.
- Include questions and answers throughout the course to help ascertain if learning goals are being met.
- Include survey questions to measure course satisfaction.
- Determine the feasibility of applying this concept to our current classroom-based certified food manager course

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

SPSS, policy research and analysis, survey design, interest in environmental health; Experience with database and website design; Basic understanding of data analysis and survey design; Major in Computer Science, Environmental Health, or closely related

TITLE: Evaluate the Effectiveness of the Food Safety Program ABC Placard Regulation

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Local regulation requires food service establishments to display LMPHW issues placard with the score and corresponding letter grade from their most recent food safety inspection report. This project will evaluate whether the current ABC placard process is effective in reducing food borne illness health risks to the public. Also the intern will create and conduct surveys to gain a better understanding of how the placard is viewed and utilized by the public and by the permitted establishments in the Louisville Metro area.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- How does the public use the placarding system?
- Do the public and the permitted establishments believe that the placard system is effective in reducing health risks to the public?
- How effective has the placarding been in reducing health risks to the public?
- Determine the feasibility, benefits, and obstacles to implementing a revised placarding program in Louisville.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Basic understanding of statistics and data analysis; Basic understanding of survey design concepts and methodology; Major in Environmental Health or a closely related course of study.

TITLE: Louisville Metro Lead Hazard and Violation Analysis Service Workers

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In 2012, an estimated 535,000 children in the US had blood lead levels (BLLs) above the value of concern established by the CDC, putting these children at grave risk of development deficits. The primary source of lead exposure is from the home; some 38 million homes in the US have lead based paint hazards. This project would include analysis of existing surveillance data as well as within regional locations to develop primary interventions.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Gather and analyze data from existing CLPPP case files and environmental risk assessments to identify trends, hazard locations, and hazard sources.
- To perform a needs assessment or SWOT analysis to examine factors contributing to lead poisoning in Louisville.
- To develop recommendations for education and remediation as well as publication of the assessment outcomes.

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their MPH/MSPH or graduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Professionalism; ability to organize data and perform statistical analysis; ability to create reports and educational material; ability to create and give presentations to LMPHW staff.

TITLE: Social Media Campaign to Promote WIC Enrollment

PROJECT TIMELINE: Summer 2019

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

WIC has been facing stagnant or slightly downward trending enrollment numbers. We know that children who participate in WIC have better health outcomes, some that project into their later years. Students will learn about the federal WIC program – who uses it, it’s purpose, and how it is delivered locally through the Department of Public Health and Wellness. Students will create a social campaign to increase WIC enrollment by developing key messages, reviewing social media platforms, creating content and evaluating effectiveness of that content.

GOALS FOR THIS PROJECT

- Understand the WIC program
- Learn barriers to using WIC
- Learn benefits of using WIC
- Define the target audience
- Develop key messages to reach the target audience
- Determine best social media platforms to reach the target audience
- Create social media content
- Create a social media campaign to promote WIC
- Increase calls to the WIC call center
- Increase WIC enrollment

STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

Student completing their BS or undergraduate degree closely related to the field of public health.

PREFERRED SKILLS:

Ability to conduct research, good oral and written communication skills, informed about and experience with using social media platforms (personally or professionally), comfortable working alone or in teams. Comfortable with creating video and photos using a smartphone.