



Princeton
Internships in
Civic
Service

PICS 2010 Internship Description

Organization Name: Public Health Solutions

Internship Location: 220 Church St., New York, NY 10013

Required Dates: Yes No If yes, internship must start on: _____ and end on _____ or
must include the period: ***We ask that all interns start on the same date.

Housing Will Be Available to Intern: Yes No If yes, housing will be free: or
housing will cost the student:

Expected working schedule for this internship:

Start Time: 9am End Time: 5pm
Lunch break: 1hr (duration) (specific time, if applicable)

Additional Information, if necessary: We can fund 2 full time interns for 10 weeks. We wish to apply for a full scholarship for a 3rd intern.

(Please indicate if any of the preparation work will take place outside of the regular work schedule)

Organization Description

Public Health Solutions is a nonprofit organization that develops, implements, and advocates dynamic solutions to prevent disease and improve community health. We conduct comprehensive research providing insight on public health issues, create and manage community health programs, and provide services to organizations to address public health challenges.

Programs of Public Health Solutions address critical public health needs such as maternal and child health, nutrition, access to health insurance, HIV prevention and care, and smoking cessation. For government agencies, nonprofit organizations and others, Public Health Solutions provides services to enable them to enhance their effectiveness and strengthen their capacity to have an impact and efficiently manage funds.

Our roots are in scientific research. We were founded in 1957 under the name Medical and Health Research Association of New York City to enable the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and other

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organizations to conduct health research to inform their work. Over the years, we saw an opportunity and a need to build upon this foundation of rigorous scientific research to link research and practice in dynamic ways to improve the health of communities. Today, as Public Health Solutions, we use research wherever we can to help illuminate critical public health issues and to design, implement and assess effective methods for preventing disease and improving health in New York City and beyond.

Internship Description

Interns will work on a variety of ongoing and new projects on women's reproductive health, home visiting health services, and mental health in the Clinical and Community Health Unit at Public Health Solutions. Through this experience, interns will gain exposure to many aspects of public health and non-profit work, and at the same time, make meaningful contributions to the work of Public Health Solutions. Depending on the interests and skills of the interns, a main project will be selected with the supervisory staff at the start of the internship. Projects assigned to each intern will be of similar complexity and relevance to public health. As always, there will be some assisting with other duties that are necessary to operate the unit.

Interns may have the chance to work with Public Health Solutions' MIC-Women's Health Services, a network of six health centers in NYC that provide health care to over 20,000 women per year. Most MIC patients come from disadvantaged, low income backgrounds, and many are immigrants. MIC services include family planning, prenatal and post-partum care, sexually transmitted infection testing and treatment, HIV testing, social work, mental health, and health education.

Possible projects include but are not limited to the following:

- Women's Reproductive Health – To increase women's awareness of their reproductive health choices, the intern will help implement programs that increase awareness and usage of IUDs among teens, develop educational materials on reproductive health choices, and/or help expand our medical abortion services to more MIC health centers. To increase the efficacy of these programs, the intern will gather group feedback, conduct surveys, and/or supply information to our healthcare providers.
- Mental Health Services - As Cognitive Based Therapy is introduced into our routine social work services, the intern will help monitor the mental health treatment data collection, analyze patient scores, and provide general program assistance.
- HIV Services – To expand and enhance existing HIV prevention education and testing, the intern will assist in the startup of HIV in-services, information gathering, expansion of services to other MIC centers, and/or mapping patient flow and space logistics for educational video showings.
- Infertility Prevention– To prevent infertility among women, the intern will help implement programs that improve the integration of urine-based Chlamydia testing with walk-in pregnancy test visits. The intern will also survey patients to determine their acceptance of STD tests and identify services they would accept or desire with a pregnancy test. Spanish speaking individuals are preferred.

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- Increasing the Efficacy of Programs – To develop recommendations for reducing patient waiting times, interns will perform time studies in MIC centers to document waiting times for patients, including identifying bottlenecks in the patient flow. To increase MIC center efficiency, the intern will conduct time studies on provider and staff activities. Interns may also assist with community health studies that identify unaddressed health needs and areas for improvement. In the past, studies were performed to project potential demands for new primary care services in the Bronx. In general, the intern will work to facilitate the smooth functioning of various health programs.

Intern Qualifications

Public Health Solutions is seeking students with excellent writing skills, strong communication skills, and familiarity with Excel and PowerPoint. Fluency in Spanish is not required but would be strongly desirable.

The applicant should have interests in health care (particularly reproductive health care), social services, health policy, and/or education of low income, minority populations. He/she must be able to work under direction from several different staff members if assigned more than one project. Abilities to collaborate with others, self-initiate work, and multi-task are qualities suited for this type of work.

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