A unique opportunity for community service in NJ with an underserved population

Working with dedicated community partners & academic faculty, students will develop health-related interventions, strengthen their leadership & organizational skills, complete projects that can be presented at conferences & learn collaboratively with interdisciplinary students pursuing degrees in health professions

Directed by: Dr. J. Anna Looney
Rutgers RWJMS Department of Family Medicine and Community Health

Funding provided by The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, The Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Meridian Health/Jersey Shore University Medical Center, Family Resource Network, Silver Century Grant and others

“An outstanding experience! It sparked my interest in public health. Anyone interested in serving the community should participate in this program.”
—former student participant

Program Components

- Implement a community-based health intervention (full-time for six weeks)
- Form supportive teams with an interdisciplinary group of students in health professions (including allopathic, osteopathic, physician assistant, pharmacy, social work, nursing & others)
- Attend community oriented primary care trainings, participate in networking and benefit from mentoring/advising from dedicated faculty and community advocates
- Produce a final project report and poster that can be presented at medical conferences or fulfill academic requirements

Timeframe: June 4 – July 18, 2014

Stipend: $1800

Eligibility: New Jersey residents who have completed their first year of graduate training in health professions who are in good academic standing (NJ residency is required, but schooling may be in another state)

Requirements: Competitive application process include as first step the completed application and CV; as the second step, an invitation to interview

Application Deadline: February 14, 2014

Questions: call or email Dr. Anna Looney, Dept of Family Medicine and Community Health at (732) 235-4200 or looneyja@rwjms.rutgers.edu
Examples of Community Projects that will be implemented:

- Developing health education materials or curricula
- Facilitating/leading workshops with community members & caregivers
- Conducting needs assessments through focus groups and/or surveys
- Creating & executing a healthcare intervention
- Evaluating the effectiveness of community programs

**Working directly with individuals in underserved communities to make a positive difference in their health and well-being!**

Some community sites that hosted students in past summers:

- Elijah’s Promise Soup Kitchen
- Damon House Drug Rehab
- Jersey Shore Medical Center
- Monmouth Family Health Center;
- Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities
- Family Resource Network’s Epilepsy Foundation, Get Fit Program & Lifespan Respite Initiative
- Southern Jersey Family Health Center/Migrant Farm Camp
- Princeton Senior Health Center
- Zufall Federally Qualified Health Center
- Broadway House Continuing Care

Some feedback from students in the 2013 program about their experience:

- “The staff’s tireless & helpful nature is inspiring! This is a great site to experience working with underserved & the Hispanic/Latino communities. It cleared several misconceptions I had about caring for the uninsured.” (medical student)

- “Clinical exposure, how to conduct clinical research, critical thinking, love and empathy in communication, excellent patient care skills. Our physician supervisor was phenomenal; words cannot do her justice.” (pharmacy student)

- “The staff was very friendly and made it a great working environment. The patients were very diverse and engaging. The amount of resources was vast. I got to see a soup kitchen, a drug-rehab facility and a mobile van that travels to rural areas to provide care to migrant farmers. There was so much more to this site than just the clinical experience.” (nursing student)

- “Working at this clinic provided me with another aspect to medicine that we cannot learn in a text book or in class. Real life experience is what helps solidify you as the healthcare practitioner you hope to be. I really enjoyed working at this site. The energy our clinical supervisor portrayed really inspired me.” (physician assistant student)

“My experience put a human face and story behind substance abuse and will allow me to be more empathetic towards these patients in the future.”
2014 COPC SUMMER PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name: ___________________________________________ Date: __________

School: ___________________________ Degree program(s): __________

Year in Program (e.g. 1st) ___________ Discipline: _________________

Expected Year of Graduation: ______

Current address: _____________________________________________________________________

Phone: ________________________ Preferred E-mail address: ____________________________

Summer address (if different from above) _______________________________________________

Permanent Address/phone (if different from current address):
________________________________________________
______________________________

NB: Do you expect to have any scheduling conflicts or special circumstances that would take you away during the six-week program (June 4 – July 18, 2014)? Please explain.

Please attach a page with your answers to these questions:

1. Why are you interested in this program?
2. What are your goals for participating in this program?
3. What community health experience do you have, if any?
4. In what settings or with what populations are you interested in working?
5. What particular skills or personal attributes do you possess that would help you succeed in this program?
6. Are you fluent in any languages other than English?
7. Is there anything you’d like to add that would help us know you better?

**Please copy and paste this page into an email to Dr. Looney at looneyja@rwjms.rutgers.edu Attach a copy of your resume with this application and submit by February 14, 2014. Thank you!**