

# 2019 Massachusetts Department of Public Health LOCAL HEALTH INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (MDPH) Division of Epidemiology and Immunization is seeking up to 45 graduate students to intern in local health departments during the summer of 2019. **Cities and towns currently seeking interns are listed in this posting.**

The positions to be filled are Local Public Health Interns. The selected students will work on various projects within local health departments that may include environmental health, communicable disease case investigation, needs assessment, bioterrorism and emergency preparedness, health education, data entry/analysis, health policy, food safety, substance use prevention, and other duties as determined by the local health department in collaboration with the student. Accepted students will also be offered the opportunity to spend time shadowing epidemiologists and health educators at the MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, and the Division of Global Populations.

**The applicant must have completed at least one semester of graduate level public health course work** preferably including, but not limited to, one course each in epidemiology, environmental health, and biostatistics. Students should be able to work independently and have basic computer skills. Clinical experience and/or prior work experience is a plus, but is not required. Applicants must be able to communicate effectively in English. Most students will need access to a vehicle; however, some cities/towns have public transportation. Please only apply to postings you can individually commute to.

The student will be **required** to attend both an orientation program and the closing session held in Boston. On the closing day, each student will be required to provide an oral or poster presentation for fellow interns, local public health agents and MDPH representatives summarizing his or her experience. Participating interns are also required to submit a 350 word abstract on a project from their summer activities. Upon completion of this internship each student will have an excellent understanding of the various roles of local health departments in Massachusetts and will have obtained hands-on experience in the practice of public health.

Estimated number of hours required per week: 15-20 (Hours are flexible in most communities.)

Students must commit to a minimum of 160 hours during the summer (Estimated time frame: 5/22/19- 8/14/19). Students may work more hours as required for school practicums pending prior agreement with their internship supervisor.

At this time, listed opportunities are *unpaid* internships.

**While many of the following health departments are accessible by public transportation, commutes may be lengthy: please factor in anticipated commute times before you apply.**

## **Student Application Instructions:**

Applicants should submit an Application Cover Page Table (Template on Page 4 of this Document), cover letter, and a copy of their resume via email by the application deadline: **Friday, March 15, 2019**. Please PDF required documents to ensure desired formatting.

### **Your Application Must Include:**

1. **Cover Sheet with Required Table** containing a list of cities/towns/programs (from the choices in this document) at which you would be interested in interning. Please include ***AT LEAST THREE*** options, in order of preference. The more towns / programs selected, the better your chances of placement. (You may create your own cover sheet with the Cover Sheet Table Template on Page 4 of this document.)
2. **A cover letter** including a brief description of your interests and any specific project area that you would like to focus on. Consider the projects that the cities/towns have proposed, but remember that many health departments are willing to adapt their projects to the student's interests.
3. **Your Resume.**

The above information helps us to make the best possible matches between interns and local health departments.

***Incomplete applications will not be considered.***

Interested students should submit an application cover page, cover letter, and resume **via email** no later than **Friday, March 15, 2019**, to: [hillary.johnson@state.ma.us](mailto:hillary.johnson@state.ma.us)

### **Hillary Johnson, MHS**

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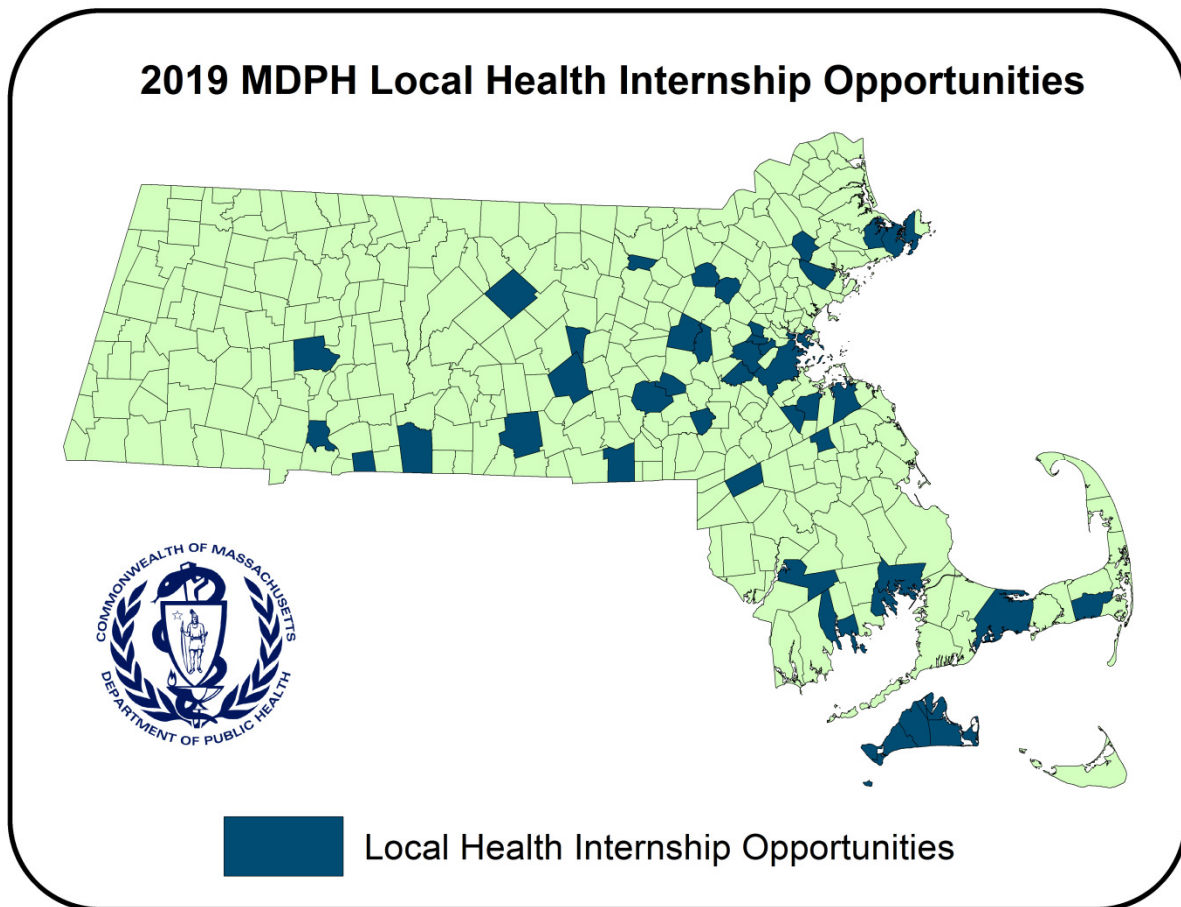
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**Email submissions only**

**Please feel free to contact Hillary Johnson via email with any questions you may have regarding the application process or the internship program.**

Depending on the volume of applicants, we try to notify students in early April. All students will be notified as to the status of their applications no later than April 20, 2019.

*MDPH acknowledges Boston University School of Public Health's long-standing commitment and support to the MDPH Local Health Internship Program. This internship program is open to all graduate public health students that meet the eligibility criteria, and is not limited to students at Boston University.*

The following is a list of cities/towns and Massachusetts state programs that are interested in hosting an intern, including a submitted description of their suggested projects. Please read the descriptions carefully and consider the project areas as well as the geographic location when applying.



**For a more detailed map of Massachusetts cities and towns please visit:**  
[http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cispdf/City\\_Town\\_Map.pdf](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/cis/cispdf/City_Town_Map.pdf)

**Tips for Applying:** You must state in a list each internship for which you wish to be considered. Be sure to Google the location of every internship for which you are applying to ensure you can travel to the site. If you have access to a vehicle and/or can travel to sites beyond public transportation, please explicitly state this in your cover letter. Note that metro Boston area internships are the most competitive. Students applying to regional towns have a higher chance of matching to an internship.

<b><u>Required Cover Sheet</u></b> <b><u>for 2019 Local Health Internship Student Application*</u></b>	
<b>Student Name</b>	
<b>University</b>	
<b>Degree/Concentration</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	
<b>Phone Number</b>	
<b>If utilizing this placement for school credit, please state minimum required hours.</b>	
<b>Towns/Internships to which you are applying (Please rank order)</b>	
<b>Please confirm you have considered location and can commute to all towns/projects to which you are applying above. Feel free to provide additional relevant details.</b>	

\*Please include a copy of this completed table in your emailed application as a cover sheet.

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# **SUMMARY OF 2019 LOCAL HEALTH INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

## **1. Abington Health Department (Plymouth County)**

*Community Health, Emergency Preparedness, Food Safety, Health Education*

The Abington Health Department seeks an intern to participate in two major projects briefly described below, although health staff are open to additional activities and interests expressed by the selected candidate.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The first project would involve reviewing, revising, and assisting in emergency preparedness drills, reviews, and education events in cooperation with the State Emergency Preparedness program.

**Food Security:** The second project would include identifying problematic food establishments with continuous and repeated violations, establishing a baseline for trends, and researching ways to implement effective controls. Based upon findings and identification of repeat violations, the intern will develop a written protocol and health education component to be delivered to facility owners and staff, with the goal of offering offenders a means to resolve violations.

The intern would be expected to work alongside the Health Agent and assist with inspections of food establishments, housing, body art/piercing establishments, tanning facilities, pool, and septic system, etc. This may require researching Massachusetts laws and regulations, issuing permits, writing grants, composing notices to correct orders, updating the town website, fielding calls, and dealing with emergency situations. General knowledge of food safety a plus.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.** The Board of Health office is open weekdays from 8:30-4:30 Monday – Thursday and 830-1230 on Friday. Some work may require visiting other departments and completing field work during normal business hours.

**Primary Location:** 500 Gliniewicz Way Abington Ma 02351. Not directly accessible via public transportation, although the health office is about 2 miles from the Abington Commuter Rail station.

## **2. Ashland Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Community Health, Environmental Health, Food Safety, Health Education, Health Policy,*

The city of Ashland is looking to provide a unique opportunity for an interested intern to closely shadow the town Health Agent/Director, Food Inspector, and Nurse on daily routines and unique projects, and welcomes a motivated student pursuing a project in their specific area of interest,



referencing The 10 Essentials of Public Health Service as a guide. Previous interns have worked on both environmental health and substance use projects, as described below.

**Environmental Health:** The intern will have an opportunity to work on several environmental health projects including the town's Superfund site, landfills, water treatment, and groundwater protection. The intern will assist in working on a "21e" site known as Cadillac Paint (a brownfield) and subsequent tearing down of buildings and planning potential uses that may include a neighborhood park. This is a great opportunity for a student interested in environmental health and law/policy.

**Substance Use Disorders:** Ashland participates in three different community and regional initiatives addressing substance use, including Opioid Abuse. Students will have the opportunity to work with our public health nurse on a comprehensive tobacco program and a regional program for NARCAN distribution.

**Estimated days/hours: 16 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 101 Main Street, Ashland MA, Town Hall, Board of Health office. Ashland is accessible by public transportation via the commuter rail and is about a 10-15 minute walk from the station.

### **3. Ayer - Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Health Education, Capacity Development, Data Analysis, Public Health Nursing*

The Nashoba Associated Boards of Health are seeking an intern to research and develop a number of health education programs and presentations for their Community Health Nurses to offer at their monthly clinics. Interested interns will also have the opportunity to assess and analyze data from the bathing beach sampling program.

Our Community Health Nurses conduct public education in the 16 communities in our Health District and because of the constraints on their time they are not able to expand programs currently offered. Such current programs are generally delivered to the Councils on Aging, in community forums (such as Health Fairs) and libraries. The intern will develop a library of prepared programs (scripts, PowerPoint slides and handouts) for public health nurses to offer to our communities. Nurses currently offer programs on tick borne disease prevention, diabetes, hoarding, and discussions on a variety of illness/diseases affecting senior populations. Expanding our offering would allow us to reach more members of the communities.

Additional data analysis opportunities are available for interested interns seeking additional projects.

The Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Community Health Team's mission is to provide high quality Public Health Nursing to promote wellness across the lifespan in our 16 member



communities: Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Berlin, Bolton, Boxborough, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Lancaster, Littleton, Lunenburg, Pepperell, Shirley, Stow and Townsend. We aim to prevent disease and protect the health of our communities by providing immunization clinics, regular communicable disease investigation and follow-up and by responding to disease outbreaks.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 30 Central Ave, Ayer, MA. There is a commuter rail stop in Ayer.

#### **4. Barnstable County Department of Health & Environment (Barnstable County)**

##### *Mental Health, Needs Assessment, Program Implementation*

The Cape Cod Hoarding Task Force (CCHTF) became a part of the Barnstable County Department of Health and Environment (BCDHE) in December of 2016. Since that time, CCHTF has aimed to build our capacity to address Hoarding Disorder across Cape Cod and the Islands. Due to its complex nature, Hoarding Disorder requires an approach methodology that thoughtfully blends mental health, public health and environmental health best practices. While we have made excellent progress, there remains important work to be done.

Our proposal is to have an intern assist the CCHTF to do the following:

- Assess current resource lists and update, as needed.
- Potential Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) Survey:
  - Local Mental Health Providers (assess knowledge, collaboration potential and coordinate further training).
  - Local Service Providers (home health aides, visiting nurse agencies etc. to assess their level of knowledge and coordinate further training).
- Removal Services Coordination (Research local vendors that provide removal services, educate them on CCHTF and collaborate to provide affordable options for individuals.)
- Conduct overall community outreach to encourage networking, build stakeholder relationships and encourage team coordinated responses to assist individuals in need.

If the intern is not working remotely, they will be encouraged to attend CCHTF meetings in June and August. The selected intern may also have the opportunity to shadow various Health Agents in Barnstable County and participate in other programs including landfill monitoring, tobacco control, public health nursing, and infectious disease outbreak response.

**Estimated days/hours: 16 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 3195 Main Street, Barnstable, MA. We are not accessible by public transportation but this project can be modified to be conducted remotely.

## **5. Bedford Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Health Education, Immunization, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders*

The town of Bedford is seeking an intern with experience in researching, drafting correspondence, and delivering health education presentations. We have several potential projects, described below, but are also open to a project proposed by the intern based upon interest and need.

**Anti-Vaping Campaign.** The intern would head education and outreach programming aimed at preventing vaping activities among youth. This project would involve researching anti-vaping best practices in schools that help to curb use, as well as developing programming to assist youth in vaping cessation. This is a unique opportunity to develop and implement a cessation program involving best practices as well as novel approaches to this new and emerging issue.

**HPV Vaccination Program.** The intern would be involved in improving HPV vaccination rates among town residents. This project would include assessing vaccination rates, researching models of programs from other communities, determining community vaccine attitudes and perceptions, and coordinating the administration of the HPV vaccine program.

**Falls Reduction Program.** Develop and implement a project based on the current falls prevention program by analyzing the current program, assessing rates/needs, and identifying opportunities to fill gaps, followed by a possible media campaign.

Bedford is open to proposals by a diligent and motivated intern for additional projects based on the student's interest and community need. This would involve intern development of program structure, researching grant opportunities, and even program administration.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Health Department, Town Center Building, 12 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA.

## **6. Belmont Health Department (Middlesex County)**

*Community Health, Environmental Health, Food Security, Health Education*

The Belmont Health Department is seeking a motivated intern for a unique opportunity to work on several aspects of local health, with a particular focus on environmental health and inspections, but also allowing for an intern-identified project of focus.

This internship will expose a student to many of the issues that a local health department addresses on a daily basis. The student will work closely with the Assistant Director to conduct environmental health inspections of food service establishments, housing, pools and camps, investigate complaints about rodents and wildlife, research topics in public health, etc.

Additionally, the internship will provide a student with the opportunity to take the lead on an individual project to either develop new youth programming with the Youth Commission Coordinator, develop a health education campaign (updating content on the health department website and creating a public awareness campaign about health department initiatives) or develop/update a local health regulation (such as beekeeping or grease trap).

Interest and experience in environmental health and vector control preferred.

**Estimated days/hours: 14 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 19 Moore St, Belmont, MA 02478. The office is accessible by public transportation via bus or commuter rail.

## **7. Boston – MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization: Healthcare Associated Infections and Antibiotic Resistance Internship (Suffolk County)**

*Data Analysis, Healthcare Associated Infections and Antibiotic Resistance, Case Follow-up, Outbreak Investigation*

The Healthcare Associated Infections and Antibiotic Resistance Project Area within the MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences is seeking a student to conduct data analysis and evaluation following external validation of MRSA bloodstream infection data reported in the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) by 20 acute care hospitals in Massachusetts. The purpose of external validation is to ensure complete and accurate data reporting according to NHSN methods and definitions. Additional duties of the selected intern may include: long-term care facility *C. difficile* data entry and surveillance support, support for our program to monitor antibiotic use in long-term care facilities, general support for multi-drug resistant organism case report review and other healthcare-associated infections activities.

The selected intern would be expected to undergo training which may consist of both in-person and online trainings, shadow an epidemiologist, and attend program meetings and conference calls. The intern should have a good understanding of data analysis using SAS software. Familiarity with medical terminology would be beneficial.

**Estimated days/hours: 20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** This internship opportunity is located at the Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory in Jamaica Plain at 305 South Street. The office is easily accessible via the Orange MBTA Line.

## **8. Boston – MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization: Immunization Assessment Internship (Suffolk County)**

*Data Analysis, GIS/Mapping, Needs Assessment, Immunization*

The Immunization Assessment Unit within the MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences is seeking an intern who will assist with a detailed analysis of the data present in the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS). We are embarking on a data discovery project to understand more fully the characteristics of data contained within the MIIS. To do this, we would like the assistance of a dedicated intern who can use SQL to query, interpret, and report on a number of demographic variables, and will compare the data in the MIIS to Massachusetts census information to try to identify potential biases or reporting issues. Additionally, the intern will compare vaccination rates from the MIIS with other vaccination rates obtained from population-level surveys and other reporting sources (such as NIS and BRFSS), and will create data tables and statewide maps using this data. We aim to create a publication using the results of these efforts.

In addition to this project, the intern will have the ability to shadow other members of the Immunization Program, including epidemiologists, Vaccines For Children (VFC) program quality assurance analysts, MIIS data analysts, and others. Experience with SQL and GIS/mapping is a plus. This is an analytical internship.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** This internship opportunity is located at the Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory in Jamaica Plain at 305 South Street. The office is easily accessible via the Orange MBTA Line.

## **9. Boston – MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization: Zoonotic Disease Internship (Suffolk County)**

*Data analysis, GIS Mapping, Health education planning and implementation*

The Zoonotic Disease Program within the MDPH Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences is accepting applications for a student intern to assist on a review of existing surveillance structures. This work would include a complete analysis of endemic tickborne diseases to design tools to estimate incidence and create mechanisms to reduce the burden of tickborne disease in MA. The accepted candidate may also work on other zoonotic disease projects included but not limited to arboviral disease, rabies, emerging pathogens and GIS Mapping.

The candidate would also work on an existing tickborne disease health education program targeted at students in grades 3-8. The candidate would work to enhance existing materials, create new materials, and assist with graphic development. This program is an exciting break

from traditional risk messaging, utilizing student's natural interest in science to convey risk messaging. MDPH has rolled this program out to 40 cities and towns and is looking to update materials and improve coordination of activities between participating communities.

The preferred candidate will have an interest in zoonotic disease and health education. Experience with SAS, GIS, and knowledge of graphic design would be a benefit.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** This internship opportunity is located at the Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory in Jamaica Plain at 305 South Street. The office is easily accessible via the Orange MBTA Line.

### **10. Boston – MDPH Office of Performance Management and Quality Improvement: Community Engagement Internship (Suffolk County)**

*Data Analysis, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Quality Improvement, Community Engagement*

The Massachusetts State Department of Public Health (MDPH), Office of Performance Management & Quality Improvement is seeking an intern with a strong interest in engaging the community in identifying ways to improve services and programs as well as an interest in community health improvement planning. This internship has strong networking opportunities.

**Project Background:** MDPH seeks to improve and expand its methods of community engagement. Community engagement is the process by which MDPH connects with individuals, communities, and organizations/institutions to inform, implement, and evaluate its priorities, programs and services. Community engagement processes are ongoing relationships between stakeholders, community-based organizations, consumers, residents, local public health, providers, and more. The "Community Engagement Standards for Community Health Planning Guideline" was adopted as part of updates made to regulations in the Determination of Need process in 2017, in order to help hospitals leverage their Community Health Needs Assessment and community engagement process to meet the MDPH community health planning standards. Additionally, there is interest in aligning the community guidelines for MDPH staff so that MDPH community engagement efforts are reflected in the standards. As a first step, key informant interviews have already been conducted on 16 MDPH programmatic strategic plans to understand how they incorporated a variety of community engagement methods through their planning. In addition, there is a Community Engagement Work Group dedicated to bringing together many bureau and office lenses and experiences to the conversation.

**Project Description:** The intern will have an opportunity to engage MDPH staff, through the Community Engagement Work Group and other identified key partners. The work will include an environmental scan of current MDPH community engagement efforts to develop an annotated directory of existing programs, points of contact, and resources with an emphasis on highlighting best practice areas within MDPH.

This work would support a number of possible implementation projects including:

1. Development of a DPH framework for Community Engagement strategies for the department as a whole.
2. Identification of tools, materials, and supports that can enhance our already robust community engagement efforts.
3. Document/Create best practice case studies.

**Estimated days/hours: 22-37.5 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 250 Washington Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02048. This location is conveniently located near the Orange, Blue, Green and Red Line trains.

### **11. Boston – MDPH Office of Performance Management and Quality Improvement: Interagency Tribal Partnerships Internship (Suffolk County)**

*Data Analysis, Needs Assessment, Quality Improvement, Social Determinants of Health, Tribal Health*

The Massachusetts State Department of Public Health (MDPH), Office of Performance Management & Quality Improvement is seeking an intern with strong writing and communication skills. Required skills for this practicum include proficiency in MS Word and Excel, attention to detail, the ability to work independently and in a team, an understanding of community health issues, social determinants of health, and racial equity. In addition, strong organizational skills are essential. Preferred skills include knowledge of Native American communities, content management and analysis.

MDPH seeks an intern to assist in several Quality Improvement projects and activities and Inter-agency tribal partner efforts:

- Update Native American work group environmental scan and prepare to submit for publishing on MDPH intranet
- Participate in Tribal Partner Work Group meetings
- Update data and resources collected for the Tribal Partner Work Group into an inventory and prepare to submit for publishing on MDPH intranet
- Assist with review and implementation of the departments' Quality Improvement (QI) Plan
- Assist with development, implementation and evaluation of Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs)
- Participate and assist with documenting current QI projects
- Assist with documenting utilization of QI tools
- Assist with developing and implementing "just in time" training modules on QI tools
- Refine existing PowerPoint slides to create interactive online training utilizing Adobe Presenter or similar software

- Develop, share and incorporate feedback on the use of QI tools and resources for MDPH Staff. For example; create story boards to showcase successful quality improvement projects
- Develop, implement and/or evaluate tools and interventions to address identified needs;
- Analyze QI projects in JIRA to identify top tools used and work with PMQI staff to develop and offer a lunch and learn training on the top tool.
- Create inventory of recent quality improvement activities, tools and resources through each bureau of the department, along with any tools/gems that we can add to our treasure chest of Performance Management and Quality Improvement tools.

**Estimated days/hours: 22-37.5 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 250 Washington Street, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02048. This location is conveniently located near the Orange, Blue, Green and Red Line trains.

## **12. Braintree Health Department (Norfolk County)**

*Health Education & Communication, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders*

The Braintree Health Department is seeking an intern to assist with both new and ongoing substance use prevention initiatives. The Intern will work under the guidance from the Substance Use Prevention Coordinator to:

1. Design an Attitude and Perception Survey on Youth Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use for parents of middle and high school aged students,
2. Build capacity for a fall community Sticker Shock campaign with managers/owners of local alcohol licensees for the purpose of raising public awareness about ways to reduce youth access to alcohol,
3. Produce and test campaign Public Service Announcements and social media ads with High School students,
4. Research and compile information for presentation to the Licensing Board on the efficacy of an alcohol compliance program.

Supervision will be provided by the Substance Use Prevention Coordinator and select members of the Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use. The intern will attend Substance Use Prevention Collaborative, Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative and Braintree Community Partnership on Substance Use meetings, trainings, and community events.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Braintree Town Hall - One JFK Memorial Drive, Braintree, MA 02184 - the Town Hall is a 5 minute walk from the Braintree T Station (Red Line). There is also a bus from Quincy Center with a stop at Town Hall.



### **13. Carlisle Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Environmental Health, Health Policy*

**PROJECT: Health Effects of Residential Pesticide Use:** Numerous peer-reviewed scientific publications suggest a link between residential pesticide (insecticide and herbicide) use and toxicity in animals and humans. The Town of Carlisle Board of Health seeks to host an intern to review current scientific literature, perform primary community research regarding the association of pesticide use and disease, review current state and local regulation of pesticide application and clarify the legal jurisdiction of the Board of Health to establish policy regarding residential pesticide use. The internship project will culminate in policy recommendations at a public meeting of the Town of Carlisle Board of Health.

Specific internship goals activities:

- Review PUBMED for recent primary and review literature on the health and environmental effects of residential pesticide use (potentially using the statistical software R; prior programming experience desirable but not required) to generate a meta-analysis for publication.
- Perform primary community research on the association of disease and residential pesticide use, ideally resulting in an abstract or publication. Prior coursework or experience in statistics is desired but not required.
- Review and summarize current local, state, and federal regulations concerning residential pesticide use, and the licensing of residential pesticide application vendors.
- Work with legal experts at MAHB and elsewhere to clarify the jurisdiction of local health boards in Massachusetts to regulate residential pesticide use and residential pesticide application vendors. Particular focus will be placed on potential state and federal statutory preemption of local regulations.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Town of Carlisle Board of Health, 66 Westford St, Carlisle, MA 01741. No public transportation.

### **14. Charlton Board of Health (Worcester County)**

*Environmental Health, Substance Use Prevention, Field Work, Program Assessment*

The Charlton Board of Health is seeking an intern with a positive attitude and willingness to conduct numerous health and environmental inspections with the Health Director. This is a great opportunity to see public health at work and to experience multiple aspects of field activities, as well as provide valuable research and recommendations to a town about to engage in several important issues of public health importance. Top project areas include:

**Environmental Impact Assessment (Solar Farms):** Currently the town of Charlton has had an influx of applications for the installations of Solar Farms due to the size of Charlton and the land currently available. Charlton has placed a one year moratorium on the application for the installation of these sites until we can take a look at the overall health risk associated with large scale solar use and what impacts will they have in the future with disposal.

**Marijuana Program Review and Assessment:** Marijuana has also been a hot topic with local municipalities feeling the pressure to approve application for legalized business facilities. If they do not, they risk the chance that the facility will just move over to the next town and the revenue for the municipality is gone. Overall issues are still before the local board of Health and its residents. VGG has placed an application before the townspeople that would make it one of the largest indoor growing facilities at over 950,000 square feet.

**Substance Use Prevention Activities (Vaping):** With the state allowing local municipalities to increase the age to buy tobacco products, we are still looking at the issues of under aged children vaping and what the local boards can do to regulate this issue.

**Environmental Health:** Charlton is also in the process of installing miles of water lines to contaminated homes throughout the area to combat the contamination issues from EXXON/MOBILE and the Southbridge landfill. We will have hundreds of wells that need to be decommissioned and continued talks with DEP to mitigate the spread of MBTE still affecting unprotected areas.

The selected intern will learn and assist with all aspects mentioned above as well as many other issues such as children's camps, restaurants and housing issues as well as Title 5.

**Estimated days/hours: 10-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507. The Charlton Board of Health is accessible via the WTA.

## **15. East Longmeadow Board of Health (Hampden County)**

*Data Analysis, Environmental Health, Field Work, Health Education, Zoonotic Disease*

The East Longmeadow Board of Health is seeking an intern interested in outdoor field work and tick specimen collection, zoonotic disease control, as well as data analysis.

This is an exciting project which utilizes East Longmeadow resources and community partners at UMass Amherst to produce community wide tick data. Lyme disease and other emerging tick-borne diseases have steadily increased over the last decade in Massachusetts, and East Longmeadow currently receives rate of infection of tick related diseases from the MA State infectious disease surveillance system (MAVEN). To build upon this person-based surveillance data and to better understand the risk ticks pose to our residents, we are seeking an intern to

collect ticks from five predetermined locations throughout East Longmeadow. Ticks collected will then be sent to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, to be tested to determine what diseases they carry. The data collected will provide the Health Department with accurate community wide tick data to go along with the rates of human infection.

Under the guidance of the Health Director, this project includes: researching and identifying techniques on how to collect ticks, researching tick life cycles and species found in East Longmeadow to be able to identify and sort ticks by species, collecting ticks and sending to UMass Amherst for disease testing. At the end of the internship, the intern will produce a report assessing seasonal trends and rates of infection of tick related diseases. The intern will compare the East Longmeadow tick data collected and analyzed to other communities in Massachusetts. This internship will utilize skills collecting data, analyzing data, and reporting in the field of public health. This internship is an opportunity to learn about municipal Health Departments, rates of infection, environmental health, and will provide networking opportunities with environmental, municipal, and business professionals.

This internship will require field work and time spent outdoors during the summer months and the intern is required to provide his/her own private vehicle to conduct field research.

**Estimated days/hours: 10-15 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Health Department at the Town Hall located at 60 Center Square, East Longmeadow, MA 01028. PVTa runs in East Longmeadow, but no public transportation goes directly to the Town Hall.

## **16. Essex Board of Health (Essex County)**

*Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, Health Policy*

With the recent changes to state legislation on how OSHA requirements are applied to municipalities, the Town of Essex has opted to view this new requirement from a public health and safety perspective, and therefore it will be organized and managed by the Board of Health via the BoH Administrator. As such, we are seeking an individual who will assist the BoH Administrator in evaluating the current state of various safety programs, making recommendations for improvements to the Safety Committee, and implementing new processes within the town departments.

Main responsibilities include:

- Assistance in developing an Emergency Preparedness & Action Plan, including reviewing evacuation plans for each town building, identifying potential hazards, and partnering with department heads to implement employee training.
- Conducting audits – i.e. fire extinguisher compliance, evaluate equipment against OSHA standards, hazardous substances compliance including Safety Data Sheets.

- Preparing Standard Operating Procedures and improving communications within and among various municipal departments.

The ideal candidate would have an interest in emergency preparedness (EP). EP experience a plus. The selected candidate will have the opportunity to shadow and participate in all public health activities in conjunction with the lead health agent, including anything from soil testing, septic system inspection, attending emergency preparedness meetings, food establishment inspections, housing inspections, beach testing, etc.

**Estimated days/hours: 10-15 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 30 Martin Street, Essex. No public transportation is available. Access to a personal vehicle is recommended, although transportation from Gloucester or Manchester may be arranged with the health agent.

## **17. Fairhaven Board of Health (Bristol County)**

*Community Health, Needs Assessment, Data Analysis, Survey Design*

**Community Health Needs Assessment:** The town of Fairhaven Board of Health seeks an intern to take the lead on a community health needs assessment through designing, administering, and analyzing a community health survey. The survey will address residents' medical conditions and concerns, financial impacts on health, personal health activities and perceptions, and suggestions for the town board of health to help improve community health.

The survey results would be compiled into a health assessment report on Fairhaven's perceived vs. real health status and provide recommendations for future Board of Health and Town activities.

In addition to the needs assessment, the selected candidate will have the opportunity to observe and participate in all disciplines within the health department. Such activities at the local level include inspections (food establishments, retail foods, etc.) Food Borne Illness investigation, Tobacco Program, Septic Systems, Tanning Beds inspections, Beaches, Summer Camps, Recycling Programs, Household Waste Programs, Minimum Housing, Hoarding, Vector-borne Illnesses, Public Health Clinics, Opioid abuse and prevention, and Landfill activities.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 40 Center Street, Fairhaven, MA. 02719.

## **18. Freetown Board of Health (Bristol County)**

*Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, Food Safety, Field Work, Inspections*

The Town of Freetown board of health is seeking to provide a unique opportunity for a selected candidate to work on multiple projects and to experience many aspects of public health at the local level. The candidate will assist in organizing the town Emergency Preparedness Program, assist in retail food inspections, and additional field work activities like beach water testing, etc. The ideal candidate will have an interest in field work and inspections (septic systems, water testing, restaurants, temporary events like farmers markets, etc.). The Freetown health agent also runs a transfer station for town trash and recycling, for which there are many opportunities for data analysis based upon intern interest.

**Estimated days/hours: 16-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 3 N Main St. Assonet, Ma. 02702. This is a great opportunity for a student who is interested in field work and environmental inspections.

## **19. Gloucester Health Department (Essex County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Maternal & Child Health, Program Evaluation*

The Gloucester Health Department is actively seeking an intern to assist with our regional maternal home visiting pilot program, North Shore Mother Visiting Partnership (NS MVP) launched in January 2018. NS MVP consists of Public Health Nurses from five communities offering a supportive one-time free home visit to mothers/caregivers and their babies up to one year of age. The goal of NS MVP is to connect mothers/caregivers with community resources and offer social and emotional support. The Gloucester Health Department is looking for an intern with basic knowledge in data and trend analysis and interest in outcome and evaluation as well as researching grant opportunities. The candidate must be comfortable with using Excel and Google Docs to run reports and put together meaningful presentations for Health Directors and other key stakeholders. Nursing student applicants welcome.

**Estimated days/hours: 15 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 3 Pond Rd., City Hall Annex, Gloucester. We are accessible via commuter rail and bus transportation.

## **20. Harwich Health Department (Barnstable County)**

*Environmental Health, Health Communication, Wastewater Program Implementation*

The Town of Harwich has approved funding to implement a large scale comprehensive wastewater management plan. Harwich is currently 100% served by onsite septic systems. The second phase of this plan involves installing sewers. As a result, approximately 650 properties will be required to connect to the newly installed municipal sewer system. This summer the first sewer lines will be installed in the public roads. The Health Department has been heavily involved with the educational side of this plan and with the Wastewater Support Committee, however providing homeowners with accurate and timely information has been a challenge.

Harwich is seeking an intern to assist us in developing and disseminating accurate information to property owners regarding the upcoming sewer system. The selected candidate shall attend wastewater support committee meetings to document citizen concerns and respond by identifying and enacting solutions, ensuring the health department is meeting all requirements and obligations to provide information to citizens being sewered. Possible activities may include data collection and analysis, community interfacing through neighborhood meetings to disseminate information, and collaborating with the wastewater support committee to fulfill identified needs.

The ideal candidate would have interest in/experience with environmental science and knowledge of wastewater systems. Public speaking is a plus as well.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 732 Main Street, Harwich. This is Town Hall, where the Health Department is located. Public transportation is available on the RTA Breeze bus, however private transportation is advisable. A vehicle may be necessary to travel between offices.

## **21. Hingham Board of Health (Plymouth County)**

*Data Analysis, Environmental Health, GIS/Mapping, Health Communication*

The Hingham Board of Health is seeking an intern to assist with two primary projects at the Department this summer:

**GIS Mapping Activities:** The Board of Health seeks an intern to convert submitted GIS People Forms into a new layer in our GIS mapping for all septic systems to assist in environmental regulations development, permitting, and inspection activities.

**Health Communication Plan:** The Board of Health seeks an intern to assist in the development of community education activities addressing Recycling and Dumpster Regulations in

conjunction with rodent education. The town also anticipates a plastic bag ban bylaw passing in May 2019, which may need some enforcement.

As agents of the Board of Health, the Hingham Health Department provides prevention to the community through Adult Immunization Programs, Domestic Abuse Resource and Referrals for victims, Food Establishment Inspections, Health Screenings for all residents, Bathing Beach Water Quality Testing, Communicable Disease Surveillance, and Tobacco Control. The Board of Health develops procedures from which safeguards are instituted by regulation, to protect the public and environment from potential hazards. Planning and regulation development includes such activities as permitting for Septic System Installations, Private Well Construction Permits, Building Permits, Rabies Investigation, Local Emergency Planning, and Right-To-Know programs. We are dedicated to bringing the community the best services available by collaborating with other town agencies.

**Estimated days/hours: 15 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 210 Central Street, Hingham MA. This is accessible only by bus. There is a commuter rail in Hingham which is the Greenbush line.

## **22. Hopkinton Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Data Analysis, Environmental Health, Field Work, Health Communication, Substance Use Prevention, Zoonotic Diseases*

The Town of Hopkinton has two ongoing projects where the right intern could provide much needed assistance and gain valuable work experience.

**Tick-borne Disease:** The Health Director in the Town of Hopkinton completed a baseline assessment of the public and environmental health opportunities facing the community in 2017. During the assessment, tick borne illnesses were identified as one of the leading drivers of reportable illness within the community, with approximately 45 newly diagnosed cases of Babesiosis, Anaplasmosis and Lyme disease each year. In 2018, 68 cases of Lyme disease were reported.

Using the MAVEN data published for 2014 to the present, and with the assistance of our 2018 intern, the Department completed a review of the disease data for the Town, established a risk categorization with mitigation strategies for all of the Town's recreational areas and identified the population subsets and months where risk for tick-borne illness was most prevalent.

In 2019, collaborating with the Director and Board, the team shall complete the following:

1. Develop printed, digital and video educational materials for distribution,
2. Finance the design, and provide the construction oversight and installation of trail signs and brochures throughout our trail network,



3. Participate in educational seminars at public venues such as farmers markets, the garden club, Weston Nurseries, camps, etc., and
4. Perform flag and drag sampling within the community to support tick-borne disease research at UMass Amherst and Tufts.

**Tobacco Control Initiative:** The Town of Hopkinton had identified a significant increase in experimentation and routine use of non-tobacco nicotine delivery systems (vaping) in the school system. To address this increase, the Youth and Families Director, Health Department, and School Department developed an intervention program that provides students caught with tobacco and/or non-tobacco nicotine delivery systems on school grounds or at school activities the opportunity to participate in the program, in lieu of suspension. The program has been operating since the Spring 2018 semester. Working with the Health Director and representatives from the School Department, the intern would assist in the following:

1. Development of a web-based resource directory,
2. Development of promotional materials for informational sessions geared toward parents, residents, retailers and local pediatricians,
3. Assistance in developing an in-school nicotine addiction counseling program,
4. Assistance in developing and administering a tobacco survey to middle and high school students, and
5. Assistance in submitting an application for continued funding of this program.

The intern may also have the opportunity to shadow the Health Director or Health agent on water well installation or abandonment, water well replacement because of road salt salinization, soil evaluation, septic system installation and component replacement.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 18 Main Street, Hopkinton, MA 01748. The health department is located approximately three miles from the commuter rail station.

### **23. Hubbardston Health Department (Worcester County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Food Safety, Health Communication, Needs Assessment, Nutrition, Program Improvement*

The town of Hubbardston Health Department is seeking an intern to participate in a variety of projects over the summer, providing a unique opportunity for the candidate to become involved in several hands on aspects of local health program implementation.

**Food Safety:** The intern will assist in the design and implementation of a health and food safety program for all town employees. This will provide the intern with the opportunity to conduct a pre and post training assessment, as well as research and implement best practices and activities, with the goal of creating a better educated and prepared town staff.

**Program Improvement:** The intern will take the lead in updating data collection procedures for inspections, provide outreach education for town seniors, and update the town's recycling program.

This internship is a great opportunity for a motivated candidate looking for exposure in several areas of local health, as well as to achieve concrete measurable results pertaining to their implemented activities.

**Estimated days/hours: 18 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 7 Main St. Unit 2, Hubbardston, MA. Not public transportation accessible. Intern will need access to their own transportation.

## **24. Mansfield Health Department (Bristol County)**

*Data Analysis, Environmental Health, Health Policy, Needs Assessment*

The Mansfield Health Department is seeking a graduate or doctoral candidate with a strong interest in community health improvement planning and leadership support for local boards of health.

Members of local boards of health rotate on/off regularly. This internship will include a comprehensive overview of all aspects of local health, in order to develop an onboarding guide to assist the Health Agent with orienting new board members. As such, this internship would provide the opportunity for a self-starter, eager student to really dig their heels into understanding local public health and developing an expertise.

The possible tasks for the intern(s) include:

- Conduct a needs assessment/environmental scan/survey on what other health departments of varying sizes provide regarding orientation and onboarding of new members including outreach to the MA Health Officers organization.
- Develop an interview guide to learn from previous and existing Board of Health members (potential topics include federal, state and local public health regulations, environmental health and housing; knowledge development; History of the Health Department etc., open meeting law, Roberts rules of order etc.)
- Research, outline, and create details and contents for onboarding/orienting new board of health members
- Pilot with 1-2 new board members
- Obtain feedback and incorporate suggestions

This internship also provides the opportunity to sit in on monthly board of health meetings, inspections and follow up on violations. A great way of understanding the day in the life of a health agent.

Required skills for this practicum include proficiency in MS Word and Excel, attention to detail, the ability to work independently and in a team, and an understanding of the role of local boards of health. In addition, strong organizational skills are essential. Preferred skills include knowledge of Visio or other types of visualization tools, survey/key informant interview experience, data management and analysis, and strong writing skills.

**Estimated days/hours: 22-37.5 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Town of Mansfield, 1st floor, 6 Park Row, Mansfield MA 02048. The Providence Commuter Rail Line stops regularly in Mansfield.

## **25. Marion Board of Health (Plymouth County)**

*Data Analysis, Emergency Preparedness, Mental Health, Program Evaluation, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders, Survey Design*

The Marion Board of Health is an active organization and is currently seeking internship assistance in a number of Community Health Initiatives:

**Program Evaluation:** The regional school system is in the process of implementing a Mindfulness program at the elementary level throughout the District. The intern will work with the Board and our partners (school administration and Calmer Choice of Cape Cod) to structure an evaluation strategy for the program. This will require assessing what is available and utilized by others, what is practical for use in this location, resources available to implement, and a strategic plan for analysis of data.

**Substance Use Needs Assessment:** Substance use prevention efforts within our community and regionally have focused on students and their parents. Intergenerational substance use has not been addressed, particularly as it relates to the elder population. This project would be to assess and utilize available population data to describe population and scope of problem; identify and seek out additionally data that may be necessary; develop a plan of relevant interventions to address the problem (e.g. educational programming, social media) and implement and conduct a preliminary evaluation of one strategy.

**Medication Lockbox Program Implementation:** Collaborate with regional partners to develop and implement a plan to distribute medication lockboxes in support of a strategy to decrease availability of opiates within a community. This project will involve collaboration, planning, implementation and evaluation.

**KAP Survey of Culture of Health Model:** Marion Board of Health is transitioning its approach to public health to a culture of health model. The intern will actively participate in assessment of existing structure, recognizing strengths and weaknesses of this model that will

either facilitate or act as a barrier to the success of this transition. In addition, a long-term plan to develop a culture of health model within this community will be designed.

**Emergency Preparedness Communication Plan:** Social media tools offer Boards of Health the ability to deliver public health messages directly and quickly to residents of the towns. There is a need to develop an effective communication avenue with residents that is capable of transmitting and receiving messages in a timely way. The intern will assess existing communication structure and work collaboratively with the PH Nurses and other health department personnel to design and implement a sustainable communication system. The intern will develop a written policy and procedure manual for utilization of these tools and train health department personnel on the usage and maintenance of these tools for health communication purposes.

**Mental Health Needs Assessment:** Mental health and suicide have emerged as significant public health issues within our community. A finding of a recent community conversation on mental health and suicide is that we are blessed with many stakeholders with these issues. Under collaboration with the public health nurse and key community stakeholders, this project will include conducting a needs assessment, identification and prioritization of needs, and development of a strategic plan for addressing these needs. The strategic plan will include potential evaluation methods.

**Substance Use Actual and Perceived Norms Survey:** The recent implementation of legislation legalizing adult use marijuana provides a unique opportunity to assess perceptions of use and actual use within a community. This project will involve conducting a community assessment using existing data (e.g. YRBS), and collecting additional relevant data from all age groups (youth through elders). This study will be designed with the intent of being replicated in future years to determine if community norms and/or perceptions of use change over time.

**Emergency Preparedness Medical Reserve Corps Assessment and Planning:** The Marion-Rochester Unit of the Middleborough Area Medical Reserve Corps is assessing its volunteer base for adequacy in the face of a variety of potential threats to public health. This project is to assess current volunteer base for strengths and weaknesses and develop and implement a plan to recruit new volunteers to address the areas of weakness. The plan should anticipate likely threats to public health (i.e. flu outbreak) as well as potential threats to public health. Evaluation strategies will be designed to assure a sustainable and productive recruitment plan. Intern will work collaboratively with others within the MRC coalitions and regionally.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 2 Spring St., Marion, MA. Not easily accessible by public transportation, but easily accessible from Routes 6 and 195.

## **26. Martha's Vineyard (Dukes County)**

The Island of Martha's Vineyard is seeking **two public health interns** to tackle two integrated public health projects this summer, overseen by local health officials on Martha's Vineyard and based out of the Island's federally qualified community health center, Island Health Care Community Health Center (IHC). There will be a large overlap in these two positions in terms of resources, mentorship, and coordination, however project summaries are described separately below.

In summary, the island seeks assistance to develop and launch a newly funded public health collaborative tasked with a comprehensive community health needs assessment. Additionally, the island is looking to develop and publish a Data Dashboard reflecting Dukes County Health.

**Public Health Collaborative (I2); Support the launch of the Island Integrated Public Health Collaborative:** The student will be instrumental in the start-up phase of the new I2 public health collaborative initiated by IHC. I2 will include the broad range of Island public and private health and human service agencies, organizations and individual service providers who will design, implement and maintain an ongoing integrated public health plan for Dukes County. She/he will participate in the inception of I2 and design/support early activities.

Based on the work of the Dukes County Health Council Health Data Resources workgroup, and as part of the initial phase of collaboration among the health and social services entities in the service area, the student will participate in designing/facilitating a working group and support the launch of an evidence-based planning process for:

- A system of ongoing identification, collection, analysis and prioritization of a broad range of community and other public health data (including visioning and focus groups) with an initial focus on data related to mental health, substance use disorders, and other behavioral health including environmental and social determinants of health;
- A strategic design and facilitation of a collaborative system response to the collectively prioritized health needs guided by the community needs assessment as well as a way to measure delivery system performance and results;
- Community/public health workforce training and development;
- Designing a comprehensive community health needs assessment to be updated at least every three years.

The Public Health Collaborative (I2) intern will directly report to Kathleen Samways, DPT, PT Chief Quality Officer and Director of Enabling Programs, IHC.

**Dukes County Health Data Dashboard (Data Dashboard):** The student will receive broad exposure to the public health issues which affect the diverse community and populations of Martha's Vineyard (Dukes County). She/he will assist in the development of a comprehensive overview of the health status of the residents of Martha's Vineyard.

Development of Health Data Resources for Dukes County Health Council Project and Activities:

- The student will assist the Health Data Workgroup of the Dukes County Health Council in its development of a Health Dashboard for the service area. The purpose of the Health Dashboard is to enable the Health Council, the Dukes County Commissioners,

community service agencies and the public to gain an overview of the community's health.

- The Health Data Workgroup is developing an online Health Data Resource. This Resource will enable interested individuals to have easy access to relevant data. The student will assist in the development of this Resource.

The data dashboard intern will report directly to Robert J. Laskowski MD, MBA, Secretary of the Dukes County Health Council and is Vice Chair of the University of Vermont Health Network Board of Trustees.

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#### **Learning Objectives for Both Projects on Martha's Vineyard:**

- The student will be able to describe the array of public health issues of the service area;
- The student will be able to describe the approaches that community leaders have taken to address these issues;
- The student will be able to describe existing sources of health data that can facilitate the development of local public health policies and programs;
- The student will be able to describe the existing public health structure of the community and understand its strengths and limitations;
- The student will present her/his insights and recommendations with community leaders.

**Informational Meetings with Community Leaders:** The student's supervisors will arrange meetings with community leaders. Anticipated meetings will include representatives from: Martha's Vineyard Hospital (a critical access hospital in the Partners Health System); Martha's Vineyard Commission (regional planning agency); Martha's Vineyard Community Services (behavioral health and social services); Dukes County Health Council (appointed by the County Commissioners); Dukes County Manager; MV Youth Task Force; Health Aging MV.

**Shadowing:** The student will have opportunities to shadow town health agent; public health nurse and community health worker activities in order to experience hands-on the 'life-in-a-day' skills and proficiencies required in these key health positions. Other opportunities may include time spent with the IHC MH/SUD Services Access Coordinator and attendance at meetings of groups such as the Disability Coalition and the Substance Use Disorders Coalition. The student will attend the meetings of the Dukes County Health Council on June 20 and July 18 to observe this unique community roundtable and meet members drawn from all segments of the community.

**Additional advisory for Internship:** Lila Fischer, RN, Public Health Nurse, Meegan Lancaster, Town Health Agent, Oak Bluffs, MA, Judy Jones, DNP, FNP, Chief Medical Officer, Island Health Care, Edgartown, MA, Brian Morris, MH/SUD Service Access Coordinator, Island Health Care, Edgartown, MA.

Interest and experience in social determinants of health, health education, community assessment, biostatistics, epidemiology and group interaction will assist the applicants. Dukes County has a robust, reliable public transit system. However, some routes are served only via the main roads unless by arrangement.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-24 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 29 Breakdown Lane, Vineyard Haven, MA. This address is accessible by public transportation with a short distance (1/4mi). The transit authority does go to the building itself by arrangement.

The host agency and partners will make every effort to facilitate housing and provide a modest stipend for this internship.

## **27. Middleton - Tri-Town Health Departments (Essex County)**

*Animal Health-Regulation Analysis, Evidence Based Practices, Substance Use Disorders, Program Implementation*

The Town of Middleton and Tri-Town Health Departments (Middleton, Boxford, and Topsfield) are seeking an intern to tackle two main projects this summer pertaining to Substance Use Disorder Programming and Animal Health Regulatory Policy. The intern's work this summer will build upon current efforts and expand activities to include evidence based practices and fully engaging multiple stakeholders and collaborators among the communities in a team approach to this epidemic.

### **Substance Use Disorder Planning:**

1. Assessing and expanding on current prevention and response efforts.
2. Create framework for Middleton Health Department /Tri Town Coalition to implement and utilize the Massachusetts Health Officers Association (MHOA) Opioid Planning Toolkit.

Intern will effectively conduct research and planning on identified areas in the toolkit (example activities include but not limited to):

- Narcan Availability Survey of Pharmacies in Tri-Town;
- Regional Substance Use Disorder Recovery Programs Inventory;
- Post Overdose Response Team creation among Tri-Town leadership (allowing HIPPA-compliant communication and EMS outreach to offer assistance and guidance to post-overdose individuals and family members);
- Expand and promote LiveStories Dashboard for Tri-Town Community awareness;
- Assess and assist the Public Health Nurse in planning a Narcan Training for local residents and businesses and explore grant opportunities to obtain Narcan and ensure availability for trained attendees.



### **Animal Health Policy Review:**

The Middleton Health Department oversees the Animal Control Division. The department is served by the Animal Control Officer and the Animal Inspector. The ACO would like to assess current animal regulations in place for the community, make amendments or additions, if warranted. Additionally, assess local fees for compliance with State animal laws. A major objective would be explore animal keeper registration for residents in the community to include above and beyond common domestic pets (dogs and cats) and to include, but not limited to, bird and fowl, cattle, cows, horses, sheep, goats, pigeons, pigs, etc.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 195 North Main Street, Middleton MA, No public transportation. However, a portion of the work can be done remotely.

## **28. Millis Board of Health (Norfolk County)**

*Health Education, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders*

The Millis Board of Health is seeking an intern for two substance use-related projects. The ideal candidate should have a focus in epidemiology and health education and will conduct a needs assessment among youth addressing vaping and marijuana activities. Based upon the intern's research and analysis, the intern will develop both policy and health education materials to aid the town in addressing substance use.

### **Specific Projects of Focus:**

1. Researching and creating marijuana health education materials specific for the use of medical and recreational marijuana. (First priority)
2. Youth needs assessment and research to gauge the impact of vaping in the high school population with an emphasis on marijuana components. (Second priority)

### **Background on Medical and Recreational Marijuana:**

The Town of Millis has recently approved medical and recreational dispensaries that will soon be operational. There is currently a cultivation facility operational in Medway on the Millis Town-line. There are many questions and concerns regarding the safety and efficacy of sales both from a medical and recreational standpoint.

The Town has drafted regulations and bylaws speaking to the activities of the establishments. One of the requirements is health education concerning the use of marijuana products.

Furthermore the CCC (Cannabis Control Commission) regulations also require dispensaries to have consumer educational materials available, including information about the possible health risks of marijuana use, the differing effects of different strains, dosage, dependence, substance abuse, and the laws against re-selling marijuana products and driving while high.

**Background on Youth Vaping:**

Findings are from the 2016 National Youth Tobacco Survey of more than 20,000 middle school and high school students showed more than 5,200 students reported having tried e-cigarettes. (JAMA Pediatrics 2018 “Prevalence of Cannabis Use in Electronic Cigarettes Among US Youth.”) Additionally, about one out of every 11 students surveyed, or 9 percent, answered, “Yes, I have used an e-cigarette device with marijuana, THC [tetrahydrocannabinol] or hash oil, or THC wax.”

Considering the aforementioned, collaboration with the local Health Department, Schools and prospective dispensary vendors is essential.

**Internship Goals:**

1. Assessing individual and community needs for health education in terms of legal marijuana sales and vaping.
2. Planning an effective health education program around legal marijuana sales and vaping.
3. Communicating health and health education needs, concerns, and resources.

Skills preferred:

1. Health education training
2. Epidemiology
3. Public speaking skills.
4. Computer skills MS-Office.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Town Hall 900 Main Street Millis Ma 02054. Commuter Rail Norfolk MA.

**29. Monson Board of Health (Hampden County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Disease Case Follow-Up, Health Communication, Zoonotic Diseases*

The Town of Monson is seeking an intern to provide a comprehensive review of Lyme Disease and other tick borne illnesses present within the community through disease morbidity data. The intern will work with town surveillance data for current and prior years to assess and provide analysis on numbers of confirmed cases. Additional activities potentially include conducting an online survey to gather more information from residents about their experiences with any tick or mosquito illnesses.

The intern will present findings and coordinate a corresponding community education event to raise local awareness of tick & mosquito diseases addressing health education and prevention activities (Understanding and preventing bites, how to protect yourself, children & pets from

these diseases & illnesses, and what to do if bitten). The intern will provide a framework for next step activities and continued data collection and review going forward.

**Estimated days/hours: 18 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 110 Main St, Monson, MA. Intern could potentially work off site as well. Not accessible by public transportation.

### **30. Needham Board of Health: Food Security Internship (Norfolk County)**

*Data Analysis, Food Safety, Health Communication, Health Policy, Nutrition, Outbreak Investigation, Program Improvement*

The Needham Public Health Division has received a grant from federal Food & Drug Administration (FDA) and the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) to help improve our food safety inspection processes and procedures. This grant funding will support the Public Health Division in its efforts to meet the FDA's Nine Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (VNRFRPS). We seek an intern who is motivated, smart, and enthusiastic. S/he will perform research, conduct analysis, and assist in the development of policies and procedures. S/he will assist with grant reports, will prepare project summaries and will perform other duties as assigned.

As part of this grant project, the intern will assist us with the following:

- Inform and educate restaurant permit holders, including owners and managers, and the public at-large about food safety and nutrition by developing fact sheets, brochures, presentations, and social media messages.
- Collaborate with a food safety consultant to coordinate audits to meet standards set by VNRFRPS.
- Write grant reports and prepare final assessment analyses. This position may also assist Public Health Division staff in developing grant applications and preparing submissions to additional funding opportunities.
- Collaborate with Needham's Environmental Health Agent to establish a Food Safety Advisory Board, engaging food service establishments, industry experts, and the general public.
- Plan, organize, and develop a program, in collaboration with Needham's food service establishments and its business community, for a 'Healthy Eating Week' and/or other projects to promote health and well-being, and to help decrease obesity rates in the Town of Needham.

The intern may also assist the Public Health Division with working on other food safety projects, which include (but are not limited to), working with our seasonal Farmers Market vendors and Farmers Market coordinator. This intern, through coordination of Assistant Public Health Director and the Environmental Health Agent, will gather and review Farmers Market permit

applications, collect permit fees, educate vendors on proper food safety protocols, issue Farmers Market seasonal permits and conduct weekly inspections at these markets.

The intern may also assist in inspecting/permitting a wide range of other food establishments, which may include - - restaurants, retail food stores, snack bars, temporary food events (i.e. Inspecting Carnivals, Annual Fairs, etc.) and mobile food trucks, to protect the public's health, under the supervision of the Assistant Public Health Director and/or the Health Agent. S/he may also assist with other public health-related topics such as evaluating health risks for public/semi-public swimming pools, septic systems and rental housing.

The intern may also actively collaborate with other local town and state departments including the local Building Department, Police and Fire Departments, Department of Public Works, MA Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and MA Dept. of Public Health to gain guidance and shadow inspectors to investigate violations of local and state regulations relating to food, nuisance (noise/odors), tobacco and housing.

**Health Policy & Accreditation Activities:** The intern may also assist the Public Health Division on conducting research on electronic (online) permitting and online fee collection. S/he could help develop public health policies and inspection criteria into written protocols on all environmental health-related topics in order to support Needham's goal to achieve public health accreditation.

**Health Education Activities:** The intern may also assist the Public Health Division staff in researching 'hot' health-related topics that may come up on community health (i.e. EMF readings from power lines, etc.). Health education will also be another area that the intern can assist us with. This may include writing articles for the local Needham Times/Hometown Weekly newspapers, working on developing informational handouts on public health topics/seasonal issues, updating our Tobacco Training DVD and conducting local Cable PSA presentations on seasonal health topics.

**Estimated days/hours: 20-25 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Rosemary Recreational Complex, 178 Rosemary St., Needham. Site is accessible to public transportation.

### **31. Needham Board of Health: Mental Health Internship (Norfolk County)**

*Data Analysis, Substance Use Prevention, Focus Group Design, Mental Health*

The Needham Board of Health Substance Abuse and Mental Health Programs are seeking intern assistance to analyze adolescent health data and to design and prepare for youth focus groups this summer.

**Substance Use Youth Data Analysis & Focus Group Design:** We receive adolescent substance use and mental health data biennially. Needham's Division of Public Health is looking for a graduate student to help with data analysis and planning. Additionally, the student intern would assist in creating material for upcoming focus groups. This internship will inform future substance use prevention and mental health programming. There will be an opportunity for this intern to stay on in the fall and continue this programming.

**Estimated days/hours: 14 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Rosemary Recreational Complex, 178 Rosemary St., Needham. Site is accessible to public transportation.

### **32. New Bedford Health Department (Bristol County)**

*Data Analysis, Health Policy, Public Health Accreditation, Program Evaluation, Substance Use Prevention*

The New Bedford Health Department is looking for TWO interns to focus on the following projects:

**Public Health Accreditation Internship:** The New Bedford Health Department is starting to embark on the Public Health Accreditation Process. The intern would be working closely with the Accreditation Coordinator to develop work plans, convene work groups and develop/identify needed documentation. The intern would also participate in meetings with our local university to assist in Accreditation readiness documentation including a community needs assessment (CHA), community health improvement plan (CHIP) and strategic plan.

**Substance Use Prevention Internship:** The New Bedford Public Schools in collaboration with the New Bedford Health Department have implemented the Life Skills program in grades 3-12 to promote resiliency in students. The Health Department's Substance Use Prevention Coordinators will be planning and implementing a comprehensive evaluation of the program using the CDC evaluation framework. Opportunities will include qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis. Epidemiology Student Preferred.

Although accreditation and data analysis will be the main focus for each of these positions, there will be opportunities for interns to work on/be involved with the following activities:

- Car Seat Safety Check Point Events
- Arbovirus Surveillance and Health Communication
- Social Media/Marketing
- Substance Use Prevention Data Analysis
- Vaccine Clinic Support and Data Entry
- Disease Case Follow-up/Outbreak Response

Interns will be supervised by a previous graduate of the Local Health Internship Program.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 1213 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA. (2 hrs 30 mins by public transit from Boston - Peter Pan bus to Fall River - SRTA bus to New Bedford terminal and 5 minute walk to health department.) Parking is available if intern has car.

### **33. Newton Health Department (Middlesex County)**

*Data Analysis, Emergency Preparedness, Health Education, Program Evaluation, Substance Use Disorders*

The Newton Health Department is a robust and active health department seeking assistance on a variety of projects based upon the ideal candidate's level of interest and experience. Potential projects include the following:

**Emergency Preparedness:** The intern will work with the department's program specialist to update emergency preparedness plans, and expand upon existing emergency support functions (ESFs) for sheltering and possibly work with animal control to update animal sheltering elements of the plans. These EP updates would also extend to Medical Reserve Corps policies/protocols.

**Return on Investment Analysis (Vaccination Program):** The health department is seeking an analysis of return on investment around the department's school-based and community-based flu vaccination program.

**Miscellaneous Activities/Projects of Interest:** The department oversees a variety of public health programs an intern may be able to assist with including communication, tobacco and substance use prevention, mental health and more. The intern would also have the opportunity to learn about other areas of the department including environmental health, school health, public health nursing, social services and youth services.

**Estimated days/hours: Approximately 15 hours /week.** (Flexible)

**Primary Location:** Newton City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Ave. Newton 02459. Accessible by bus.

### **34. Northampton - MDPH Office of Local and Regional Health (Hampshire County)**

*Community Health, Capacity Development, Data Analysis, Health Policy, Needs Assessment*

The Office of Local and Regional Health (OLRH), based at the state level at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, yet tasked with outreach and capacity development to local boards of health across the Commonwealth, is seeking an intern interested in community health and health equity and the integration of medical and public health systems.

The primary focus of this internship project will be public health workforce development for the 351 cities and towns that provide public health services, including emergency preparedness, and protections to their residents. Boards of Health and their staff at the health departments vary in size, experience, number of hours available, services provided, and capacity to meet state and federal regulatory requirements. The OLRH is working to develop a comprehensive plan for strengthening the skills and competencies of the local public health workforce, especially in rural communities; the intern will assist the Director of Local Public Health Initiatives directly on specific projects to support this initiative.

Specifically, two key projects will include Project #1: promoting the establishment of Academic Health Departments; and, Project #2: developing a directory of training resources for local public health professionals.

This internship will expose the intern to policy planning and development, networking with public health professionals and coalitions at the state and local level, research and data analysis, addressing disparities and health equity, and working within a governmental structure.

Ideal candidates will have experience with research (internet, telephone follow up); ability to summarize information, orally and in writing; comfort with developing databases for collecting and reporting data.

**Estimated days/hours: 20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** MDPH Northampton, 23 Service Center Rd., Northampton, MA 01060. Accessible by public transportation.

### **35. Peabody Health Department (Essex County)**

*Data Analysis, Food Security, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Nutrition, Program Design*

The Peabody health department is seeking an intern to assess and improve areas of Food Security for residents in Peabody. The ideal candidate would be able to work independently and have good writing skills and experience in conducting surveys or needs assessments.



The intern would begin to work on a Community Food Assessment to identify opportunities for and challenges to Peabody residents in accessing affordable, nutritious food. The intern would survey residents, emergency food suppliers, and retail food outlets to identify needs and resources. The intern would make evidence-based recommendations for policies to promote universal access to healthy, affordable, and culturally-appropriate foods. The project would be similar to one done in Salem as many of the resources referenced in that document are shared with Peabody. (See [https://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/uploads/final\\_assessment\\_2.pdf](https://www.salem.com/sites/salemma/files/uploads/final_assessment_2.pdf))

The intern must have the ability to work independently and have access to transportation to meet with stakeholders in the community.

**Estimated days/hours: Approximately 15-25 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 24 Lowell St. Peabody Public transportation via bus; commuter rail in Salem.

### **36. Randolph Health Department (Norfolk County)**

*Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, Food Safety, Health Communication, Health Policy*

The town of Randolph Health Department is seeking a motivated intern to work on several projects this summer as related to the intern's time and area of interests. The ideal candidate shall have experience working independently, have the ability to travel within the town and be able to work remotely. The student should also have a strong interest in health education and disease prevention. The student shall be supervised by the Public Health Director. Potential projects include the following:

#### **Public Health Administration Activities:**

1. Create standard operating procedure documents (SOPS) for all inspection types (camps, food, pool, housing, nuisance, etc.), Plan Reviews (Food Establishments, rDNA, Well, Septic, Swimming Pool, and Groundwater Zone II protection), Staff Reports for Board of Health meetings (Environmental Health, Community Health and Emergency Preparedness).
2. Research grant opportunities to fund wellness initiatives. Create a template grant proposal.
3. Health Communication: Assist in the development of web based materials for targeted audiences.
4. Public Health Policy: Assist in the development of Medical Marijuana local BOH Regulations.

#### **Environmental Health Activities:**

1. Well Water database. Map out locations. Confirm how many still exist. Create Public Health education messages with fact sheets for users.

2. Septic Systems database. Map out location. Confirm how many still exist. Create Public education messages with fact sheets for users.

**Community Health / Risk Communication Activities:**

1. Health Communication: Create public health PSAs for newspaper and local cable station regarding community health topics: (diabetes prevention, wellness, weight management, heart health, stress management, MRSA, Household Hazardous Waste Disposal, Medical Waste disposal, Rabies, Lyme disease, West Nile Virus and EEE ) etc. Work with public health departments to conduct health education programs and outreach.
2. Underserved Populations Outreach: Create SOP to reach culturally diverse sections of the community – develop protocols for effective means of communication to those who speak English as a second language. For example – How could a free flu clinic be advertised in the most efficient manner to those who do not primarily speak English?
3. Wellness Initiative: Support the Wellness Initiative to educate the public on the dangers of second hand smoke in multi-unit housing.

**Emergency Preparedness Activities:**

1. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Communication: Updates email and phone data base. Group volunteers by skill sets as it relates to the EDS plan. Must be practical document that can be used quickly to inform volunteers in time of an emergency.
2. Food Security: Establish outbreak activities and develop communication plan.
3. Health Emergency Operations Activities: Update and address boil water, power outage, etc. Update Disaster Plan activities.

**Estimated days/hours: 14+ hours /week.** (Flexible)

**Primary Location:** Town of Randolph, Public Health Department, 41 South Main Street, Randolph, MA 02368

### **37. Sudbury Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Health Communication, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders, Tobacco*

Sudbury Board of Health recently prioritized efforts toward prevention of e-cigarettes and vaporizer use. With increasing use among youth, there is a need for more public information regarding perception of risk and harm, coordination with local pediatricians for treatment of dependency and addiction, and for more available resources for parents and students. The project will include a possible needs assessment, compilation and development of documents and resources, presentation to the Board, and updates to the town website. Intern will collaborate with town staff such as police personnel, public health nurse, social worker, and Health Director, among others.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 275 Old Lancaster Road, Sudbury.

### **38. Uxbridge Board of Health (Worcester County)**

*Emergency Preparedness, Environmental Health, GIS/Mapping, Health Communication, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Water Systems*

The Uxbridge Board of Health is seeking a public health intern to take on one or both of the following projects this summer relating to Emergency Preparedness and Protection of Private Drinking Water Supplies.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The Uxbridge Board of Health seeks a public health intern to enhance its capacity to respond to a variety of public health emergencies. The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency and Region II Public Health Emergency Preparedness workgroup developed templates for communities seeking to update previous plans for all-hazard emergencies response and Emergency Dispensing Sites. The intern will use these templates to draft updated emergency plans. The successful intern will:

1. Complete a minimum of two introductory FEMA courses online (IS-100; IS-700);
2. Review Town of Uxbridge emergency preparedness plans and resources including recent assessments completed as part of the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant program (MVP);
3. Develop a survey to assess current all-hazard response capacity and resources;
4. Develop an inventory of response equipment currently on hand in Uxbridge and in Region II;
5. Work with Uxbridge town leadership (Board of Selectmen, Town Manager), Fire, Police, School, Public Works and other town departments to define their roles in a community-wide response;
6. Adapt the emergency management plans for a variety of audiences, including appropriate officials, department staff members and the public; and
7. Develop a webpage for residents with resources on emergency preparedness.

**Protection of Private Drinking Water Supplies:** The Uxbridge Board of Health seeks an intern to assess local drinking water threats, research local regulations and draft revised regulations and guidance documents to protect private drinking water supplies. Approximately one third of Uxbridge residents do not have access to a Public Water Supply. A historic dump site near Kempton Road discovered in the 1990s resulted in contamination of private drinking water wells as recently as 2018. Additionally, two controversial soil importation sites in town have led to heightened awareness of the susceptibility of groundwater aquifers and concern for private drinking water wells.

By working with the Uxbridge Board of Health, other local boards of health and MassDEP, the intern can access a variety of tools and research relevant to this issue. The successful intern will:

1. Review current local and state drinking water regulations;
2. Assess risks to private wells including review of historic contamination sites;
3. Assess contaminants of concern specific to Uxbridge;
4. Research private drinking water regulations in other Massachusetts communities;
5. Make recommended revisions to current local regulations and standard operating procedures related to private drinking water supplies; and

6. Develop a webpage for residents with resources for maintaining and monitoring private wells.

The intern will work under the direct supervision of the Board of Health Agent, an environmental health professional. Board of Health members, including a physician and a public health veterinarian, will provide additional oversight and mentoring. The intern may work with a research team at Clark University who is currently investigating the relationship of groundwater contamination, local regulations and public health. The intern will be provided additional guidance related to working with town government. Specific learning objectives and methods will be developed with input from the intern and his/her program prior to starting the internship.

The successful candidate will have an interest in emergency preparedness and/or protecting groundwater resources, public health and learning about local government. This project will have tasks that can be performed off site.

**Estimated days/hours: 14 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Uxbridge Board of Health office located in town hall (21 South Main St., Uxbridge). Uxbridge is not accessible by public transportation so the intern will need to provide his/her own transportation.

### **39. Wareham Board of Health (Plymouth County)**

*Beach Water Sampling, Community Health, Environmental Health, Field Work*

In 2000, the U.S. Congress enacted the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act to improve the quality and safety of coastal recreational waters. The BEACH Act seeks to reduce the risk of disease to users of the Nation's marine recreational waters through the identification of high-risk beaches, identification and mitigation of sources of pollution, and notification/risk communication to the public. To comply with the enhanced regulations the Town of Wareham Board of Health collects routine water samples throughout the town during the summer season. The samples are tested for coliform contamination.

The selected candidate will provide daily sampling services for 18 beaches in Wareham used for swimming and other recreational activities. The intern will collect beach water samples and monitor bacteria levels for 13 weeks. Instruction of protocol will be provided for the first 4 weeks after which the intern is expected to work independently. The intern will be expected to take daily samples in knee deep water, complete chain of custody and drop the samples off at the Barnstable laboratory.

Must have own vehicle. After commencement of training, must be able to work independently and follow a tight time line for testing protocol and chain of custody. Must be willing to work in an outdoor environment under a variety of weather conditions. The ideal candidate will enjoy outdoor activities. The Local Health Agent will also provide additional opportunities for

shadowing or training in other public health activities per intern interest and availability, including outbreak investigations and inspections.

**Estimated days/hours: 10 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 54 Marion Rd Wareham, Massachusetts. Must have own vehicle. **Beach water sampling activities must take place on Tuesdays during the week.**

#### **40. Watertown Health Department (Middlesex County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Emergency Preparedness, Food Security*

The Watertown Health Department is a robust health department with a variety of programs, resulting in several different opportunities for intern projects and participation, including the following:

- **Food Security:** The intern may assist the Environmental Section working on data review of Food inspections and identifying trends in food safety and root causes of food borne illnesses.
- **Community Health:** There are also opportunities in the community health unit working with the Community Wellness Program Manager on assessing community wellness needs and in program development.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** There are also opportunities in assisting and updating the Emergency Dispensing Plan and Department Continuity of Operations Plan.

The selected individual may also assist the Health Director in reviewing the existing regulations and conducting research on current public health trends and evolving issues.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA. Yes, accessible by public transportation.

#### **41. Wayland Board of Health (Middlesex County)**

*Community Health, Health Education, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Public Health Nursing*

The Wayland Public Health Nurse is seeking an intern either pursuing a nursing degree or with a nursing background and interest in public health nursing to assist with several public health nursing activities this summer.

The intern will perform a needs assessment to identify areas to target for school health nursing for the 2019-2020 school year. The intern will also assist with research and policy development regarding school health policies.

The candidate will report to the town public health nurse and have the opportunity to pursue several additional public health projects of interest as identified to benefit both the student and the department.

**Estimated days/hours: Up to 20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 41 Cochituate Road Wayland MA Wayland Town Building Health Department. We do not have public transportation in town.

#### **42. West Boylston – MDPH Office of Local and Regional Health (Worcester County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Health Policy, Needs Assessment, Substance Use Disorders*

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Local and Regional Health (OLRH) is seeking an intern based in their West Boylston Office to participate in two major projects pertaining to coordination of local health activities. This will be a unique opportunity to work on coordination of local and regional activities at the state level, assisting in the implementation of several state-wide initiatives of great importance.

**MA Largest Cities Project (MLCP):** Participate in the operations of the MA Largest Cities Project. Help prioritize, plan and prepare public health forums bringing the 14 largest municipal leaders together to network and share best practices on a variety of health topics such as Public Health 3.0, Opioids, Health Equity, Data, and Leadership development, etc.

**State Opioid Response:** Participate in the State Opioid Response grant ensuring that local public health activities and projects are underway.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** MDPH Regional Office. 180 Beaman St. West Boylston, MA 01583.

#### **43. West Springfield Health Department (Hampden County)**

*Data Analysis, Emergency Preparedness, Substance Use Disorders*

The West Springfield Health Department is seeking an intern to address three main projects, allowing for a very diverse summer experience and enabling the ideal candidate to work across several areas under the health department jurisdiction. The ideal candidate must be able to work well independently.

**CARE Coalition:** The West Springfield Health Department is seeking an intern to assist with ongoing youth alcohol and substance abuse prevention efforts with the West Springfield CARE Coalition, whose mission is to provide education, prevention and intervention efforts to address underage alcohol and substance abuse. Internship activities would include:

- Assist with prevention programs/efforts;
- Represent the Health Department/CARE Coalition at community events;
- Develop a comprehensive, innovative presentation of key informant, youth, and parent/community survey results for elected officials, school leaders, and key community stakeholders.
- Compare local data to statewide and national data, to determine areas of need for interventions, as well as to identify risk and protective factors;
- Assist in developing training materials utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework for coalition members and the community, and develop evaluation tools;
- Develop action plan for informing the community;
- Assist with several alcohol and substance abuse prevention implementation strategies, highlighting youth engagement; and
- Research evidence-based public health implementation and evaluation strategies for Coalition members and subcommittees.
- Prepare findings for CARE Coalition Program Director and Coordinator.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The West Springfield Health Department is seeking an intern to develop a public health risk communication plan. Said plan should be developed in compliance with CDC guidelines. The plans should also include some "canned" messages for common events and be designed for use in print and electronic media.

**Database Cleaning and Analysis:** This intern will work with our Animal Control Officer on improving the dog licensing database. Specifically, the intern will provide data cleaning and updates to the data collection system, design and provide key reports, and ensure better tracking of key information. The intern may also assist with license compliance activities. There will also be opportunities for GIS/Mapping activities.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 26 Central Street, West Springfield, MA 01089. The West Springfield Health Department is accessible by short walk from several bus stops on routes run by the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority. However, the intern will need access to a vehicle to carry out several aspects of this internship. Students should keep this in mind when applying. Candidates should also be able to pass a CORI check.



#### **44. Worcester Health Department: Data Analysis Internship (Worcester County)**

*Community Health Assessment, Data Analysis, Needs Assessment*

The Worcester Division of Public Health prides itself in being the first nationally accredited Public Health Department in Massachusetts. As part of retaining accreditation, the division conducts a community health assessment (CHA) every three years to gain an understanding of key factors that affect the health of our community. Our most recent CHA was conducted in November, 2018 which included a community survey that resulted in over 2,700 community member respondents. Great efforts were taken to get input from those hard-to-reach and underserved communities in order to have a well-informed survey response. Because of these efforts, the department seeks an intern equipped with data analytical skills to undergo an in-depth analysis of the community survey responses.

The student intern should have some experience and comfort working with data in Survey Monkey and Microsoft Excel, as well a basic understanding of health equity coming into this project. Upon completion of this project the student intern will gain deeper knowledge of and insight on how local community members' perception and feeling toward access to health and other social determinant's of health may vary by race, income and geography, among other factors. The analyses produced from this project will serve as the content of a published supplemental CHA report for the division.

Guidance and support will be provided by both the division's Epidemiologist and the Coordinator of the Academic Health Collaborative of Worcester.

**Estimated days/hours: 15-20 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** 25 Meade St. Worcester, MA 01610 - we have onsite free parking available, the office is located within 0.6 miles of the RTA bus hub and the train station, but is not on a bus route. There is opportunity to work remotely if that is preferred.

#### **45. Worcester Health Department: Health Equity Internship (Worcester County)**

*Community Health, Data Analysis, Health Equity, Health Policy*

The City of Worcester's Department of Health and Human Services (WHHS) is committed to promoting the health and well-being of the City's residents, particularly the most vulnerable. Our mission is to provide coordination and management of Worcester's critical services in the areas of public health veterans' services, human rights and disabilities, elder affairs, homelessness, and youth services. WHHS seeks to maximize access to city programs and services providing information and referral advocacy, outreach, and educational programs for all Worcester residents regardless of age, race, ability or health condition.

WHHS is planning a health equity campaign with the end-goal of engaging the Worcester community in productive discussions surrounding health inequities in the city. The summer intern will help establish several evidence-based foundations for this campaign and be responsible for several key deliverables:

1. A report on effective models to engage communities in discussions on health inequities that translate into strategic program development.
2. A report on Worcester-specific health inequities. This includes searching for relevant data from local and state agencies, interpreting the data, and presenting it in a report accessible to policy makers and local agencies.
3. Upon completion of the deliverables, the intern will present findings to the Worcester City Manager.

The ideal candidate for this internship will be strongly self-motivated and eager to pursue these projects. This is a high profile internship with supervision under the Worcester Public Health Commissioner.

**Estimated days/hours: 20-40 hours /week.**

**Primary Location:** Worcester City Hall, 455 Main St, Room 101, Worcester, MA; Worcester City Hall is accessible by public transportation via bus or commuter rail, although a car is recommended

**This concludes the preliminary Local Health Internship  
Posting for Summer 2019.**