



MULTNOMAH COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION INTERNSHIP

INTERNSHIP CONCENTRATION TOPICS:

Community Environmental Health Education, Healthy Homes, Household Hazardous Chemicals, Mold/Mildew, Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Lead, Renters Rights, Training and Facilitation, Research

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The mission of Environmental Health Services, a division of the Health Department, is to promote health by preventing disease and injury. Our goal is to protect the public from environmental health related issues including: food, water, vector borne diseases such as West Nile virus and environmental health threats, including mercury poisoning, poor indoor air quality, and lead poisoning. The Community Environmental Health Services Team provides environmental health educational and outreach services on a broad range of environmental health topics including but not limited to: rat and mosquito control, vector borne disease prevention, food safety, lead poisoning prevention, environmental health 101, green cleaning, and healthy home principles.

INTERN RESPONSIBILITIES

The internship program is designed to provide students – majors in Public Health Education and Promotion, Nursing or Environmental Science – with the opportunity to integrate academic learning at the community level. The Environmental Health Educator will support workforce development by training interns in community-based outreach strategies, cultural competency, designing and implementing health promotion projects, effective health communication, group facilitation, and evaluation of EH programs.

This internship will be focused on two outcomes:

1. Improving community members' access to local environmental health resources
2. Increasing community members' knowledge of EH issues in an effort to create healthier homes

The Intern will:

1. Raise community members' awareness of protecting their health from toxic pollution by helping community members secure and act on the information they need to reduce their exposure to toxic chemicals.
2. Provide community educational services.
3. Motivate people to adopt and maintain healthful practices and lifestyles.
4. Advocate social and environmental changes as needed to facilitate healthful living conditions and behavior.
5. Support the mission of Multnomah County Environmental Health

.The Intern's specific responsibilities will include, but not be limited to:

1. Design, develop and implement a Healthy Homes educational training
2. Determine target audiences and potential outreach activities and events.
3. Develop new avenues for distributing information unique to target population's geographical locale, language or gathering place.
4. Deliver health presentations on healthy, toxic-free homes.
5. Review and evaluate health educational materials for appropriate content, reading level, accuracy of information, layout and format.

6. Determine public measurements for evaluating behavior change.
7. Identify potential resources/projects for streamlining educational outreach
8. Plan and implement workshops and trainings.
9. Gather and analyze demographic and cultural information about target populations, e.g. social and health-related behavior, needs, interests and obstacles to receiving appropriate care.
10. Collect and analyze data through survey techniques; develop evaluation tools to assess achievement of programs; maintain records of education programs.
11. Perform related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; ability to present ideas effectively to individuals as well as to large groups and civic organizations.
2. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, public speaking skills, plus strong computer skills (with an emphasis on PowerPoint.)
3. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationship with employees, supervisors, volunteers, other departments, officials and the public.
4. Knowledge of methods and techniques for health education and community outreach and advocacy.