Position: HIV/STD Social Media Outreach Project, (1 intern)
Semester: Fall 2019 & Spring 2020
Location: Theresa Lee Public Health Center, 1493 W. Commerce Ct. and other locations as needed
Supervisor: HIV/STD Services Program Manager & CDI Supervisor

Background

As Pima County Health Department (PCHD), through its Volunteer and Internship Program, seeks to develop and make stronger relationships with Colleges and Universities in support of innovative public health practices and approaches, attaining collaborative student and PCHD staff engagement, identifying creative educational opportunities, promoting public health careers, and enhancing the services provided to the community.

Position Summary

The Pima County Health Department is seeking an intern to increase awareness of the rise of syphilis and other Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) and access to preventive care including Pre Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) throughout Pima County. The strategy and tasks identified to develop this outreach project include:

- Research the rate of incidence and prevalence of HIV, syphilis, and the risk factors associated in Arizona and Pima County;
- Identify the social media and dating apps and websites most commonly used by most affected populations, and create and maintain profiles on them for the purpose of spreading awareness, referring to Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) for PrEP navigation, and helping Communicable Disease Investigators (CDI’s) with investigations;
- Work as part of a public health and communicable disease surveillance team, upholding the utmost regard for keeping Private Health Information (PHI) confidential;
- Partner with the HIV Prevention team for outreach event support as needed;
- Collaborate with other community partners at SAAF, University of Arizona College of Medicine Petersen Clinic, and El Rio Cherrybell;
- Develop bi-weekly reports on outreach findings and prepare a final summary presentation, which shall include:
  - Thorough analysis of local and state syphilis incidence, prevalence, and risk behaviors, as well as PrEP initiation rates for Pima County Health Department PrEP navigation referrals to SAAF;
  - Content suitable for diverse audiences, i.e. clinicians, professionals, and the general public;
  - Implementation of a recommended sustainability project for future interns at Pima County and any other relevant findings or impact;
Detailed summary report of all findings and a project outreach plan to be completed and delivered to the PCHD STD/HIV Services Program Manager by the end of the project period.

The position will provide the intern with an opportunity to gain valuable work experience in developing and designing public health research & outreach projects, as well as gaining exposure as to how current HIV and STD surveillance and prevention outreach and education operates throughout Pima County. The intern will also gain experience working with an interdisciplinary team of public health professionals.

Preference

The ideal student intern will be any student with a strong interest in HIV/STD prevention, education and care. They will also be passionate about practicing trauma-informed approach, culturally competent care, and providing services to vulnerable populations, including but not limited to: the LGBTQ+ community, youth, the Latino and Hispanic communities, and anyone else adversely affected by the rise of HIV and STDs. They must be able to work independently and in teams, have excellent written and oral communication skills, have strong organizational skills, and be interested in public health administration, and/or policy and program development.

This is an unpaid position with a flexible work schedule.

How to Apply

Submit a completed internship application

Immediate submissions are welcome and will be reviewed promptly. No phone calls, please.