



ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Graduate Student Intern, Community Healthy Eating Initiatives Statewide Health Improvement Program - Minneapolis

May - August 2015

Background and Project

A summer internship opportunity is available with the Minneapolis Health Department (MHD) for a graduate student seeking a degree in Public Health or another related degree. This is a paid internship that requires the student to collaborate with the Health Department's Healthy Living Initiative staff and partners on two projects related to improving access to healthy foods and beverages in the community:

- (1) Assist with the implementation of the revised "Minneapolis Staple Foods Ordinance", a local policy that requires all licensed grocery stores (including corner stores, gas stations, dollar stores, and pharmacies) to stock a minimum amount of basic healthy food items including fresh fruits and vegetables, milk, cheese, eggs, and whole grains. The Health Department is responsible for implementing the revised ordinance in 2015, which includes communicating with stores about the staple food requirements; monitoring each store's compliance with the staple food requirements, and providing training/support to help stores successfully meet the staple food requirements.
- (2) Support the planning and implementation of *ReThink Your Drink this Summer, Every Sip Counts!*, a healthier beverage summer campaign. Sugary drinks are major contributors to poor diet and rising obesity rates. The primary goals of the *ReThink Your Drink this Summer, Every Sip Counts!* summer campaign are to (1) inform the public about the health impacts of consuming sugary drinks; (2) mobilize individuals and organizations to help raise awareness and take action; and (3) empower Minneapolis residents and organizations to rethink their drink choices and choose healthier beverages such as water, low-fat milk, and 100% fruit and vegetable juices over sugary drinks.

Based on interest and availability, there is also potential for the intern to work on a third project supporting the implementation of a community gardening initiative which focuses on helping Minneapolis Public Housing Authority highrise residents start and maintain on-site community gardens.

Funding for these projects comes from the Statewide Health Improvement Program from the Minnesota Department of Health.

Assignment Responsibilities

Staple Foods Ordinance

- Assist staff in conducting site visits to licensed grocery stores, including scheduling visits with store owners, preparing informational packets, providing education to store owners on the basic ordinance requirements, and conducting staple foods inventory assessments to determine compliance with the ordinance requirements.
- Document activities/findings from the store visits in writing using provided quantitative and qualitative assessment forms.
- Create a Microsoft Excel or Access database to capture store inventory assessment data; perform data entry and basic data analysis to generate summery reports for project staff.
- Draft content for Staple Foods Ordinance website and newsletter and work with project staff to make regular updates/announcements to keep store owners and the general public informed about implementation efforts.

ReThink Your Drink summer campaign

- Conduct basic background research to become familiar with sugary drinks as a public health issue, strategies to reduce sugary drink consumption, strategies to promote healthier beverage consumption, the current nationwide landscape of sugary drink work, etc.
- Help develop ReThink Your Drink campaign materials/resources.
- Coordinate summer campaign communication activities (e.g., maintain website, social media presence, and roll-out of communications plan).

- Represent MHD and the ReThink Your Drink campaign at community events to raise awareness about sugary drinks and healthier beverage alternatives.
- Communicate regularly with campaign partners (e.g., worksites, clinics, hospitals, etc.) by email, phone, and in-person meetings.
- Make sugary drink presentations to City staff as part of employee Health & Wellness classes.
- Assist with evaluation of campaign activities.
- Attend Healthier Beverage Leadership Team meetings.

Knowledge and Skills Preferred

- Experience working on public health programs and campaigns, including program implementation and evaluation
- Experience connecting and building relationships with community-based organizations, residents, and business owners
- Experience with quantitative and qualitative data collection (e.g. surveys, key informant interviews) and creating technical reports
- Independent project management skills, including excellent time management
- Content area knowledge in chronic disease prevention; community engagement strategies; and policy, systems and environmental change strategies
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Proficient in all MS Office Applications, including electronic communication
- Proficient in use of social media with regards to public health campaigns (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)

Required Qualifications

- Graduate student with current coursework in public health or another related field

Hours and Salary

- 15-20 hours per week. Wage is dependent on experience and will range from \$13.19 - \$16.11/hour

How to Apply

In order to be considered, please send cover letter and resume no later than 4:30pm, Monday April 13, 2015.

Email, fax or mail your information to: Minneapolis Health Department
 ATTN: Vish Vasani
 250 South 4th Street, Room 510
 Minneapolis, MN 55415
 Office: 612-673-3861
 Fax: 612-673-3866
 Email: vish.vasani@minneapolismn.gov

For additional information regarding the Minneapolis Health Department, visit us at: www.minneapolismn.gov/health/

BACKGROUND CHECK: The City has determined that a criminal background check and/or qualifications check may be necessary for certain positions with this job title. Applicants may be required to sign an informed consent form allowing the City to obtain their criminal history and/or verify their qualifications in connection with the position sought. Applicants who do not sign the informed consent form will not be further considered for the position.

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