Pascua Yaqui Tribe – Health Services Division (PYHSD)

Community Health Assessment

Need for student interns to help conduct surveys, gather and analyze data.

Level of Expertise Needed:

Mature undergraduate students, or MPH students.

Project Description

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe Health Services Division (PYHSD) is preparing to apply for public health accreditation by mid 2015. One component of this process requires a community health assessment, to be followed by a community health improvement plan developed from results of the survey and statistics compiled from other public health data sources. Having completed numerous public health surveys / assessments in the past 15 years, the HSD will focus this survey on clients who are eligible but choose not to receive services from any of our 15 different programs. We are seeking interns to help with the following tasks: (1) conduct surveys in homes of individuals randomly selected, paired with a community health worker who will offer support and language interpretation if necessary. The survey instrument / document has been completed but as of mid December it is not yet decided if the survey will be completed in paper form and data later input to a program stored on the tribe’s server, or whether we will use electronic / hand held devices to record the survey data at time of interview and input the data afterwards. (2) data entry and (3) data analysis. Interns will be supported by a project manager at the tribe, and will be invited to participate in our biweekly meetings; they will also be expected to participate in a 4 hour training that includes the tribe’s HIPAA rules, practice interviews, and cultural competency. The first training will be held on February 25th from 11 am thru 3 pm (lunch provided). The surveys will take place in public places (health services programs and other local gathering places) and door-to-door with selected households. Interviewers will be accompanied by PYHSD staff for door to door activities. The survey will begin with open interviews in public places, and move to the door-to-door interviews after Lent, or approximately April 28th.

Objectives:

1. Analyze attitudes and experiences of tribal members who are eligible to receive services at any PYHSD program, and yet who choose not (or are unable) to do so.
2. Gather data and evaluate responses from surveys, to help PYHSD determine the reasons why PYHSD services are not more widely used.
3. Answer:
   a) Do we have assumptions about why people are not using our services?
b) Do those who are not using PYHSD programs have challenges, or assumptions about our services which prevent them from using our services?
c) How can we answer their needs and encourage more people to use our services?

Student Characteristics:

- Experience with Native American culture, or willing to learn about Native American culture and undergo some cultural sensitivity / competency trainings.
- A sense of humor
- Patience
- Good listening & observation skills,

Organization Background

The Pascua Yaqui Health Services Division provides services to enrolled members of the Tribe, both in Tucson and Guadalupe. We serve as many as 3,000 patients per year, although more than 16,000 tribal members are eligible. Our services range from home visits / care, medical services in our ambulatory clinic, an integrative medicine clinic, traditional healers, as well as dental and mental health services. We have an extensive system of community health nursing, diabetes care and an active wellness center. This community health assessment is a requirement for Public Health Accreditation, which we are actively pursuing.

What is the name and title of the person will provide supervision to/of the intern?
= (1) Dr. Adalberto Renteria, MD, Chief Medical Officer and (2) Dr. Apryl Krause, ND, PHAB Co-Coordinator (3) Celia Hildebrand, Lac, PHAB Co-Coordinator

When do you want the work done? Are there project deadlines? Beginning February 25, 2014 (a four-hour training) through mid June.

Is a stipend for the work or travel available? Yes, but students may be required to become temporary employees. We are currently reviewing options provided to us by the PYT Human Resources Department, and the outcome will determine rate of compensation.
Could student be included in publications? Yes, although we have no plans to publish at this time, we are required to write a report to Intertribal Council of Arizona.

Contact:

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