Community Health

Health happens in our communities where we live, work, play, and go to school. In fact, the social determinants of health – such as income, education, and neighborhood – often have a greater impact on health outcomes than the medical care received in a clinic. Getting out of the clinic and into the community is a powerful experience for many health professionals.

Students will assist community agencies as they work toward health equity for marginalized populations in Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti.

Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County (Ann Arbor)
www.csswashtenaw.org

Supervisor: Lisa Gdaniec
2500 South Main St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Email: lgdaniec@csswashtenaw.org

CSSW is a social service provider offering a range of programs including food assistance, homelessness prevention, family therapy, Medicaid/Medicare assistance, and adult day programs.

Tasks: Students will assist the Oaks Adult Day Program, which provides activities and companionship for adults who cannot stay home alone (due to dementia, mental or physical disabilities). About 75% of participants are considered “low income.” Students will assist with games, music, and crafts while engaging participants in conversation. Students will gain perspective on the operations of an adult day program and have lots of opportunities for client contact. Students will also receive training on medication management issues, elder abuse, and substance abuse in older adults.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: FLEX* MON-FRI 7:30AM-4:30PM

*For CSS, FLEX means that you will choose a 2 hour block within the listed options AFTER you are assigned to the placement. You will attend service at that same time each week.

Heartland Hospice (Ann Arbor)
www.hcr-manorcare.com/care-specialties/hospice

Supervisor: Alyssa Gillham
3840 Packard Rd., Suite 260
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Email: 4621officestaff23@hcr-manorcare.com

Heartland Hospice provides end-of-life palliative (comfort) care for patients with life-limiting illnesses. Services are provided regardless of insurance or ability to pay. Heartland will provide
intensive training and orientation, preparing students to interact with hospice patients and teaching them the multi-disciplinary hospice approach to care.

**Tasks:** Students will serve as friendly visitors for their assigned hospice patient(s) and will visit one-on-one in the patient’s residence or nursing care facility. Students may attend companionship visits, which include reading to patients, sharing a social activity, or offering a comforting presence. Students will conduct a casual assessment of the patient’s needs and report back to their supervisor with any concerns that need follow-up attention. Students will not be asked to feed, bathe, or transfer patients. There will always be paid staff available for questions or handling emergencies during students’ service visits. This placement has a flexible schedule, and includes regular contact with the same 2 or 3 clients throughout the semester. The first 6 hours for this placement involves intensive hospice training. Students will arrange days/times for the initial 6 hour training (usually 3 hours in each of the 1st and 2nd weeks). After that, visits will take place according to the student’s availability.

**PLACEMENT SLOTS:** **FLEX**

*For hospice, FLEX means that you will be able to schedule your client visits around your own schedule.

Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County (Ann Arbor)

[www.jfsannarbor.org](http://www.jfsannarbor.org)

**Supervisor: Kate Papachristou**

2245 South State St., Suite 200

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Email: [katepapa@jfsannarbor.org](mailto:katepapa@jfsannarbor.org)

Jewish Family Services’ (JFS) Specialty Food Pantry serves a broad spectrum of residents in Washtenaw County including single adults, families with children, older adults, and newly resettled refugees who are experiencing financial shortages. JFS food pantry is designed to help groups such as children and the elderly, individuals with food sensitivities and allergies, and members of observant religious sects who are also low-income and at an increased risk of nutritional deficiencies due to the inaccessibility presented by the expensive nature of specialty foods.

**Tasks:** Students will assist the Food Pantry program and tasks may include helping to screen clients for social service eligibility, assisting with client food pantry shopping (Tuesdays), and restocking and labeling food based on nutritional value. Students who serve on Wednesdays will conduct client screenings by phone; students who serve on Tuesdays will have in-person client contact.

**PLACEMENT SLOTS:** **FLEX** TUE NOON-2:00PM OR WED 2:00-4:00PM

*For JFS, FLEX means that you can choose one of the two options listed AFTER you are assigned to the placement. You will complete your service in the same 2-hour block each week.*
Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels (Ypsilanti)
www.ymow.org

Supervisor: Alison Foreman
1110 West Cross St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Email: alison@ymow.org

Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels delivers prepared meals to homebound elderly, disabled, and ill residents in Eastern Washtenaw County.

Tasks: Students will work in pairs to conduct home visits to Meals on Wheels clients. Students will complete client assessments which measure activities of daily living, nutritional risk, home safety, and health and social concerns. These assessments are completed with all Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels clients every 6 months and are used to identify whether clients may need referrals to additional services. This placement will include regular client contact time and will allow students to understand the health and social issues faced by homebound persons. Students may choose between two training dates: Wed, January 28, 2:00-3:30pm or Thu, January 29, 3:00-4:30pm. During orientation students will choose their placement days/times. Students must be available at least 2 hours per week during the placement times listed below.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: **FLEX** ANYTIME TUE-SAT NOON-4:00PM

*For Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, FLEX means that you will be able to arrange to complete your service in 2-hour blocks within the times listed.*
Children & Youth

Education is one of the most important health indicators. Children who grow up in low income households and face educational challenges are at risk for poor health outcomes throughout their lives. Not only does low educational achievement impact future job opportunities, but research indicates that education is a key predictor of health even after controlling for income. Those with higher levels of education tend to live longer, exercise more, smoke less, and have better overall health. Students work to interrupt the pathway that leads from low educational achievement to poor health by tutoring and mentoring children in Ann Arbor’s under-resourced neighborhoods.

Community Action Network (Ann Arbor)
www.canannarbor.org

CAN works in public housing and low-income neighborhoods to empower residents to “eliminate the personal, social, and institutional barriers to success.” CAN programs include tutoring and social programs for kids, homelessness prevention, and emergency food.

Supervisor: Louey Guillen
Community Action Network – Hikone
2724 Hikone Dr.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Email: directorphs@canannarbor.org

Tasks: Students design and implement short health lessons for children attending CAN after school program in the neighborhood community center. Students also assist children with homework, math, reading, and educational games. This is a high-energy placement as the children are often very energetic, excited, and easily-distracted. Choose this placement if you are adaptable to constant change and enjoy working with kids. This placement has a high level of direct client contact.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: TUE 3:30-5:30PM; THU 3:30-5:30PM

Supervisor: Sky Woodman
Community Action Network – Bryant Community Center
3 West Eden Ct.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Email: swoodman@canannarbor.org

Tasks: Students serving on Mondays will be paired with middle and high school aged teens in a tutoring/mentorship role. Students may also be involved in creating a health career fair and/or educating teens about relevant health topics. Service on Fridays may involve tutoring younger children as well as coordinating games and other activities. Students will also design and implement short health lessons for the children. This is a high-energy placement as the children are often very
energetic, excited, and easily-distracted. Choose this placement if you are adaptable to constant change and enjoy working with kids. Expect a high level of direct client contact.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: MON 6:00-8:00PM; FRI 4:00-6:00PM

**Supervisor: Stephen Crano**  
*Community Action Network – Bryant Elementary School*  
2150 Santa Rosa Dr.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Email: scrano@canannarbor.org

Tasks: Students will design and implement sport and fitness activities for children attending CAN after school program in Bryant Elementary. Students will also assist children with homework, math, reading, and educational games. It is important that students exhibit excitement and enthusiasm to keep children engaged. Students will be able to utilize an indoor gymnasium and sports equipment. This placement has a high level of direct client contact.  
Please note: Bryant Elementary School is separate from Bryant Community Center, which is down the road; however, both sites operate as part of CAN after school programs.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: WED 4:00-6:00PM

**Supervisor: Meghan Gieseker**  
*Community Action Network – Mitchell Elementary School*  
3550 Pittsview Dr.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108  
Email: mgieseker@canannarbor.org

Tasks: Students serving on Tuesdays will design and implement short health lessons for children attending CAN after school program in Mitchell Elementary. Service on Thursdays will involve helping YMCA staff lead activities for the Get Fit program at the school. Both days, students will also assist children with homework, math, reading, and educational games. Choose this placement if you are adaptable to constant change and enjoy working with kids. Expect a high level of direct client contact.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: TUE 4:00-6:00PM; THU 4:00-6:00PM
Peace Neighborhood Center (Ann Arbor)
www.peaceneighborhoodcenter.org

Supervisor: Terri Strom
1111 North Maple Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Email: tstrom@peaceneighborhoodcenter.org

Peace is a community agency that provides “programs for children, families, and individuals who are affected by social and economic problems. Peace helps people discover options, enhance skills, and make choices that lead to self-sufficiency and positive community involvement.”

Tasks: Students will work in small groups to provide tutoring and special programing for youth in an after school program. Students will also plan and present a health program for a family enrichment night near the end of the semester. The center has identified ADHD as a key issue that impacts many of the children and families served by Peace. Parents are interested in learning more about the basic causes, treatment, and approaches to ADHD. Students will research ADHD and prepare content. Guidance and material review will be provided by faculty and staff before students present. This is a high-energy placement as the children are often very energetic, excited, and easily-distracted. This placement also has a high level of direct client contact. Choose this placement if you are adaptable to constant change and enjoy working with kids. Students receive training on the first day of service.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: TUE 4:45-6:45PM; WED 4:45-6:45PM; THU 4:45-6:45PM
Safety-Net Clinics

Safety net clinics deliver services that are often unavailable to low-income patients from other providers. Those who fall through the holes or gaps in the healthcare system rely on these services to receive medical care. Many of the tasks at these placements involve providing social services that make it possible for low-income patients to access care. Safety-net clinics are currently experiencing many changes due to new insurance options and the expansion of Medicaid associated with the Affordable Care Act.

Hope Clinic (Ypsilanti)
www.thehopeclinic.org

Free faith-based medical/dental clinic for the uninsured and underinsured. Suggested $5 donation for those who are able. Also provides social services, food pantry, and prayer. Foreign language skills are an asset in this placement as the clinic serves many clients for whom English is not their primary language. Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=0vZemNb3HuK

Supervisor: Julie Brown (Front Office)
518 Harriet St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Email: jbrown@thehopeclinic.org

Tasks: Front office assistants will rotate through a variety of roles including new patient greeting, check-in, and paperwork; new patient registration and chart preparation/return; and answering phones as well as making reminder calls. This placement will provide perspective on the administration of a free health clinic. Client contact will be intermittent and may not occur every week, as it is dependent on the number of new patients arriving during the service time slot. Group orientation is scheduled for Wed, January 28 at 2:30pm.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: WED 4:00-8:00PM (BIWEEKLY); SAT 8:15AM-12:15PM (BIWEEKLY)

Supervisor: Mia Moyad (Patient Advocate)
518 Harriet St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Email: mmoyad@thehopeclinic.org

Tasks: Patient advocate assistants will work one-on-one to assist clients with insurance, food, housing, and other tangible and intangible needs. This placement includes client contact. Strong communication and computer skills are necessary. Group orientation is scheduled for Wed, January 28, 1:00-3:00pm.

PLACEMENT SLOTS: WED 5:00-9:00PM (BIWEEKLY); SAT 8:30AM-12:30PM (BIWEEKLY)
Hope Clinic - Wayne (Westland)
www.thehopeclinic.org

**Supervisor: Ann Marie Peterson**
33608 Palmer Rd.
Westland, MI 48185
Email: apeterson@thehopeclinic.org

This is a satellite location for the faith-based Hope Clinic (main location is in Ypsilanti). This small, free medical clinic serves the completely uninsured (“uninsurable”). Suggested $5 donation for those who are able. Also provides social services, medication assistance, etc.

**Tasks:** Student will assist in a variety of roles in this small satellite clinic, including patient advocacy; patient greeting, check-in, and paperwork; new patient registration; chart retrieval; answering phones, scheduling, and checkout. Special projects may include helping with the medication distribution system. This placement will provide perspective on the administration of a free health clinic. Client contact will be intermittent depending on the number of new patients arriving during the service time. Placement is 4 hours, approximately every other week; however, if interested, there may be opportunities to work some Tuesday evenings instead (arrange with supervisor after service begins). *This placement is currently open to one pharmacy student. Service will begin on Feb. 7th.*

**Placement Slot:** SAT 8:30AM-12:30PM (Biweekly)

Packard Health (Ann Arbor)
www.packardhealth.org

Packard Health is a sliding-scale health center that sees all patients, regardless of ability to pay. Clients include those with private insurance, no insurance, Medicaid, Washtenaw Health Plan, etc. The center combines primary care, mental health care, and health promotion as well as nutritional support and patient advocacy services.

**Supervisor: Haidar Al Mohammad**
Packard Health – Main
3174 Packard Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Email: halmohamad@packardhealth.org

**Tasks:** Assist patient advocate with the clinic food pantry, patient enrollment in prescription assistance programs (i.e., NeedyMeds), Medicaid enrollment, and patient health education projects. Students may also assist with stocking the food pantry, helping patients shop, entering client data, screening patients for Medicaid enrollment, making patient phone calls, preparing NeedyMeds applications, and designing in-clinic health education bulletin boards. Students will learn how a sliding-scale health clinic meets a wide range of patient needs.

**Placement Slots:** Wed 1:00-5:00PM (Biweekly); Thu 1:00-5:00PM (Biweekly)
Supervisor: Cynthia Freter  
Packard Health - West  
501 North Maple Rd.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
Email: cfreter@packardhealth.org

Tasks: Assist patient advocate with the clinic food pantry, patient enrollment in prescription assistance programs (i.e., NeedyMeds), Medicaid enrollment, and patient health education projects. Students may also assist with stocking the food pantry, helping patients shop, entering client data, screening patients for Medicaid enrollment, making patient phone calls, preparing NeedyMeds applications, and designing in-clinic health education bulletin boards. Students will learn how a sliding-scale health clinic meets a wide range of patient needs.

Placement Slots: Thu 12:30-4:30PM (Biweekly)

U-M Ypsilanti Health Center (Ypsilanti)  
www.uofmhealth.org/our-locations/ypsilanti-health

Supervisor: Patricia (Pat) Rudolph  
200 Arnet St., Suite 200  
Ypsilanti, MI 48198  
Email: rudolphp@umich.edu

University of Michigan Health Center, serving large un- and underinsured populations.

Tasks: Students assist with NeedyMeds program, help patients with applications for medication assistance programs, make follow-up calls and track process. Students also shadow various healthcare professionals, staff, and financial counselors. Students may develop special projects to improve NeedyMeds program (e.g., posters or quick reference materials for health care providers). Students may prepare donations for underserved pregnant women and assist with set up of group classes for obstetrics patients. Patient contact may not occur on every visit.

Placement Slots: Wed 1:00-3:00PM; Fri 1:00-3:00PM

UMHS Guest Assistance Program - GAP (Ann Arbor)  
www.uofmhealth.org/guest-assistance-program

Supervisor: Shae Zilke  
Room-UH 2B203  
1500 East Medical Center Dr.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
Email: shaev@med.umich.edu

The UMHS Guest Assistance Program (GAP) addresses non-medical issues that impact the health and well-being of their patient population. A dedicated team of social work staff focuses on removing
barriers to care by linking patients to emergency financial assistance, community resources, and insurance assistance.

**Tasks:** Students assist social workers with providing patient services. Students will learn about a wide range of resources available to UMHS patients, such as emergency financial assistance, parking and transportation, costs for medications and supplies, insurance, community resources, counseling, government assistance, and more. Students will work with a dynamic team in providing assistance to patients via email, phone calls, and in-person consultations. This placement provides excellent exposure to a large health system program designed to remove health barriers. Students will be trained on-the-job.

**PLACEMENT SLOTS:** **Wed 1:00PM-5:00PM (biweekly)**

**St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor Hospital** (Ypsilanti)  
www.stjoeshealth.org/directions-reichert

**Supervisor: John Carey**  
*Advocacy for the Uninsured, Suite 4015, Riechert Health Building*  
5333 McAuley Dr.  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197  
*Email: john.carey@stjoeshealth.org*

“St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor is a 537-bed teaching hospital located on a 340 acre campus in Ann Arbor, Michigan. St. Joseph Mercy Hospital has been named as a Top 100 Hospital and is at the forefront of many clinical specialty areas.”

**Tasks:** Students will assist with complex patient population management. The students will be partnered with a social work professional in resolving challenges experienced by patients with complex psychosocial situations, high utilization, or a long length of stay. Students may have the opportunity to participate in team huddles and attend community meetings with social work staff. Most client contact time will involve shadowing social workers during client meetings due to complexity of cases. **This placement is currently only open to one pharmacy student.**

**PLACEMENT SLOT:** **Flex** *Tue or Wed 1:30-5:30PM*

*For St. Joseph Mercy, Flex means that you can choose one of the two days listed after you are assigned to the placement. You will attend service 2 hours/week or 4 hours biweekly.*