

UNMC, College of Public Health
Applied Practice Experience (APEX) Opportunities

Partner organization name: CHI Health – Healthy Communities

Partner organization website: www.chihealth.com/chna and www.chihealth.com/communitybenefit

Partner organization brief description:

CHI Health is a regional health system that includes 28 hospitals, over 200 clinics and more than 11,500 employees across four states – Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, and Minnesota. The Healthy Communities team leads the triennial community health needs assessment process; develops hospital action plans to address priority community health needs; directs funding and health system resources to meet community, patient, and business needs.

Partner organization’s point of contact name and email:

Ashley Carroll, ashley.carroll@commonspirit.org

Description of partner organization’s priority opportunities (APEX activities):

- Gather/ analyze de-identified hospital patient and/or community health data.
- Identify themes in data sets and recommend evidence-based interventions to improve health.
- Visualize data to present to healthcare leadership and community health stakeholders.
- Participate in and transcribe community listening sessions or focus groups.
- Participation in staff and partner meetings/planning related to the CHNA coordination; ex: participate in meetings with the Community Benefit Action Team at each of the respective hospitals.
- Develop and host a ‘transitions training’ for the subsequent semester APEX student to provide updates and ensure a smooth transition for continued evaluation work (up to 7-10 hours).

Timeframe of proposed activities: Spring, Summer, and Fall 2024 semesters.

The average CHNA process takes 12-18 months. Students engaging in CHNA coordination and completion with CHI Health will have the opportunity to support respective aspects of the process depending on their semester of engagement. Please see the below timeline for more details.

*Note—An affiliation agreement will be required prior to student engagement

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Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec- Jan 2024	Jan 2024	Jan-Feb 2024	March 2024	Mar-Apr 2024	May-June 2024	June-Sept 2024	Oct-Dec 2024	Jan-Apr 2025	May 2025	Jan-June 2025	May 2025	June 2025	June 2025
Step 1: Reflect and strategize	Step 2: Identify and engage stakeholders		Step 3: Define the community	Step 4: Collect and analyze data			Step 5: Prioritize community health issues		Step 6: Document and communicate results						
Discuss with CBATs/LPHD process, data, etc.	Confirm Local Public Health Dept timeline/participation	ID community stakeholders (violence, elderly, minority, refugee, low-income, etc.)	Define community (ID specific zip codes)	Finalize survey instrument	Collect/analyze hospital data	Gather primary community data (survey and/or focus groups)	Inventory of community resources to address health	Host community meeting(s) - Review data as a community (with identified stakeholders- violence, elderly, minority, low-income, etc.)	Host internal meeting(s) to review data and determine hospital priorities	Write report (including eval of ISP)	Submit draft to CSH	Present to Community Board	Submit to Michael Bilton for advance review	Present to CHI Health Board	Publish to CHI Health website

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Benefit of proposed activities to partner organization: An APEX student would have the opportunity to meaningfully support completion of the Community Health Needs Assessment, which is a requirement for all not for profit hospitals, in accordance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010. This process forms the basis for hospital action plans and the direction of community benefit grant dollars.

Benefit of proposed activities to the student: An APEX student will gain practical experience working with health system leaders and community health partners on collaborative projects. The student will have an opportunity to hone skills described below, gain confidence in data analysis and presentation. The student will contribute to real world projects that impact patients and community members. Students will also have the opportunity to learn from and access executive leadership.

Skill sets of students requested: Google collaboration tools (e.g. Gmail, Google Docs), cultural competence, basic understanding of public health principles, data collection, business professionalism

Additional Information (format of preferred engagement-virtual, hybrid, in-person; partner organization's location):

Engagement: Hybrid preferred; virtual options may be considered, depending on the scope of the work identified and student fit.

CHI Health Address: *McAuley Fogelstrom Center 12809 W. Dodge Rd., Omaha, NE 68154*