



MCH PRACTICE FELLOWSHIP 2022-2023 PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Page #	Fellowship Title (Organization)
2-3	Accompany Doula Care: Introduction to Project Management
4-5	BMC - PEERS Project
6	BMC - Project RESPECT
7	Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health 1. MCH National Network Fellowship
8	2. C2 Podcast Fellowship
9-11	EDC - Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network
12	Health Law Advocates (HLA) - Mental Health Advocacy Project for Kids
13-14	JSI: Center for Excellence on Addiction & Perinatal and Infant Community Health Collaborative Center for Community Action
15	Love Your Menses
16	Massachusetts Department of Public Health 1. Child Fatality Review Program - Max Rasbold-Gabbard
17-18	2. MCH Policy and Planning – Stephanie Doyle
19-20	3. Developing Resource & Discussion Guides for Youth-Led Film Projects – Dara Oloyede and Stephanie Campbell
21-22	4. Launching a Holistic Health Transition Toolkit for Youth & Young Adults with Special Health Needs and Disabilities and Their Families – Elaine Gabovitch
23-24	5. Standardizing Data Collection for the Division for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs to Improve Program and Family Outcomes – Megan Young and Elizabeth Bostic
25-26	Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts (PPLM)



Accompany
doula care

Introduction to Project Management
Accompany Doula Care

Supervisor & Mentor:

Christina Gebel, MPH (direct report)

christina@accompanydoulacare.com

Dianna Hahn

dianna@accompanydoulacare.com

Juleese Williams

juleese@accompanydoulacare.com

Location: Remote – virtual office

Background: Accompany Doula Care (also referred to as “Accompany”) is a Boston-based non-profit and professional home for community doulas focused on reducing health inequities and improving birth outcomes in MassHealth members through two Accountable Care Organizations, one federally qualified health center, and one pilot at MassGeneral Brigham hospital. Accompany was co-founded in 2016 by six doulas, three of whom are BUSPH alumni, who wished to find a way to fully integrate doulas into the healthcare system, such that every birthing person would have access to doula services, particularly those populations who experience healthcare inequities and could most benefit from doula care but may be unable to afford services out of pocket.

In addition to providing cultural and linguistic appropriate doula services, Accompany is committed to workforce development and addressing barriers that people of color often face when pursuing birth work professions. Accompany strives to center the client in his/her/their preferences for qualities and demographics in doula services, including race, ethnicity, and primary language spoken by matching the client with one of our over 20 community doulas who speak a variety of languages.

Accompany is seeking an MCH fellow to assist with communication needs, messaging to multiple stakeholders, and social media presence as well as building an onboarding and continuing education experience around health equity.

Fellowship Description

The fellow will work closely with the Interim Executive Director (Gebel, SPH ‘14), Operations Coordinator (Williams), and the Assistant Program Manager (Hahn). While there are many activities related to this fellowship’s goal, the fellow will work together with Accompany staff to carve out portions of that work that best match their skills and interests. Needs and interests at this time are listed in the bullets below.

Activities may include the following:

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

- Working with the current BUSPH Practicum Student, who is analyzing the organization's historic data, to use data points for communication materials
- Working with Operations Coordinator to use data points for postings on Facebook and Instagram, using Canva templates for visual appeal
- Working with the Interim Executive Director to compile an annual report (first one for the organization)
- Working with the current BUSPH Practicum Student/Board President (Alejandra Garcia)/and Design Consultant to research and implement a data dashboard that updates on the organization's website www.accompanydoulcare.com
- Working with Assistant Program Director to create a celebratory PowerPoint for the end of the year to celebrate our achievements at our monthly doula meeting
- Working with Assistant Program Director to continue the quarterly newsletter

Additional Qualifications

A strong candidate will be detailed-oriented, creative, organized, have strong writing skills, demonstrate capacity to be a team player and ability to foster positive relationships with diverse stakeholders. A strong candidate will have a passion for maternal and child health, doula care, health equity, and reducing birth inequities. The ideal candidate will have a “jump right in” approach and have the ability to take initiative and work independently on projects in an organization, which tends to have a startup-like culture.

[Back to the top](#)



EXCEPTIONAL CARE. WITHOUT EXCEPTION.

**Integrating Public Health Preventive Screening and
Intervention into Clinical Care for Adolescents**
Boston Medical Center

Supervisor & Mentor:

Edward Bernstein, MD,
Professor, Emergency Medicine; Community Health Sciences
ebernste@bu.edu
Rachel Thompson, MD, Pediatric Clerkship Director, BU School of Medicine

Location: Partners in Equity and Empowerment through Resources and Support (PEERS)
Pediatric Emergency Department (PED)
Boston Medical Center (BMC)

Background

The Pediatric ED PEERS Program at BMC aims to (1) address the impact of social determinants of health (SDoH) on the mental and physical health of PED patients, of which 70% between the ages of 13-24 years identify as racial/ethnic minorities; and (2) bridge the gap between needs and resources that patients of all backgrounds have the right to access. In doing so, PEERS helps adolescent patients identify intrinsic motivations for developing healthier behaviors and connects them with Boston Medical Center and community resources that address the SDoH and other concerns that they themselves identify. This project allows MCH Fellows to work alongside a growing team of Health Promotion Advocates (HPAs), including students at the BU School of Medicine, to see how an evidence-based public health intervention in an emergency care setting can improve both patient care and the health of the community.

Fellowship Description

HPAs who are part of PEERS will integrate public health preventive screening and intervention into clinical care for adolescents and young adults ages 13-24. After obtaining permission from PED staff, HPAs will approach patients, explain the purpose of the survey, and get verbal consent to conduct the interview. HPAs will then administer an evidence-informed PED Health and Safety Needs Survey to identify patient needs, assess their interest in referrals and resources, and provide them, if they are interested, with health information and a list of BMC- and community-based resources that will facilitate patients' connection to social, public health, and medical support services. HPAs will use REDCap to collect and analyze health and safety data (e.g., COVID impact, alcohol and other substance use, behavioral and sexual health, food, housing, safety, education, and other SDoH), maintain a list of referrals, and present results to PED leadership to enhance and improve services.

Fellowship Activities

1. Complete hands-on SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment) and hospital policy training, including training modules to access EPIC
2. Connect with present HPAs to understand past challenges and continue their work
3. Meet weekly with Dr. Bernstein to discuss findings and ask any questions
4. Dedicate 10 hours per week to PEERS, including about 8 hours weekly in the PED and 2 hours weekly in mentorship/training with fellow HPAs in the School of Medicine
5. Review and stay up to date on BMC- and community-based resources available

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

6. Look into opportunities to improve the PEERS program, through potential website development and grant writing opportunities
7. Enter data from the PED survey into REDCap and analyze data for quality improvement
8. Complete an oral or poster presentation at the end of the fellowship

[Back to the top](#)



The primary teaching affiliate of the
Boston University School of Medicine



Project RESPECT is a medical, recovery, and behavioral health clinic embedded in Boston Medical Center's OBGYN center for pregnant and post-pregnant people with a history of substance use disorder (SUD). Each year, we work with about 200 patients with varying types of SUD on all ends of the recovery spectrum. Patient Centered services are delivered by a multidisciplinary team including physicians, social workers, peer recovery coaches, nurses, psychiatrists, and more. Wraparound care is provided to families during the first year of post-pregnancy.

Supervisor & Mentor: Caitlin Clark, LICSW (Program Manager)

Project Title: Project RESPECT Program Evaluation

Project Description: Over the past two years- the multidisciplinary team has expanded significantly, and we are seeking support from an MPH fellow to help complete a thorough program evaluation. Our team has grown from 3 physicians, 1 social worker, and 1 nurse to include 16 multidisciplinary professions. We request support to help prioritize patient-centered goals, develop core team values, identify pain points for growth, help inform role delineation amongst staff, etc. We request that the fellow builds upon a needs assessment already completed to take a look at specific barriers to care for pregnant persons of color with addiction in accessing care. Racial health equity is a key component of the program evaluation.

Background: Overdose is a leading cause of pregnancy related mortalities, and the risk increases significantly during the post-pregnancy period. Parents with SUD also face a unique set of stressors that include child welfare involvement, NOWS symptoms, increased risk for post-pregnant mood disturbances, and more complex barriers to seeking medical and recovery based care than average. Benefits of fellowship: The MCH fellow will gain valuable insight into program evaluation with a myriad of disciplines in the healthcare field. The fellow will also build social capital and network with key stakeholders and leaders in the field of maternal health care for families impacted by addiction.

[Back to the top](#)



BUSPH Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health MCH National Network Fellowship

About [BUSPH MCHCOE](#): We are one of 13 Centers of Excellence in Maternal and Child in the United States, funded by the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau \(MCHB\)](#) of the Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA 2 T76 MC00017-27). As a Center, we offer specialized educational, leadership, research, and practice programs to give students pursuing an MCH education a

leg up.

This **MCH National Network (MCH NN) Fellowship** offers a student the opportunity to lead a newly formed nationwide network of students and emerging professionals, all committed to MCH (broadly defined) practice, policy making and advocacy, and research. Initiated by and for students and alumni of MCH Centers of Excellence and Catalyst Programs, the MCH NN aims to bring people together to share information, collaborate on advocacy and research initiatives, and to support one another in the pursuit of meaningful, productive MCH-related careers.

Eligibility: MPH students with a commitment to take at least one MCH foundational course and to build community among MCH practitioners and researchers nationally.

Duration: December 2022 – December 2023

Time Commitment: Roughly 8-10 hours a week on average, however, the nature of the work allows for remote work, nights, evenings, and small segments of time throughout the week.

Supervisor: Anisa Saleh (MCH CoE Deputy Director) will check-in with fellow bi-weekly. Dr. Lois McCloskey (MCH CoE PI/Director) will provide additional supervision as appropriate.

Duties:

- Act as the network Director to lead the continued development and sustenance of the national MCH NN Board, consisting of 10 other students/alumni representing a wide range of MCH CoE's/Catalyst Centers and other Schools and Programs of PH with MCH programs
- Lead monthly board meetings, plan monthly virtual events in collaboration with fellow board members and in-person events when appropriate, and collaborate with students from other schools to share resources and learning opportunities
- Maintain network engagement through social media platforms to connect students and alums, as well as to share resources/opportunities (collaborating with MCH NN's Communications Committee)
- Create and implement a strategy to engage alums in the MCH NN
- Outreach to MCH student interest groups and leaders at SPH CoE and Catalyst programs
- Manage network subscriber list, newsletter distribution, and promotion of network efforts
- Host gatherings at national/regional meetings or conferences, as applicable

The fellow will develop skills in management, coordination, communication and have the opportunity to meet and work with MCH students, faculty and community organization members across the country.

[Back to the top](#)

Center of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health: C² Podcast Fellowship



About MCH CoE: We are one of 13 Centers of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health (MCH CoEs) in the United States, funded by the [Maternal and Child Health Bureau \(MCHB\)](#) of the Health Resources Service Administration (HRSA 2 T76 MC00017-27). As a Center, we offer specialized educational, leadership, research, and practice programs to give students pursuing an MCH education a leg up in their ultimate aim: to prepare for a dynamic career in MCH, be it designing and managing community programs, advocating for national policies, developing communication strategies, or participating in research with an international NGO. The BUSPH curriculum in combination with the Center's extra-curricular opportunities will give you the knowledge, skills, and hands-on experience you need for your chosen area of practice. The C² Podcast Fellowship will support the Center's first podcast [C²: Critical Conversations that Lie at the Heart of Health Justice](#). The fellow will be essential in supporting the goal of C² - highlight conversations that inform and educate our audience of MCH students/professionals, public health students/professionals about health issues and highlight how these issues are impacting BIPOC/historically under-resourced communities.

Eligibility: All MPH students regardless of certificate. May be of particular interest to those in the Maternal and Child Health and Health Promotion and Communication certificates.

Duration: December 2022 – December 2023

Time Commitment: Roughly 8-10 hours a week, however, the nature of the work allows for remote work, nights, evenings, and small segments of time throughout the week.

Supervisor: Anisa Saleh (MCH CoE Deputy Director) will check in with fellow at least weekly, including monthly strategy meetings. Dr. Lois McCloskey (MCH CoE PI/Director) and Eilisha Manandhar (Podcast Production Advisor) will provide additional supervision as appropriate.

Duties:

- In partnership with the Deputy Director and the Podcast Production Advisor, build a plan for the continuation of Center's podcast, [C²: Critical Conversations that Lie at the Heart of Health Justice](#)
- Create monthly episodes featuring guests that highlight important health justice topics and how it relates to historically under-served communities
- Coordinate scheduling potential guests to feature on the podcast
- Create interview guides
- Conduct and edit podcast interviews
- Publish episodes on specified platforms (Spotify, SoundCloud, Anchor)
- Design cover art for episodes
- Build a promotion and outreach strategy for the podcast episodes

Application Supplements: Please provide your fellowship application, resume, and 1-3 samples of social media blogs or health communication assignments to mchcoe@bu.edu. Interviews will be conducted.

[Back to the top](#)



Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (HV CoIIN) *Education Development Center (EDC)*

Supervisor & Mentor: Zandra Levesque, Senior Project Director zlevesque@edc.org &
Mary Mackrain, Director of MCH and Quality Programs MMackrain@edc.org

Location: Education Development Center- Position is 100% remote

Please Note: Fellows will be part of a fully virtual team.

Overview of Education Development Center

[Education Development Center \(EDC\)](#) is a global nonprofit that advances lasting solutions to improve education, promote health, and expand economic opportunities. Since 1958, we have been a leader in designing, implementing, and evaluating powerful and innovative programs in more than 80 countries around the world. EDC promotes equity and access to high-quality education and health services and products that contribute to thriving communities where people from diverse backgrounds learn, live, and work together. We support an inclusive workplace culture that embraces many perspectives and broadens our understanding of the communities we serve, enhancing and enriching our work.

Overview of the [Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network \(HV CoIIN\)](#)

Background

The Challenge: Home visiting programs have a unique opportunity to reach families and improve maternal, child, and family outcomes. Yet, gaps exist between our knowledge of what works and the implementation of these practices on the ground. As a result, many programs nationwide are struggling to meet families' complex needs.

Overview of HV CoIIN 3.0 (September 2022-August 2027)

The mission of the HV CoIIN is to achieve breakthrough improvement in select process and outcome measures, including the benchmark areas legislatively mandated for the Maternal Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program, while reducing or maintaining the program costs. Additionally, the mission includes developing means to spread the initial learning and improvement more widely within participating organizations and to other MIECHV grantees and local implementing agencies.

This project is a high priority for the Maternal and Child Health Bureau and the Bureau's Division of Home Visiting and Early Childhood Systems. The HV CoIIN is seen as a strategy to strengthen the case for continuing public support of the MIECHV program. The federal funder requires the use of a quality improvement structure called the Breakthrough Series Model (BTS), developed by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

As part of the Breakthrough Series (BTS) model that frames the HV CoIIN, home visiting leaders work to identify a particular issue that is ripe for improvement, characterized by existing knowledge that is evidence-informed but not widely put into practice, examples of better results demonstrated in real-life

situations and potential of such results, if expanded, to have a profound effect for the primary population served.

Two tracks characterize this phase of the HV CoIIN:

- Scale: scaling up of effective interventions tested in the previous HV CoIIN, including those that alleviate caregiver depression, promote breastfeeding, support developmental promotion, enable access to well-child visits, and address intimate partner violence
- New Topic CoIINs: refine and evaluate new sets of evidence-informed change strategies for high-priority topics. These topics may include:
 - Child-parent interaction
 - Post-partum care
 - Child injury
 - Child Maltreatment
 - Caregiver education

Scope of Work

The MCH Fellow will be a member of the national HV CoIIN team at EDC. This position would get to learn and engage in deep content and associated data on the topics of Scale: Maternal Depression, Breastfeeding, developmental promotion, Well Child Visits, Intimate Partner Violence, and Health Equity as well as those associated with the New Topic workstream listed above. The fellow will have an opportunity to also learn CQI methods, implementation of those methods within a maternal and child health public health program and have the opportunity to shadow real-time project operations. Specific activities may include:

A. **Communication, Marketing and Dissemination (60%)**

- Contribute to the development and implementation of a comprehensive project-wide communications plan, inclusive of data, that supports recruitment efforts and dissemination of project outcomes
- Identify topics of interest for blogs and articles and draft for publication
- Support the conceptualization, development and dissemination of podcasts or other audio products
- Support the content development and design of monthly project newsletters reaching MIECHV awardees across the country

B. **Build team and project management skills (30%)**

- Attend and contribute to team meetings, including Peer to Peer calls (monthly), 1:1 coaching calls with states, and internal team meetings as assigned (bi-weekly)
- Serve in the role of project coordinator with the objective to promote the development of project management skills. This includes capturing minutes, curating next steps, drafting communications, and synthesizing content information.

C. **Contribute to tools and resources (10%)**

- Update existing tools with an annotated bibliography to support evidence-based recommendations and references
- Identify opportunities for conference and journal submissions, draft abstracts and paper outlines in collaboration with key internal stakeholders

Supervision and Mentoring

In addition to weekly supervision, the MCH Fellow will have the opportunity to meet with project leadership in a mentoring capacity once a month and as needed for professional development support.

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

Learn more about the project at <https://hv-coiin.edc.org/>

This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under grant number UF4MC26525, Home Visiting Collaborative Improvement and Innovation Network (HV CoIIN). This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS, or the U.S. Government.

[Back to the top](#)



Mental Health Advocacy Project for Kids *Health Law Advocates*

Supervisor & Mentor: Marisol Garcia, JD
Project Director

Patricia Elliott, DrPH
Clinical Associate Professor, CHS Dept.

Location:

Remote/One Federal Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02110

Background: Health Law Advocates' innovative Mental Health Advocacy Program for Kids (MHAP for Kids) eliminates barriers to mental health care for at-risk youth with mental illness. The program embeds lawyers in state-funded Family Resource Centers in all counties across Massachusetts. These attorneys advocate on behalf of children with schools, state agencies, the court system, and health insurers to improve access to mental health care. A multi-year independent study by BUSPH found that the program significantly improves the mental health of participating children and their parents, significantly improves family functioning and significantly improves school attendance. Additionally, the study concluded that MHAP for Kids significantly reduces the need for children's emergency room visits, inpatient admissions and incarceration, thereby saving the state significant sums. HLA's goals are to expand MHAP for Kids statewide and to secure state dollars as the primary sustainable funding source.

As HLA aggressively works toward expanding MHAP for Kids and securing sustainable state funding, HLA seeks assistance with collecting information to support, inform, and guide our efforts.

Fellowship Description

The MCH Practice Fellow will:

- contact families and schedule interviews
- conduct interviews with parents and stakeholders in-person, by zoom, or by phone
- help prepare collect and analyze data
- maintain accurate records of interviews, safeguarding the confidentiality of subjects
- participate in administrative duties related to study management, analysis, and dissemination of findings
- work within the team of staff attorneys and paralegals to support the program
- job-shadow or attend meetings/sessions to learn about the broader work of Health Law Advocates, the public interest law firm where this program sits

Ideal candidates will have a flexible schedule.

[Back to the top](#)



JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI):

JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI), a leading public health research and consulting organization, strives to improve the health of underserved people and communities worldwide. Dedicated to this mission, JSI provides a place where people of passion and commitment can pursue this cause.

Site: JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI)

Site Supervisor & Mentor: Melissa Schoemmell, MPH

Projects:

1. **Center for Excellence on Addiction**
2. **Perinatal and Infant Community Health Collaborative Center for Community Action**

Project Overviews:

Center for Excellence on Addiction

The Center for Excellence on Addiction (the Center), a project of JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc., is a training and technical assistance center serving professionals and other partners across the substance misuse continuum of care. The Center serves as an umbrella project with multiple projects focused on a variety of substance-related topics and audiences. The Center is specifically seeking support for its perinatal substance exposure project in addition to assistance with other tasks as needed by the other projects the Center works on.

Perinatal Substance Exposure Project

JSI provides training and technical assistance related to pregnant and parenting initiatives which includes facilitating NH Perinatal Substance Exposure Collaborative quarterly meetings for a multidisciplinary group of professionals from across New Hampshire, leading activities to comply with federal and state requirements related to Plans of Safe Care and providing other TA as requested by the collaborative.

The collaborative has been highly active in efforts to advance NH's implementation of Plans of Safe. A Plan of Safe Care must be developed for all infants affected by prenatal drug or fetal alcohol exposure in order to support pregnant/parenting people, infants and their families per federal and state requirements. Unlike most states, responsibility for the Plan of Safe Care lies with the birthing hospital instead of child protective services in New Hampshire. A Plan of Safe Care is a critical tool—for every infant born exposed to prenatal substance exposure and also for all pregnant/parenting people and their infants. Developed collaboratively with the pregnant/parenting person, a Plan of Safe Care coordinates existing supports and referrals to new services to help infants and families stay supported and connected when they leave the hospital.

Perinatal and Infant Community Health Collaborative Center for Community Action

JSI was awarded the Perinatal and Infant Community Health Collaborative Center for Community Action (PICHC CCA) through funding from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Bureau of Women, Infant and Adolescent Health. JSI serves as the technical and training center for 26 PICHC programs implementing strategies to improve perinatal and infant health outcomes and eliminate racial,

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

ethnic, and economic disparities in those outcomes through collaborative and coordinated community-based strategies.

Scope of Service:

The MCH Fellow will be involved in the following, but are not limited to:

- Build project management skills
 - Attend and participate in internal and external project team meetings.
 - Assist with project planning and coordination.
- Provide technical assistance
 - Assist with the development of Plans of Safe Care videos.
 - Complete technical assistance requests which may include developing materials for professionals and families, conducting literature reviews/environmental scans, etc.
- Gather input from key collaborators and partners
 - Assist with coordinating input sessions.
 - Work with evaluator to collect and analyze data and identify key themes.

The ideal candidate will be a flexible and enthusiastic individual who is self-motivated and committed to supporting JSI's mission of promoting and improving health for all, with a focus on U.S. populations in greatest need. This fellowship will be mostly remote, but based in the New Hampshire office of JSI's Health Services Division. Attendance at in-person meetings will be discussed with the selected fellow and will take into account considerations related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Supervision & Mentoring:

The MCH Fellow will be supervised by a JSI Consultant who will offer project management guidance on a weekly basis and ongoing professional development support.

Time Commitment:

The MCH Fellow will agree to commit 8 hours a week during the academic year (Spring & Fall 2022 semesters), allowing the student to follow Boston University's academic calendar, including time off for holidays, as well as winter and summer break.

[Back to the top](#)

Love Your Menses

Supervisor & Mentor:

Bria Gadsden bria@loveyourmenses.com

Project Title: Postpartum Education and Support Group

Project Description: Love Your Menses Inc. is seeking a MCH fellow interested in gaining valuable health promotion

planning, implementation, and evaluation experience. The MCH fellow will help coordinate and evaluate our virtual bi-monthly support group for Black and Brown expecting and postpartum parents/mothers. The first session of the month will consist of a guest speaker pertaining to topics geared toward postpartum moms, such as a postpartum doula, mental health clinician, an OBGYN, a childcare provider for new moms, and a breastfeeding specialist. The second session of the month will be informal so expecting and postpartum parents can get to know each other and openly talk about struggles they are experiencing in the postpartum period, such as postpartum depression, or parent guilt.

Background Info: The postpartum recovery period is the time when a mother recovers from the crucial changes that occurred to her body during the antenatal period to the delivery period. This time is very critical and necessary. Many moms are unable to positively recover because of financial constraints, especially during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2020, Love Your Menses has supported 300 expecting and new moms with a postpartum care bundle. In an effort to continue supporting the maternal health needs of community members, we are expanding our initiative to offer a free postpartum support group. Benefits of fellowship: The MCH Fellow will gain valuable public health project management experience. Furthermore, the fellow will be able to build their social capital within the community and work to promote health equity within the Greater Boston area!

More information: <https://www.loveyourmenses.com/postpartum>



Love Your Menses

Flowing through life, unapologetically!

[Back to the top](#)

Child Fatality Review Program

Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Supervisor & Mentor: Max Rasbold-Gabbard, Injury Prevention Policy Coordinator, Injury Prevention and Control Program, Division of Violence and Injury Prevention, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention

Location: 250 Washington St., Boston MA 02108 / Remote

Background: The Massachusetts Child Fatality Review program brings together stakeholders—from government agencies, law enforcement, courts, schools, and health care organizations—to identify changes in policy and practice that will prevent future child fatalities in Massachusetts. The program engages a group of 11 local Child Fatality Review teams led by each of the Commonwealth’s District Attorneys’ offices to review individual fatalities and recommend relevant policy changes. The program also has a State Child Fatality Review Team based in the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner; that team works to synthesize statewide policy recommendations from local teams’ input and, where feasible, implement agency-specific recommendations. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Injury Prevention and Control Program provides administrative support, training, and technical assistance to the statewide and local Child Fatality Review teams.

Fellowship Description: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health Injury Prevention Control Program seeks a Master’s-level student interested in injury prevention, child health, data management, and public policy to support research and administrative tasks for the Massachusetts Child Fatality Review program.

The fellow will support a range of program activities including:

- researching the evidence base relevant to recommendations from local CFR teams,
- supporting the revision of program databases and data collection tools to better meet unit needs,
- drafting and editing briefs, memos, meeting minutes, and communications materials to support the program, and
- working with the Injury Prevention Policy Coordinator to engage internal and external stakeholders around advancing program activities.

Key skill or topic areas: Injury prevention, child health, public health policy, public administration.

Additional Qualifications:

- Experience handling confidential and sensitive information with discretion
- Exemplary writing skills

Timeline: December 2022 to December 2023, approximately 10 hours per week, with flexibility in scheduling.

Supervision:

Max Rasbold-Gabbard, Injury Prevention Policy Coordinator, Injury Prevention and Control Program, Division of Violence and Injury Prevention, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention [Back to the top](#)

MCH Policy and Planning

Massachusetts Department of Public Health



Supervisor & Mentor: Stephanie Doyle, Deputy Director for Strategy and Implementation

Location: 250 Washington St., Boston MA 02108 / Remote

Background: The Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition provides programs and services ensuring the health of the Commonwealth's mothers, infants, children and youth — including children and youth with special health needs and their families. Comprised of six divisions and over 200 staff, the Bureau administers the Women Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition program, the Early Intervention (EI) program that serves infants and toddlers (birth to 3 years old) who have developmental delays or are at risk of a developmental delay, a system of specialized services and supports for children and youth up to age 22 years old with special health needs, and initiatives to promote health in pregnancy and early childhood, such as home visiting and early childhood mental health. The Bureau also conducts surveillance and research to inform programming and policies affecting maternal and child health in the Commonwealth.

Fellowship Description: The Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition seeks a Fellow to assist the bureau with its policy research, development of policy briefs, and tracking of legislation to support the health of mothers, infants, children, and youth. Working closely with the Deputy Director and Health Communications Manager:

- MCH Partner mapping:
 - Identify existing strategic relationships and collaborations across the Bureau and identify gaps and opportunities to strengthen and ensuring diverse partnerships.
- MCH Policy Briefs
 - Drafting policy briefs on key bureau priorities, including landscape scans of innovations in other states and communities.
 - Research tools and frameworks to embed racial equity in MCH policy.
 - Support development of policy / topical briefs in advance of administration transition.
- MCH Legislation
 - Support work to track key MCH legislation.
 - Draft briefs on key legislation at the state and federal level.
 - Support briefings with key stakeholders (internal and external to BFHN).
- Legislative Reports
 - Develop a tracking system for legislative reports, including setting up a process and communication system with staff leading specific reports.
 - Track, review, copyedit legislative reports.

Key skill or topic areas: MCH policy research and writing skills.

Additional Qualifications:

- Flexible, enthusiastic, self-motivated
- Knowledge of academic and policy research, good writing skills, good communication skills, attention to detail
- Excellent people skills, conducting interviews and facilitating meetings.

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

- Committed to MDPH's mission of promoting and improving health for all, with a focus on eliminating racial disparities

Supervision: Stephanie Doyle, Deputy Director of Strategy and Implementation, MDPH Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition [Back to the top](#)

Developing Resource & Discussion Guides for Youth-Led Film Projects *Massachusetts Department of Public Health*



Supervisor & Mentor:

Dara Oloyede, Office of Sexual Health & Youth Development

Stephanie Campbell, Office of Sexual Health & Youth Development

Location: 250 Washington St., Boston MA 02108 / Remote

Background: The Office of Sexual Health & Youth Development's (OSHYD) goal is to increase life opportunities for youth by:

1. decreasing the teen birth rate among key target population in priority Massachusetts communities through increased access to evidence-based education,
2. increasing educational attainment through promoting positive youth development and prevention of unintended pregnancies, and
3. decreasing STI incidence among target populations in priority communities through increased access to medically accurate, age-appropriate programming.
4. improve the optimal health of expectant and parenting youth through preventing unintended pregnancies, preventing and treating STIs, and addressing the social determinants of health such as housing, employment, education and quality early childhood education and care.

To achieve these goals, OSHYD provides state and federal funding to agencies that MDPH has identified through statewide needs assessment as having the highest teen birth rates, highest STI rates in youth, and/or the highest number of youths at risk. Within these communities, specific priority populations include Hispanic/Latinx youth, African American youth, LGBTQIA+ youth, expectant and parenting teens, youth in or aging out of foster care and/or youth with physical and/or intellectual disability under 21 years old. OSHYD oversees sexuality education programs across the state of Massachusetts, which includes the state-funded adolescent sexuality education (ASE) program, the federally funded Personal Responsibility Education program (PREP) and Successful Teens: Relationships Identity and Values Education program (STRIVE), and the MA Pregnant and Parenting Teen Initiative (MPPTI). OSHYD also works closely with MDPH's clinical sexual and reproductive health program (SRHP). Our office's key principles include commitment to evidence-based practice, positive youth development, trauma-informed care, sustainability and a commitment to reproductive justice, health equity and racial justice.

Fellowship Description:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, Office of Sexual Health and Youth Development seeks a master's level student interested in qualitative research, sexual health, LGBTQIA+ youth, racial justice, mental health, positive youth development, and communications.

The student will create a resource and discussion guide for caring adults and youth to accompany youth-led films projects. OSHYD has partnered with Thato Mwosa, who is an award-winning screen writer and film producer in Massachusetts to bring youth stories to life on screen. An example of a film created by youth so far is a short film about a teen's journey coming out as non-binary to their parents. We'd like the MCH fellow to create a adult discussion guide that adults can use to spark conversations with their

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

youth and a youth discussion guide for youth who would like to have these conversations with the caring adults in their lives.

Specific activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Interviewing staff from OSHYD funded community-based agencies for feedback/additional resources.
- Interviewing youth from OSHYD funded community-based agencies for feedback/additional resources.
- Creating adult resource and/or discussion guides to accompany film projects.
- Creating youth resource and/or discussion guides to accompany film projects.
- Creation of a resource list on mental health resources for youth in Massachusetts.
- Creation of a resource list for services for LGBTQIA+ Youth in Massachusetts.

Key skill or topic areas: LGBTQIA+ health, Youth Mental health, Racial Justice, Sexual health, positive youth development, research and communications.

Additional Qualifications:

- Committed to supporting MDPH's mission of promoting and improving health for all, with a focus on racial equity
- Committed to OSHYD principles of evidence-based practice, positive youth development, trauma-informed care, sustainability and a commitment to reproductive justice, health equity and racial justice
- Flexible, enthusiastic, self-motivated
- Good communication/writing skills
- Attention to detail

Timeframe:

December 2022 - May 2023; Approximately 8 hours per week (hours can be flexible to meet student's schedule and required practicum hours)

Supervision: The MCH Fellow will be supervised by:

- Dara Oloyede, Office of Sexual Health & Youth Development, dara.loyede@mass.gov
- Stephanie Campbell, Office of Sexual Health & Youth Development
stephanie.campbell@mass.gov

[Back to the top](#)

Launching a Holistic Health Transition Toolkit for Youth & Young Adults with Special Health Needs and Disabilities and Their Families *Massachusetts Department of Public Health*



Supervisor & Mentor: Elaine Gabovitch, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition

Location: 250 Washington St., Boston MA 02108 / Remote

Background: The Division for Children & Youth with Special Health Needs (DCYSHN) at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition works with families, providers, and others to support children and youth with special health needs ages birth to 22 and their families. This includes children and youth with chronic medical, physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions. The Division provides several related services supported by the Massachusetts Title V Block Grant from the U.S. Health Resources & Services Administration's Maternal & Child Health Bureau (HRSA-MCHB).

One key Title V priority to increase the percent of youth and young adults with special health needs (YYASHN) who have received services necessary to transition to adult health care (National Performance Measure 12 - NPM 12). In Massachusetts, only 26.3% of YSHN aged 12–17 years have reported receiving the services necessary to make transitions to appropriate adult health care, work and independence (NSCH 2019-20). While this has significantly improved in the past few years (15.4% in 2016) and is higher than the nationwide percentage of 22.5%, the data confirm the clear need for continued improvement. Stakeholders have described several limitations of the state health care system to facilitate a smooth transition for youth and young adults with special health needs (YYASHN) (ages 12-22), including a general delay in starting this process in the young person's life. Specifically, YYASHN and their families need better local resources and guidance to understand and navigate the health care transition process as well as promotion of self-management and independence.

To provide needed health transition resources, practice fellows will build upon past MA Title V health transition materials to increase access to health transition resources and information for YYASHN, their families, and providers by developing a Health Transition Tool Kit for YYASHN and their families. They will draw upon previous findings from literature reviews, key informant interviews, focus groups and advisory meetings conducted separately with caregivers and YYASHN, and subject matter expert interviews in FY21 & FY22. They will then begin the sequential review of each of the **three numbered toolkit sections** below developed by interns during FY22. They will seek final stakeholder feedback on each drafted section, including from a new Youth Advisory Council, edit based on feedback with an eye for racial equity, cultural and linguistic appropriateness, health literacy, and accessibility, and execute the soft launch for testing and evaluation of the Health Transition Toolkit.

- The **main toolkit** includes the following topics: 1) **Health Care**, 2) **Self-Management & Personal Health**, 3) **Public Benefits**, as well as Caregiver & Family Wellbeing, Guardianship, Advocacy, and Community Support.
- **Additional toolkit sections** address Sexual & Reproductive Health, Mental Health, Oral Health and Healthy Lifestyles (Nutrition, Physical Activity and Substance Use Prevention).

Fellowship Description

MA DCYSHN seeks a Fellow to prepare the toolkit for a public launch of the initial core elements. The project will include reviewing, editing, testing, launching, promoting and evaluating the new Health Transition Toolkit for the DPH Division for Children & Youth with Special Health Needs (DCYSHN) to address the holistic health and health care needs of youth and young adults with special health needs and disabilities (YYASHN) as they transition from pediatric to adult health care. They will develop skills in project planning, management and evaluation, meeting and interview facilitation skills, communication, social media, web design, writing and presentation; and disability/medical-related topics.

Specific activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Reviewing previous research and analyses for this project
- Developing a project work plan
- Working with and facilitating meetings of the Health Transition Implementation Team for their participation and feedback
- Interviewing YYASHN advisors and caregivers for their feedback
- Conducting the project evaluation
- Presenting the Health Transition Toolkit along with their evaluation findings and recommendations to a variety of audiences
- Post the Toolkit on mass.gov for testing purposes.
- Promoting the Toolkit through social media and other communication channels

There may be opportunities to participate in other division health transition efforts from the Title V state action plan, working with other bureaus and state agencies, working with the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MCAAP) and more.

Additional Qualifications

- Flexible, enthusiastic, self-motivated
- Knowledge of academic research, good writing skills, good communication skills, attention to detail
- Excellent people skills, experience working with youth and young adults, preferably with special health needs or disabilities.

[Back to the top](#)



Standardizing Data Collection for the Division for Children and Youth with Special Health Needs to Improve Program and Family Outcomes

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Supervisors & Mentors:

Megan Young, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition

megan.e.young@mass.gov

Elizabeth Bostic, Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition

elizabeth.e.bostic@mass.gov

Location: 250 Washington St., Boston MA 02108

Background: The Division for Children & Youth with Special Health Needs (DCYSHN) at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), Bureau of Family Health and Nutrition, works with families, providers, and others to support children and youth with special health needs ages birth to 22 and their families. This includes children and youth with chronic medical, physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional conditions.

The Division is comprised of 9 programs, each with its own unique data collection system ranging from Excel to Access to more sophisticated SQL databases to track client information and program data. The Division is developing a client management system, with robust reporting capabilities, that will streamline the intake process for families and standardize and align data collection across all programs in order to comprehensively assess reach, impact, and gaps in service provision. This in turn will lead to broader outreach across the Commonwealth and improved outcomes for children and their families.

Fellowship Description

The DCYSHN seeks a Fellow to assist in conducting JAD (Joint Application Development) sessions with each program in preparation of the development of a division-wide client management system. Programs include the Community Support Line, Care Coordination, the Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund, MASSTART, Medical Review Team, Pediatric Palliative Care, Universal Newborn Hearing Screening, and Family TIES. Three additional Bureau programs will also be part of this initiative, including the Birth Defects Monitoring System, Welcome Family, and Early Intervention Parent Leadership Program.

Specific activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Meeting with each program to conduct a JAD session which will include:
 - Mapping out current program data and reporting needs
 - Creating workflows for the client management system
 - Utilizing a quality improvement approach when updating data collection tools to ensure variables align with DPH data standards, meet client and program needs, can assess trends over time, and measure outcomes
 - Determining feasibility of moving historical data into new system

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

- Engaging families to assess if updates to data collection tools appropriately balance program and family needs without placing an undue burden on families
- Supporting development and testing of client management system

There may be opportunities to participate in department wide activities and the daily life experiences of state public health employees including all staff meetings, recognition and awards program, career panel and more.

Additional Qualifications

- Flexible, enthusiastic, self-motivated
- Committed to supporting MDPH's mission of promoting and improving health for all, with a focus on children and youth with special health needs
- Experience or interest in program evaluation and/or database development preferred, especially with RedCap

Supervision and Mentoring: The MCH Fellow will be supervised by the DCYSHN's senior epidemiologist, director, and assistant director.

[Back to the top](#)

Site Supervisor & Mentor: Sophie Howard,
Project Manager

Site: Planned Parenthood League of
Massachusetts

Number of Fellows: One

Timeframe: Dec 2022 – Dec 2023



Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts (PPLM) is an affiliate of the nation's leading sexual and reproductive health care provider and advocate, Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Part of this work includes several strategic initiatives focused on health equity. We seek to engage an MCH Practice Fellow to assist with the tracking, analysis, and presentation of internal progress and outcome health equity metrics.

You can learn more about our strategic health equity initiatives here:
<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-massachusetts/who-we-are/health-equity-initiatives>.

Our Mission:

The mission of Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts is to ensure every person in the state has access to sexual and reproductive health care and education no matter who they are, where they live, or who they love. Our work is informed by research, powered by advocacy, and conducted with compassion and respect.

Our Vision for the Future:

Sexual and reproductive health is essential to every person's overall health, well-being and happiness. At Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts (PPLM), we envision a state where equitable access to sexual and reproductive health care and education is the norm, and where every person can decide what's right for them and their families. PPLM will fight for a world where no systemic barriers stand between Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (or BIPOC), LGBTQ+ people, and people with disabilities—and their right to access the full range of sexual and reproductive health care, including abortion. We will relentlessly pursue racial justice and health equity in all aspects of our work, backed by the power of our staff, supporters, community partners, and patients.

Scope of Fellowship:

The MCH Fellow will be a member of the Strategic Health Equity Initiatives Core Team at PPLM. Specific activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Assist with program data collection, analysis, and presentation related to PPLM's strategic health equity initiatives
- Connect monthly with PPLM employees across the organization to gather updates on internal progress and programmatic outcome metrics
- Build skills in data interpretation and analysis using a health equity lens

Practice Fellowship Descriptions

- Support Strategic Health Equity Initiatives Core Team in the ongoing review of metrics' relevance to the ever-adapting nature of community-based work and collaborate on any needed edits or additions
- Participate in the development of new metrics and goals for the following year
- Input data into monthly Dashboards to be presented at Strategic Health Equity Initiatives Core Team, executive team, and board meetings
- Create graphs and other data visualizations to optimize data analysis
- Support strategic health equity initiative leadership in effectively employing Dashboards to analyze progress and impact of health equity initiatives
- Attend Strategic Health Equity Initiative Core Team meetings, if schedule allows, to contribute to discussions on health equity and successfully implementing data-informed public health initiatives

The MCH Practice Fellow works closely with employees across the organization and is given the opportunity to learn about the ways in which several different departments work and collaborate. The fellowship allows for a high degree of agency and autonomy, as well as opportunities to collaborate with employees at all levels of PPLM.

The ideal candidate will be a flexible and enthusiastic individual who is self-motivated and committed to supporting PPLM's mission. A dedication to health equity and anti-racism is required. Experience with Microsoft Excel and data analysis, as well as strong verbal and written communication skills, are desired. Current enrollment or previous completion of BUSPH's Data to Dashboards course has been helpful and rewarding for previous MCH Practice Fellows but is not required.

This is a remote position with the option to be based at PPLM's Greater Boston location in the future, depending on changes to PPLM's COVID-19 work from home policy. Whether working from home or in the office, this position requires working closely with PPLM employees across the state via video conference, phone, and email.

Supervision and Mentoring:

The MCH Practice Fellow will be supervised by a Project Manager who will offer project management guidance on a weekly basis and ongoing support in onboarding and training.

Time Commitment:

The MCH Practice Fellow will agree to commit approximately one day per week for 11-12 months, allowing the student to follow Boston University's academic calendar, including time off for holidays and breaks between semesters.

[Back to the top](#)