

Jessie Ding

SITE: Fresh Corner Café

TITLE: : The Initiative to Reduce Plastic Waste

INTRODUCTION:

Fresh Corner Café's mission is to bring healthy fruits, veggies, and meals to the people of metro Detroit in an affordable way. Fresh Corner Café operates through catering, pop-up markets, shops in gas stations, and workplace refrigerators. It was brought to my attention through observation at multiple pop-ups that plastic was not being disposed of correctly and it was being taken for granted. Customers would ask for numerous plastic bags, utensils, and water bottles at their workplace, where silverware and reusable water bottles are easier to store and more convenient. For a company so passionate about helping people, I wanted to ensure it was helping the environment as well. Plastic waste is becoming a global epidemic. People are quick to throw it away without a second thought. It is important to educate the customers on the debilitating effects plastic has on the planet and easy behaviors to adapt to help limit Fresh Corner Café's plastic footprint.

METHODS:

An education brochure for Fresh Corner Café customers was designed. The brochure includes information on where plastic waste goes, quick facts about the toll plastic waste has on Earth, and easy suggestions for customers to adopt into their personal and work lives. The brochures will be handed out at the pop-up markets. The information on the brochure was found on credible internet sites and secondary credible news articles, all thoroughly fact-checked. Efforts were made to make the brochure easily readable and understandable.

OUTCOMES:

The immediate outcome of this project is the tangible brochure that will be handed out at all pop-ups. The objective is to increase awareness and educate the public on plastic waste. The included suggestions in the brochure will be easily adaptable by our customers in the workplace. The long-term outcome for this will be harder to assess at this time. Fresh Corner Café is in the early stages of developing either a recycling program or rewards program, at my suggestion, for using reusable produce bags at the market. This brochure is seen as a first step in that effort.



School of Medicine

Department of Family Medicine
and Public Health Sciences

MPH Practicum Showcase Student Abstracts April 17, 2018

MPH Student Practicum Experience– Winter 2018

The Master in Public Health (MPH) Program at Wayne State University is pleased to present the Winter 2018 student practicum abstract book highlighting students' public health practice experiences. We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all of the organizations, agencies and businesses that hosted and supported our students and provided them with practical public health experiences. The MPH Program would like to congratulate the students for their hard work, accomplishments and contributions to the local public health community.

Eli Kim

SITE: The Youth Connection (TYC)

TITLE: : Investigating the Health Effects of Improper Disposal of Medication

INTRODUCTION:

The Youth Connection is a non-profit organization that works with youth in Detroit on advocacy and support programs. They work as a connector between families and resources through their substance abuse prevention, nutrition education and work force development programs to connect youth to brighter futures. As the chair and leading member of the Love Detroit Prevention Coalition, TYC works to address issues associated with the improper disposal of prescription medications in targeted zip codes in the Detroit area. Improper storage and disposal of medication can result in diversion, accidental overdose, nonmedical use of prescriptions, or water contamination. All of these consequences affect the health of the community.

METHODS:

To address the concerns of improper disposal of prescription medication, the practicum aimed to work with partners to support current disposal initiatives, create a webpage dedicated to disseminating accurate information and guidelines, and to compile credible information on the impact of medical disposal.

OUTCOMES:

The TYC webpage dedicated to medication disposal is aimed at reaching families and youth as well as the greater community. Through partnerships with the Detroit Water Authority, Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority (DWMHA), and other local organizations, TYC is working to distribute the gathered information to the public.

Throughout the practicum, drug take-back events at TYC on collected 71 lbs of unwanted, unused, or expired medications. There was also movement on initiatives to get take-back boxes into the police precincts and two CVS Pharmacies opted to distribute medical deactivation bags to their customers.

Kayla Bridges

SITE: The Youth Connection

TITLE: Project Title: Using Open-Ended and Closed-Ended Assessments to Measure Short Term Lesson Retention

INTRODUCTION:

The Youth Connection (TYC) Substance Abuse Prevention program provides research-based substance abuse prevention programs in Wayne County middle and high schools. Botvin LifeSkills Training (LST) is a research-validated substance abuse prevention program proven, after completing the course, to reduce the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. The program provides adolescents and young teens with the confidence and skills necessary to successfully handle challenging situations. While delivering the program, The Youth Connection staff also wanted to determine how well students were retaining the content of each lesson.

METHODS:

One open-ended type assessment and one closed-ended type assessment were developed to use during the lessons. The open-ended assessment was designed to be applicable to any lesson. The closed-ended assessment had content specific questions. Program staff distributed the open-ended assessment to students following the lesson during week 5. Program staff distributed the closed-ended assessment to students following the lesson during week 7. Both assessments were graded and their results were recorded. Summary statistics were configured to determine effectiveness of the assessments

OUTCOMES:

The results showed an average score of 3.18 out of 5 possible points for the open-ended assessment and an average score of 4.10 out of 5 possible points for the closed-ended assessment. H_0 : There is no difference between closed-ended and open-ended assessments P value = 0.041. The difference between the two assessments is statistically significant. The null hypothesis is rejected proving there is a statistically significant difference between the two assessments. Applying this data to the focus of our study, the closed-ended assessments returned higher scores from the students and proved that concise, lesson-specific questions helped students retain the information from the lesson more effectively. Not only did this design return higher scores, but students made numerous comments about how much they enjoyed it and how they would like to do them again.

PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE CONCENTRATION

Lea Selitsky

SITE: Henry Ford Health Systems Department of Public Health Sciences

TITLE: Sexual behaviors among adolescents in a juvenile detention facility: a randomized trial for online health education

INTRODUCTION:

The Health Disparities Research Collaborative at the Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) expanded an HIV testing program at the Wayne County juvenile detention facility (JDF) as part of a larger randomized control trial (RCT) regarding the use of technology-based strategies to increase health literacy among high risk adolescents. The JDF houses up to 194 youth aged 9-20 years awaiting criminal adjudication, sentencing, or placement. High rates of risky sexual behaviors and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) among justice-involved youth raises concerns for identifying risk factors and increasing access to treatment and prevention services. Objectives were to establish predictors for sexual risk behaviors and to establish the feasibility of evaluating the online education intervention via RCT.

METHODS:

Practicum activities for this project focused on enhancing familiarity with the processes involved in RCT implementation by shadowing lead investigators. Research-related efforts included database development for HIV Risk Assessment surveys, data entry, and data quality analyses. The datasets were used to study analytic techniques with Statistical Analytic Software (SAS) 9.1 and then to outline a preliminary analysis. Work at the JDF site was also part of the practicum experience, involving HIV testing and counseling of assenting youths.

OUTCOMES:

Through practicum activities at the JDF site, 12 residents underwent HIV testing and prevention counseling. With completion of the development of the HIV risk assessment database, responses for 270 questionnaires were entered with quality checks completed. The preliminary analysis results were used for an abstract submission, which was accepted for a poster presentation.

Maliha Ahmed

SITE: Office of State Representative Stephanie Chang (Lansing and Detroit)

TITLE: “Getting Things Done”: Engaging in Public Policy with a Michigan State Representative

INTRODUCTION:

State Representative Stephanie Chang represents House District 6, a community that faces various issues directly related to public health. From air pollution to women’s health, the practicum allowed for diverse engagement in public policy through research, advocacy, and collaboration. Team Chang’s mission “to advance social, environmental, racial, and economic justice” has the power to create impact on a macro scale, as theorized by the public health pyramid.

METHODS:

Various tasks were undertaken over course of the practicum. Research methods, including literature reviews and data analysis were employed to tackle projects such as the school nurse shortage, Pregnancy Loss Awareness Day resolution, geographic information system on sulfur dioxide pollutants, the role of guns in domestic violence, and bystander intervention handouts. Advocating for environmental justice through the Advisory Council elucidated the importance of collaborative research and community input in policy decision-making. Participation in the Asian Pacific American Caucus and Progressive Women’s Caucus highlighted the need for data dissemination on Asian student refugees, minority visibility at the legislative level, and prevention-based policies that provide safer environments for women. Engaging in business forums shed light on the intersection between public health and entrepreneurship, paying particular attention to how policies related to business development and empowerment improve overall population health.

OUTCOMES:

I helped pass House Resolution 173 on pregnancy loss and miscarriage awareness, researched policy solutions for the state-wide school nurse shortage, created materials related to workplace harassment and bystander intervention to sexual harassment, and assisted with constituent casework at the District Office.

Miguel Barajas

SITE: Wayne Children’s Healthcare Access Program

TITLE: McGregor Fund for Reducing Barriers to Primary Care

INTRODUCTION:

Wayne Children’s Healthcare Access Program is dedicated to assisting families in Wayne County to increase their healthcare access by providing education and projects. The McGregor Fund was to provide same-/next-day transportation to families in Wayne County, as well as working with medical homes to improve clinical quality and efficiency for said families. It is expected that by providing this type of assistance, a decrease in emergency room visits and an increase in acute care visits occurs.

METHODS:

In order to identify barriers that families encounter when accessing their child’s primary care provider, parents were asked directly via telephone, what led them to miss their child’s scheduled appointment. Parents were surveyed during normal on-boarding health assessments done by WCHAP. Results were collected and presented to the participating clinic site. Initial educational materials were designed collaboratively with clinic site directors and will be provided to families as needed. An implementation and evaluation plan was developed for one clinic site as a pilot.

OUTCOMES:

Survey data showed that 76% of parents recalled receiving a call reminding them of their child’s upcoming appointment, 86% were knowledgeable of calling their health plan to schedule transportation, and 52% did not have access to a vehicle on a regular basis. The survey was completed as a result of an initial evaluation done at the General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine (GPAM) department at Children’s Hospital of Michigan, which found that appointments were missed due to a transportation barrier, inclusive of Medicaid not providing reliable transportation through their transportation contractor. WCHAP will provide reliable transportation and collaborate with GPAM to decrease their current 40% no-show rate for appointments scheduled.

Jane Parayil

SITE: Wayne County Healthy Communities- Hamtramck Health Center

TITLE: Including Medical Receptionists and Staff in Quality Improvement Initiatives

INTRODUCTION:

Wayne County Healthy Communities is a non-profit organization that was awarded Federally Qualified Health Center in 2012. This organization provides health services such as primary care, dental care, behavioral health, women's health, and pediatric care to members regardless of their ability to pay. Quality patient care starts as soon as a patient enters the clinic to when he/she leave. Therefore, certain protocols and procedures should be put in place to ensure quality patient care from medical receptionists, medical assistants, and providers. Not only that, to provide frequency and data numbers for UDS reports for HRSA, prenatal data needs to be obtained from patients in the community.

METHODS:

The protocols and procedures were written after interviewing all staff for issues in clinic flow. Observations were conducted at the front office. New material for a medical receptionist manual was developed, feedback was obtained, and a manual was finalized. For the UDS reports, postpartum patients were called from the data extracted from the EMR system to obtain birth information of their child. Since many patients come from diverse backgrounds, some information was obtained via translator.

OUTCOMES:

A medical receptionist manual filled with procedures and protocols, diagrams of the EMR system, a clinic process flow chart, as well as a script for the staff for each type of scenario was developed as a reference and learning tool. Medical Receptionist staff training was provided. A chart was compiled of all data collected from postpartum patients for the prenatal UDS report.

Elyse Schultz

SITE: Wayne State University School of Medicine (WSU-SOM)

TITLE: Integrating public health curriculum into early medical education training: *Population, Patient, and Physician*

INTRODUCTION:

The role of the public health student in this practicum project was to assist the course director, Dr. Schwartz, with developing meaningful assignments, grading assignments, designing assessment questions, collaborating with M1 feedback for the continual improvement of the course, and using creative methods to integrate public health principles into the curriculum.

METHODS:

I met weekly with Dr. Schwartz to discuss changes and review assignments and participated in three P3/4 Faculty Advisory Group meetings, to help review current and develop new objectives, guided by LCME curricular content requirements. I created and/or edited exam questions, assignments, lectures, and syllabus modules for the course.

OUTCOMES:

- Created/edited approx. 17 exam questions
- Created Evidence-Based Medicine module: 1 power-point presentation for 10/27/17, 1 assignment
- Developed/organized Humanism Panel: developed learning objectives, created 1 reflective assignment, created and presented 1 power-point presentation
- Edited & updated 6 assignments for first-semester material
- Edited & updated several modules for first-semester material
- Edited & provided feedback on assignments and modules for the second-semester syllabus:
 - a. Small-Group session #7
 - b. Small-Group session #9
 - c. Small-Group session #10
 - d. Small-Group session #12
- Created assignments and modules for the second-semester syllabus:
 - a. Small-Group session #8: Motivational Interviewing and Complementary Integrative Health
 - b. 1 CIH-related assignment
 - c. Small-Group Session #11: addressing the unique health needs of the LGBTQ patient population
 - d. 1 LGBTQ health assignment

Arnetia Vaughn-Scott

SITE: Wayne State University Prevention Team (W'SUP)
TITLE: Assessing Sexual Risk Behaviors among Young Adults in Urban Communities, their Readiness to Receive HIV Testing Results, & Possible Introduction of PrEP for HIV

INTRODUCTION:

There are currently about 36.7 million people that have human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) globally. To reduce the risk of contracting HIV, it is important for there to be culturally relevant prevention programs in urban communities such as Detroit. Wayne State University Prevention Team (W'SUP) is dedicated to encouraging the youth of Detroit to get tested routinely.

METHODS:

A literature review was utilized to not only understand sexual risk behaviors in urban communities but also develop a further understanding of PrEP. Through the practicum I was given data that compiled risk assessment questionnaires from January 2016 to August 2017. The first objective of the practicum was to increase the number of individuals who take risk assessment questionnaires and get tested for HIV. The second objective was to conduct a round table discussion about the services that W'SUP offers and awareness of PrEP.

OUTCOMES:

Objectives were met by pulling data and creating visuals of the 209 completed risk assessment questionnaires from 2016 to 2017. Also, two presentations were conducted for small groups of young adults within the Detroit community that were interested in W'SUP services and information regarding PrEP. These small groups of six were given risk assessment questionnaires and a copy of the presentation. Information pertaining to PrEP was formulated from documents provided by *Please PrEP Me*. The next step is to increase awareness of the services W'SUP offers and PrEP on a larger scale to urban communities who have risky sexual behaviors to reduce the number of individuals who contract HIV in Detroit.

Daniel Sweeney

SITE: Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans & Community Wellness
TITLE: Improving the Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans & Community Wellness Pool Inspection Program

INTRODUCTION:

Public swimming pools can be a source of risk for a water-associated illness and injury. To protect the community, the Wayne County Department of Health, Veterans & Community Wellness (WC-HVCW) inspects over 500 public pools to ensure that they meet water quality and health standards. Pools not in compliance with the standards can face additional inspections, fines, and pool closures. A significant number of follow-up inspections and pool closures indicates the need for an updated pool inspection program.

METHODS:

A total of 24 WC-HVCW Environmentalists were surveyed using the Qualtrics Online Survey. Surveys were used to identify common causes for follow-up inspections and pool closures, shortcomings in Environmentalists' training, and suggestions for program improvements.

OUTCOMES:

Data from the survey were used to develop training sessions targeted at inspectors' weaknesses and new forms for pool operators aimed at increasing compliance. Training sessions were implemented during monthly in-service meetings. New and edited forms were mailed to pool operators at the start of the indoor pool inspection season as well as uploaded to the Wayne County website. Future monitoring of pool inspection outcomes is still necessary to determine if the training and forms were effective at increasing pool operator compliance with water quality and safety standards.

Maha Taranish

SITE: Healthy Dearborn Coalition

TITLE: Barriers and Facilitators of Physical Activity Among Residents in Dearborn, Michigan

INTRODUCTION:

Healthy Dearborn is a network of community partners that was founded in 2015 to improve the health of residents of the city and develop a culture of health in Dearborn. One of the major areas of health concerns in Dearborn (based on data from the 500 Cities Project) is the health disparities that exist in the southern and eastern parts compared to the rest of the city. A research project was started by HD based on this data to understand social determinants that underlie those health disparities. One of the major areas of disparity was physical activity, and my practicum work was focusing on this area.

METHODS:

The work of my practicum has two parts:

1. Conducting key informant interviews to collect primary data on health needs/concerns of the target community.
2. Working on a physical activity campaign. The objective of this campaign is to determine barriers/ motives related to physical activity in a specific census tract (5736) and to identify feasible ways to promote walking among residents of the target area.

My work was mainly on the first step of the campaign, which is conducting a bilingual walking survey that would help us gain more knowledge about walking in the target community. A survey was developed in both English and Arabic languages. It is a written questionnaire that has 10 questions about barriers and motives related to walking as well as the neighborhood characteristics. We walked around and distributed the surveys in a variety of locations throughout the community.

OUTCOMES:

A total of 61 surveys were completed and results were summarized. The most frequently identified barriers to walking are work and children. Motives for walking are mainly exercise and enjoy the outdoors. Most participants have identified their neighborhood as either very walkable (37.3%) or walkable (34.43%).

Daisuke Kobayashi

SITE: The Youth Connection (TYC)

TITLE: Interprofessional Healthcare Team Pilot Training for Safe Opioid Practices – Pathways to Safer Opioid Use

INTRODUCTION:

Opioid overdose epidemic is a serious public health concern in the United States. In Michigan, opioid overdose deaths increased 10 times more over the decade. A large portion of these drug overdoses are related to the use of prescription opioids. Additional training for all healthcare professionals regarding opioid use and addiction has been recommended. The objective of this program was to increase the awareness of opioid overdose and best practices with safe opioid use using an interactive web-based platform.

METHODS:

An interprofessional team pilot training program was designed using an interactive web-based training program "Pathways to Safer Opioid Use". Participants were grouped into interprofessional teams made up of professional learners (medical residents, pharmacy, nursing and social work students). They received the 10-minute introductory presentation about national opioid epidemic and knowledge about opioid use, followed by the 75-minute interactive session of web-based training. Pre- and Post-test was performed to evaluate the knowledge related to opioid overdose. The program concluded with sharing feedback among participants.

OUTCOMES:

A total of 24 participants (8 residents, 5 pharmacy, 5 nursing, 6 social work) completed the program. Pre-/Post-test result showed that participants improved the knowledge about opioid overdose significantly (58% to 89%, $p < 0.001$). Majority of the participants felt that the training objectives were met and the training experience would be useful in their work. Overall, this pilot program was well received and successfully implemented. TYC plans to expand this program to a larger scale based on the experience and feedback from this pilot program.

Devpreet Chahal

SITE: Henry Ford Health System- Institute on Multicultural Health
TITLE: Legal Matters for Older Adults- A Medical-Legal Partnership

INTRODUCTION:

The focus of this practicum was to formally establish a Medical-Legal Partnership between Neighborhood Legal Services Michigan- Elder Law and Advocacy Center (ELAC) and Henry Ford Health System (HFHS). The MLP is designed to improve the health and well-being of older adult patients of HFHS and their caregivers while reducing healthcare costs. Patients with at-risk legal issues will be referred to ELAC to provide assistance through information and referrals, advice, non-court services, legal counsel, or representation. The target population(s) of this study are older adults who are at least 60 years of age or their caregivers. Either the older adult or caregiver must be residents of Wayne County. HFHS and ELAC will pilot the MLP at HFHS's Detroit Northwest (DNW) and Harbortown Medical Centers.

METHODS:

An IRB was created and submitted to establish the MLP after ELAC and HFHS signed a memorandum of agreement. Additionally, a consent form was created to recruit patients for the MLP study. A protocol was developed that outlined the procedures for recruiting at-risk HFHS patients into the study and referring them to ELAC for onsite legal counsel at HFHS clinics. Lastly, a social/legal acuity and perceived stress scale screening tool was developed via REDCap software to assess patient/client needs.

OUTCOMES:

The initial rollout of the MLP within the Wayne County Community will begin in Spring 2018. The goal is to recognize the social/legal issues that impact the health of the older population and address them through legal assistance and intervention.

Sahil Bhatia

SITE: Fresh Corner Café Detroit, MI
TITLE: Improving Business Practices of Fresh Corner Café

INTRODUCTION:

Despite the plethora of corner grocery stores in Detroit, there are still barriers to healthy eating such as lack of transportation, easier access to fast food restaurants for lower prices, and unhealthy school lunches. -Fresh Corner Café works to overcome these barriers by bringing fresh and healthy food to places where access to it is limited (workplaces, gas stations, schools, and community centers). My role there was to perform a formative evaluation and make changes to business practices to help both the business and the customers it serves.

METHODS:

In addition to being a part of the day-to-day activities, I informally interviewed employees to learn how the business is run. Based on their replies and my observations, I worked to improve their inventory and waste management by creating an excel sheet for inventory tracking and placed a whiteboard on the fridge to write down the number of meals thrown away for that week. Nutrition labels were created on recipal.com to inform customers of their food choices. Finally, surveys were provided to customers so that they could provide recommendations for improvements in product quality and variety.

OUTCOMES:

Better inventory management led to easier ingredient ordering and better waste management resulted in less waste produced. Nutrition labels helped the business by proving to customers that the meals provided are healthy and they helped the customers by informing them of their food choices. The surveys helped Fresh Corner Café make improvements to their recipes and provide meals based on site preferences.