Health Services Management and Community Development

Practicum Opportunities

The Health Services Management Practicum (HMCD 460) is a required field experience. The HSMCD practicum enables students to apply skills and knowledge in an applied setting through a supervised field training experience in a health care setting that complements the student’s interests and career goals. The purpose of the practicum is to enable students to gain practical experience as professionals under conditions conducive to educational development. Students may select, with the consent of the practicum coordinator, an internship in an appropriate health service organization. The practicum requires participation in a broad fieldwork component and completion of a focused project component and a written report of the experience.

Practicum Requirements

Your preparation for practice requires an integration of knowledge and skills drawn from the classroom and applied in a practice setting.

- **Prerequisite:** HSMCD Program Pre-Requisites: MP 203 or MP 303; HMCD 310, ECON 321 or STAT 370 or PSY 301 or SOC 501 or CESP 704; COMM 302 or COMM 311 or COMM 313 or COMM 328 or COMM 325 or ENGL 210. HSMCD Program Core Courses: HMCD 325, HMCD 330, HMCD 333, HMCD 342, HMCD 344, HMCD 356. Students must also be admitted to the HSMCD Professional Program.

- It entails at least 160 clock hours in an approved agency under professional supervision of a practicum preceptor. All placements are approved by the Practicum Coordinator.

- You are expected to be an active participant with the practicum preceptor, other agency staff, and the Practicum Coordinator.

- You will be able to request a particular agency or setting which reflect your interests and career aspirations. However, the availability of practicum agencies and other learning needs will also be considered.

- You must schedule a meeting with the Practicum Coordinator, Sarah Taylor, sarah.taylor@wichita.edu.

Practicum Project

The specifics of the practicum project will change with each course offering, but will, in general, focus on one of the following: a) helping to improve the service capacity of the non-profit organization; b) identifying the community needs and assets through participatory research; c) developing strategic strategies for mobilizing community resources to respond to identified problems; d) monitoring and improving service quality; and, e) disseminating program results to appropriate audiences.
Practicum Health Services Organization Sites

The following organizations may serve as potential practicum sites:

- Advanced Physical Therapy
- Alzheimer’s Association Central and Western Kansas Chapter
- American Cancer Society
- American Diabetes Association
- American Lung Association
- Arthritis Association
- Center for Community Support and Research
- Center for Health and Wellness
- Derby Senior Center
- E.C. Tyree Clinic
- Girls on the Run of Sedgwick County
- Greater Wichita YMCA
- Heartspring
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- Klausmeyer Natural Medicine
- Medical Society of Sedgwick County
- Mid America MS Society
- Mobile Medical LLC
- NAMI Wichita
- Neurology Consultants of Kansas
- Newton Medical Center
- Safe Streets Wichita
- Sedgwick County EMS
- Sedgwick County Extension
- Sedgwick County Health Department
- Senior Services of Wichita INC
- Veteran’s Administration
- Via Christi
- Wesley Medical Center

The above organizations currently have a contract with Wichita State University Public Health Sciences for the Practicum. Students may approach other organizations with the approval of the Practicum Coordinator.