Summer 2019
Health Promotion Practicums
Alexis Smith

"As a Research Assistant, I was tasked with the implementation of a Community Health Needs Assessment (for New York-Presbyterian). This included the recruitment, implementation, and reporting of over 40 focus groups and 1000 surveys to get a sense of the community's health needs, concerns, and barriers to care and report that back to the hospital in order to aid them in better serving their population. While the experience checked many of the boxes, it also showed me skill sets that I want to gain and other aspects of health promotion (such as policy) that I have more of an interest in than I originally thought!"
"At my practicum, I supported Race to Justice, an internal reform initiative working to advance racial equity and social justice throughout the agency. I worked on a variety of projects, including the creation of an employee recruitment document consisting of academic and professional organizations to diversify the candidate pool and achieve more equitable hiring practices. I also developed materials, including a program timeline and evaluation plan, for an internal mentorship program designed to promote professional development, particularly for staff of underrepresented identities. It was valuable to experience how social justice work can occur at a government agency."
Carla Menezes

Summer Intern
Children's Health Fund
MSPH Department: PopFam

"I created parent workshops that were focused on child nutrition, managing stress and trauma, chronic school absence, and other topics prevalent to school health. The workshops aimed to increase parent knowledge and self-efficacy to help their child's mental, emotional, and physical development. The workshops will be featured on the organization's website and are being facilitated this upcoming school year! This experience fits with my overall career plans because I have an interest in creating family-facing materials and working in school health."
Danielle Barrassse

"I worked within the Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention Care and Treatment (BADUPCT). My duties included: entering and analyzing overdose mortality data, creating an internal glossary as a resource to the Bureau that promoted inclusive, person-centered language, and coordinating the Cocaine and Fentanyl Awareness Campaign. I was able to advance my skills in intervention planning and utilize these skills throughout my practicum. This was the perfect fit for me to further explore my interest in substance use work and gauge what kinds of positions I’d be interested in post-graduation from Mailman."
At the DOHMH, I worked in the Division of Disease Control with the LGBTQ Health Projects Team. I worked on projects related to programmatic planning and evaluation surrounding the LGBTQ Healthcare Bill of Rights. I conducted surveys at DOH’s Sexual Health Clinics and also completed a literature review to inform the creation of a City Health Information Bulletin (CHI) on the health of Lesbians, Bisexual Women, and Women who have Sex with Women (WSW). My experience allowed me to build health promotion skills in a field that I’m interested in. It has also provided me with great experience in learning how a city government health organization works, which is a career path I would like to pursue in the future.
Kristen Janousek

"A lot of my work at IWBI focused on WELL Coaching, which supports project teams through WELL certification by providing technical assistance and developing resources, and WELL Portfolio, which enables organizations enhance building performance and improve human well-being at scale. In my role, I worked on a large number of projects including: answering technical project questions surrounding WELL features, developing sample documentation for certification, analyzing WELL coaching and WELL project data, developing support tools with the technology team, authoring part of an article to be published on the website, and developing on-boarding modules, among many other tasks."
"I conducted research investigating how four senior centers in lower Manhattan could streamline internal processes, attract new members and successfully negotiate new contract terms with city government. I reviewed literature on challenges, trends, and innovations in senior center management, analyzed internal metrics and census data on neighborhood demographics, organized and moderated four focus groups with senior center members, among many other tasks. This experience solidified my confidence in my leadership abilities, reaffirmed my passion for working with the older adult population, and enhanced my skills in qualitative research and data analysis."
"In EHE Health's Marketing Department, I managed the company’s social media accounts, assisted with writing infographics, emails, video scrips, and other communication campaign deliverables to drive preventive health exam bookings. Developing communications materials on preventive behaviors and healthy living aligns with my career goal of helping to make healthier choices fun and easy. I foresee myself continuing to work at the intersection of preventive health care and creative communications throughout my career."