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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Arkansas

Department/Agency: Division of Health, Arkansas Division of Health and Human Services

Program: Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System survey (PRAMS)

Location of Internship Site: Little Rock, AR

Title of Internship Position: Graduate Research Assistant - Data Analysis and Monitoring

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) program was initiated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 1987 to help reduce low birthweight and infant mortality. The decision to create the program was based on research that pointed out three factors: 1) the U.S. infant mortality rate was no longer declining as rapidly as it had in the past; 2) the prevalence of low birthweight was showing no change; and 3) maternal behaviors such as alcohol and tobacco use and limited use of prenatal and pediatric care were contributing to the slow rates of decline. (See www.cdc.gov/prams)

PRAMS was developed to help state health departments create and maintain an epidemiologic surveillance system of selected maternal behaviors and experiences (e.g., smoking, drinking, prenatal care, physical abuse, pregnancy intent, stress, well baby checkups). This information is collected using mail and telephone surveys of a monthly stratified sample of women who have had a live in-state birth. The information is used to supplement data from the birth certificate to generate data for planning and assessing perinatal health programs.

The Health Statistics Branch in the Division of Health, Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services has been in the PRAMS program since 1996 and has been collecting data since 1997. From 1997 through 2005, the annual sample size for the survey has ranged from 2,400 to 2,800 with an overall response rate averaging about 75 percent. The program has three full-time employees (PRAMS coordinator, data manager, phone interviewer), a part-time interviewer for Spanish-speaking mothers, and a Project Director who is also manager of the entire survey unit (includes Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey, county adult and youth surveys).

The Health Statistics Branch works with the Family Health Branch in the Division of Health in investigating infant health problems and developing research plans. Additionally, the Family Health Branch partially funds the position for the PRAMS project director through its Maternal and Child Health grant funds.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose

An unintended pregnancy is a pregnancy that was either mistimed (wanted later) or unwanted at the time of conception. A woman with an unintended pregnancy is less likely to seek early prenatal care and is more likely to expose the fetus to harmful substances such as tobacco or alcohol. The result is unfavorable outcomes for both mother and child and imposes appreciable burdens on children, women, men, and families. Additionally, these pregnancies are associated with increased health care and welfare costs.

Overall, the percentage of unintended pregnancies in Arkansas has increased from about 50 percent in 1997 to 53 percent in 2004. By race, both the percentage of unintended pregnancies as well as the increase in these pregnancies is much more dramatic. For the seven-year period, the percentage of unintended increased from 45 percent to 48 percent for white women and from 65 percent to 76 percent for black women. The Healthy People 2010 target is 30 percent.

The *purpose* of this internship is to provide the Division of Health with assistance needed in conducting an in-depth analysis of the trends in and factors related to unintended pregnancies and to provide information to help reduce the percentage of unintended births in the state.

Goal

The *goal* of this internship will be to prepare information that can be useful to the Arkansas Division of Health and other public health workers in developing policy and public health programs to reduce the percentage of pregnancies that are unintended, with special emphasis on trying to understand and eliminate the racial and socioeconomic disparities for unplanned births.

Objective

Conduct an in-depth analysis of PRAMS data for 2000-2004 to provide the Arkansas Division of Health with information to 1) help understand the reasons for unintended pregnancies and the pattern of birth control use before pregnancy, 2) create better strategies to prevent unintended and unwanted pregnancies, and to 3) help understand the relationship between unintended pregnancies and poor birth outcomes such as low birthweight and infant mortality.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Data - The Arkansas PRAMS datasets for 2000-2004 will be used for the analyses. The PRAMS questionnaire has two questions that are used to measure pregnancy intent and one question on the use of contraceptives before pregnancy.

Pregnancy intent

1. Thinking back to *just before* you got pregnant with your *new* baby, how did you feel about becoming pregnant. Check *one* answer.
 - I wanted to be pregnant sooner
 - I wanted to be pregnant later (mistimed)
 - I wanted to be pregnant then
 - I didn't want to be pregnant then or at any time in the future (unwanted)

Pregnancies that were wanted later or not wanted at all are considered to be unintended.

2. Which of the following statements best describes you during the *3 months before* you got pregnant?
 - I was trying to get pregnant.
 - I wasn't trying to get pregnant or trying to keep from getting pregnant.
 - I was trying to keep from getting pregnant but was not trying very hard.
 - I was trying hard to keep from getting pregnant.

Contraceptive use – This question is asked of women who responded that they were not trying to get pregnant but also did not use contraceptives to prevent pregnancy.

1. What were your or your husband's or partner's reasons for not doing anything to keep from getting pregnant? Check all that apply.
 - I didn't mind if I got pregnant
 - I thought I could not get pregnant at that time
 - I had side effects from the birth control method I was using

- I had problems getting birth control when I needed it
- I thought my husband or partner or I was sterile (could not get pregnant at all)
- My husband or partner didn't want to use anything
- Other _____

Analytic tasks and activities – Tasks and activities will include the following:

Using responses to pregnancy intent questions and information from the birth certificate, analyze trends in unintended births by demographic characteristics such as race/ethnicity, age, marital status, education, parity, etc. The primary comparison will be between unwanted and mistimed pregnancies, since the circumstances under which these pregnancies occur are important but have not been well described.

To explore the relationship of unintended pregnancy to the health and well-being of infants and mothers, selected birth outcomes (e.g., low birthweight, infant mortality) will be compared among the intendedness groups.

Chi-square tests will be used to assess differences in responses among intendedness groups. To further examine the relationship between the mistimed and unwanted pregnancy groups and selected characteristics, relative risks will be calculated, along with 95% confidence intervals.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Data or analytical skills – Experience working with health-related or epidemiological databases.

Software applications – SAS, SUDAAN, Excel. The Health Statistics Branch has SAS classes every week on site.

Statistical/analytical competencies – Basic statistics. Dr. John Senner, Chief of the Health Statistics Branch, is a statistician and will assist with the multivariate analyses.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary supervisor – Dr. Mary A. McGehee, Senior Research Analyst, Section Leader for Survey Unit, Health Statistics Branch, Arkansas Division of Health, Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. McGehee is the Project Director for the Arkansas PRAMS program and has experience analyzing the PRAMS datasets using SAS. She also has experience analyzing other health-related data and has conducted research on health disparities. Dr. McGehee's staff has SAS and SUDAAN expertise that would be available to an intern.

Secondary supervisor – Li Zheng, Senior Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Branch, Division of Health, Arkansas Department of Health and Human Services. Li Zheng is the Senior Epidemiologist for Maternal and Child Health. She has experience in conducting epidemiological studies in maternal and child health. She also has expertise in analyzing maternal and child health related data using the SAS software.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The month of May or June would be fine.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Guest housing is available on the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences campus, which is walking distance from the Division of Health. Monthly rates currently run from \$550 to \$1,300 (VIP) per month with utilities included. This is a nonsmoking facility. (See <http://www.uams.edu/studentlife/Guestrates06.asp>)

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Connecticut

Department/Agency: Department of Public Health

Program: Epidemiology Unit, Family Health Section

Location of Internship Site: Hartford, Connecticut

Title of Internship Position: Graduate Research Intern

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment ___ Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Epidemiology Unit of the Family Health Section provides data support to the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) programs in the Section. Through a contract with the state's Department of Social Services, and in collaboration with the state's Vital Records Unit, the Epidemiology Unit annually receives enrollment information about the state's Medicaid insurance program, called HUSKY A. Specifically, each birth mother's enrollment status in HUSKY A at the time of birth within the state is linked to its accompanying birth record. Linked data are currently available for years 2000 through 2004.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed internship is to broaden knowledge within the MCH programs about trends in HUSKY A enrollment at the time of birth but we can be flexible".

Goals: The goals of the internship are to: 1) evaluate recent statewide changes in the demographics of HUSKY A enrollment among women who give birth in the state, 2) provide a rewarding work experience for an intern within a state department of public health, and 3) provide an intern the opportunity to work on a novel project of value to the MCH programs.

Objectives: To accomplish this goal, we propose the following, using existing de-identified datasets of linked Birth-HUSKY A enrollment that are maintained in the Epidemiology Unit:

1. Evaluate the annual number and percent of HUSKY A enrollment among the birth cohort from 2000 through 2004, by mother's age, race, ethnicity, educational level, and town of residence.
2. Prepare graphs that illustrate the change in HUSKY A enrollment from 2000 through 2004, by mother's age, race, ethnicity, and educational level.
3. Evaluate the statistical significance of trends in HUSKY A enrollment from 2000 through 2004, by mother's age, race, ethnicity, and educational level.
4. Estimate the number of births for years 2000 to 2004 that were eligible for HUSKY A enrollment, using estimates of income among women of childbearing years.
5. Estimate changes in the percent of HUSKY A enrollment among those births that were eligible for enrollment.
6. Prepare a written report that summarizes the results.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The project described in this proposal will involve manipulating large de-identified datasets containing record-level birth information with accompanying HUSKY A enrollment. Raw data will be aggregated and summarized in tables and figures. Data will also be analyzed by basic statistics. Estimates of Medicaid eligibility will be generated and compared to actual HUSKY A enrollment.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The proposed project will involve large datasets that require basic SAS or ACCESS skills. Aggregated data could be maintained and manipulated with EXCEL. Skills in EXCEL should include the ability to generate tables and figures. Basic statistical skills will be required for the analyses. The project will require quantitative skills, attention to detail, writing skills, and an ability to collaborate with staff in the Epidemiology Unit of the Family Health Section.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: Carol L. Stone, PhD, Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Unit, Family Health Section. Dr. Stone holds an advanced degree in applied statistics and has been an epidemiologist in the Department for 5 years. She currently provides epidemiology support to the FIMR program. In this capacity, she prepares and manages the linked infant death-birth datasets.

Secondary Supervisor: Marcie Cavacas, Supervising Epidemiologist, Epidemiology Unit, Family Health Section. Ms. Cavacas holds an advanced degree in public health and has been an epidemiologist with the Department for over 15 years. She currently oversees all activities in the Epidemiology Unit.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

An internship could begin at any time, but should be completed by the end of July but we can be flexible".

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes, we can assist the student with housing. Apartments are in close proximity to the facility, and there is ready access to public transportation.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Lisa Davis, RN, MBA,
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Florida

Department/Agency: Duval County Health Department (DCHD)

Program: Maternal and Child Health Division

Location of Internship Site: Jacksonville, FL

Title of Internship Position: MCH Epidemiologist/Program Analyst

PHASE II of application submitted in 2005. Analysis with recommendations of the major causes of child deaths in Northeast Florida from 1996 – 2005.

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Duval County Health Department (DCHD) is a large urban State agency located in NE Florida close to Georgia. The Department staff is multi-disciplinary and consists of over 600 employees with a Budget of \$49 million. We offer a comprehensive approach to Public Health through a wide range of programs and services throughout the community. Some include but are not limited to Federal and State Healthy Start, WIC, Environmental Health, AmeriCorps, Family Health Centers, Chronic Disease Coalitions, School Health Nursing, Adolescent Medicine, Health Policy and Evaluation and Behavioral Health. The Division of Maternal and Child Health (MCH) delivers a wide array of service programs for residents throughout the life continuum: pre conceptual, prenatal and postpartum, infancy, childhood, adolescence and young adulthood.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose: The following data from 2000 - 2002 is a comparison of Florida and Duval County rates for infant mortality, child death rate, and adolescent death rate (*Duval County Health Department, Institute for Health, Policy & Evaluation Research*):

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births in FL = 7.3	Duval = 10.2
Child death rate per 100,000 in FL = 38 (1-4 yrs. old); 14.2 (5-9 yrs. old)	Duval = 36.3; 18.4
Adolescent death rate per 100,000 in FL = 20.1 (10-14 yrs. old); 69.4 (15-19 yrs. old)	Duval = 27.4; 70.8

As indicated above, Duval County's rates exceed the State of Florida rates except for the child death rate for 1 – 4 yrs. old. It is necessary to identify the causes of child deaths, share information among agencies, enhance cooperation, develop and implement interventions, prepare recommendations, and influence public policies and service delivery.

There is currently a Child Death Review Committee and a Child Abuse Review Committee comprised of staff from DCHD and other agencies/departments (i.e., Vital Statistics, Fire Department, Coroner, Emergency Medicine, Police, Hospitals, etc.) that meets monthly to review causes or events relating to the death of children under the age of 18.

Products: 2005 Application: Written report to the Child Death Review Committee based on a 10 year trend analysis of child mortality by different age groups was completed by a GIS Intern.

2006 Application – continuation of this project through completion of an in-depth analysis identifying demographic factors for the 15-19 age group and the causes related to mortality due to accidents including

their locations for GIS mapping. This is a major concern because of the increased deaths due to accidents and homicides in Duval County for this age group in the last five years.

Goals: To determine the causes or events relating to child mortality.

Objective: To analyze 1996 – 2005 death certificates for the 15 – 19 age group by ICD codes, race, gender, location, etc.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Analyze death certificates relating to the death of children in the 15-19 age group from 1996 – 2005 and generate a report of findings.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

SPSS, Access, Excel, MS Word, Powerpoint, Vital Statistics analysis

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary: Carol Synkewecz, MPH	DCHD, Maternal and Child Health
Secondary: Representative	Vital Statistics Office
Alison Dekle	Research Assistant

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Fall 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Public transportation is available but personal care is preferable. The Intern would be responsible for his/her housing accommodations, but we can offer information and advice if needed.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name:	Charlene Marsh (MCH Operations)
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Georgia

Department/Agency: DeKalb County Board of Health

Program: Mothers Offering Resources and Education (M.O.R.E) Initiative

Location of Internship Site: Decatur, Georgia and Lithonia, Georgia

Title of Internship Position: Evaluator

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment Program
Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The DeKalb County Board of Health is an urban public health agency. There are several public health programs that monitor, collect and analyze data. An internal review of the processes within these programs is needed to determine the usefulness of tools, effectiveness of procedures and relevance of outcomes. The **M.O.R.E. Initiative (Mothers Offering Resources and Education)** is designed to improve infant mortality outcomes and promote the health of pregnant women and teens and their infants. This is an effort to do more for our community by

- 1) Supporting women and teens throughout pregnancy and early parenthood.
- 2) Helping pregnant women and teens obtain the full range of prenatal and delivery care; as well other needed health, dental and pregnancy prevention services.
- 3) Promoting well-baby care and appropriate parenting skills during the infant's first year of life.
- 4) Providing resources regarding educational, vocational and job placement opportunities.

The model for this project is the nationally recognized Resource Mothers program.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Three programs were selected to ensure ample workload for an internship. The purpose, goals and objectives are the same for each program. The programs or projects are listed above in order priority.

- a) The purpose of this internship is to 1) find the story in the data, 2) identify training needs to ensure that staff's knowledge and information benefit the clients, 3) communicate the goals, challenges and benefits of the project so that it is a model for other projects.
- b) The goal of this internship is to evaluate the existing program and make any necessary changes that will assist in communicating the overall program goal of internally and in the targeted communities.
- c) The expected outcomes or objectives for the internship include:
 1. Find and select information that addresses the initiative's objectives.
 2. Review and select appropriate information management and analysis tools.
 3. Recognize and account for weaknesses in both the tools and the data.
 4. Develop and implement information management and analysis tools, if necessary.
 5. Conduct analysis and interpret results.
 6. Communicate results to diverse audiences.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The staff employed by this initiative currently collect quantitative statistics and anecdotal data. The role of the intern is to analyze the data already collected and prepare a report. The findings of the intern may require the development and implementation of additional data to be collected or the omission of impertinent data currently collected.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

- a) Software applications available to the student include Microsoft Word, Excel, and Access programs.
- b) The student will be able to calculate statistics related to trimester at start of prenatal care, birth outcomes, total prenatal contacts with physician, contacts with Resource Mothers, etc. Data skills will involve the integration of information from various sources for the determination of outcomes and to present to a diverse audience.
- d) Analytical skills will require the ability to identify the strengths, weaknesses and quirks in the data collected.
- e) Communication and presentations skills are required to present the data to diverse audiences in various formats such as print, Web and verbal.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Name: Leslie Richmond, M.D.
Position: Senior Executive
Department: Community Health And Prevention Services
Primary Supervisor: Dr. Richmond
Secondary Supervisor: To be decided at a later time.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The best time to begin the internship is Spring 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

The availability of housing will be explored as there are several colleges and churches with housing in the area. However, at most, we can provide guidance in where the intern may look for housing.

Yes, both the Clifton Springs Health Center and the East DeKalb Health Center are accessible via public transportation MARTA. Personal automobile is not necessary for this internship.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Dr. Leslie Richmond

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Montana

Department/Agency: Department of Public Health and Human Services
Public Health and Safety Division

Program: Family and Community Health Bureau

Location of Internship Site: 1218 E. 6th Avenue, Helena, Montana (State Capitol Complex)

Title of Internship Position: Montana MCH Data Analysis

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services is the second largest government agency in Montana, housing public health, Medicaid, child protective services, and social services. The department is made up of 11 divisions, including the Public Health and Safety Division, which includes most of the public health programs and services. The Public Health and Safety Division is divided into 6 bureaus, including the Family and Community Health Bureau (FCHB), which has a staff of 33 and a budget of approximately \$21 million. The Bureau is primarily responsible for population-based services for families, pregnant women and women of child-bearing age, infants, children and adolescents. The programs administered in the Bureau include the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, WIC, Title X (Family Planning), oral health, fetal, infant and child mortality review (FICMR), Children's Special Health Services, and Public Health Home Visiting.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose: To assist the Family and Community Health Bureau with maternal and child health (MCH) data analysis and the application of analysis results. Students may choose one of the following projects:

Goal 1: Conduct an analysis of selected maternal and child health indicators

Objectives

- Identify state-specific risk factors associated with the use and delayed- or non-use of prenatal care, as well as the demographics of women more- and less-likely to access prenatal care in a timely manner. Alternatively, in partnership with supervisors, identify a particular population group or type of service and examine and/or analyze related data to better describe the related risk factors and demographics.
- Identify appropriate national and/or regional data sources to compare to Montana data.
- Complete oral and written report on analysis and results and develop data dissemination plan.

Goal 2: Develop a framework for analysis and evaluation of Public Health Home Visiting (PHHV) data

Objectives

- Assess current PHHV data tools and collection methods.
- Identify relevant data to be used in an analysis and evaluation.
- Develop timeframe and format for data use and dissemination to contractual partners.
- Make recommendations for analysis and evaluation frameworks to be incorporated into the home visiting program.
- Complete oral and written report on proposed framework.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Analysis will primarily be descriptive epidemiology and will use quantitative data from vital records and program reports. Materials developed by the student will be made available to staff and possibly other stakeholders at the end of the internship. The student will be requested to translate and present the project results so that they are understandable to public health practitioners and other stakeholders who are not necessarily familiar with epidemiological methods or terminology. The student will have the opportunity to present results to the FCHB Advisory Council and the Bureau and publish in the FCHB Facts Newsletter. If appropriate, results may also be submitted for publication in "Prevention Activities Under the Big Sky," Montana's public health prevention newsletter.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Students are expected to have basic analytic abilities and familiarity with at least one statistical software package. SPSS is the statistical analysis software currently used by the bureau. However, the data are available in formats that translate to most statistical analysis software, and SAS is used elsewhere in the department and may be available. Experience with Microsoft Access and Excel is helpful.

The student will be provided with a workspace with a desktop computer and telephone.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: Dianna Frick, MPH. Ms. Frick is the Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist for the Family and Community Health Bureau (FCHB). She was a Public Health Prevention Specialist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for three years, one year in Atlanta working with the Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Prevention where she analyzed STD data, conducted assessments, and developed and coordinated a nationwide survey of STD clinics, and two years in Montana with FCHB where she coordinated the 5-year MCH needs assessment and strategic planning for the Family and Community Health Bureau. She has also worked with international health programs, conducting analyses of reproductive health data, and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa. Ms. Frick has a bachelor of arts in international affairs from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon, and she earned a master of public health in maternal and child health with a minor in epidemiology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Secondary Supervisor: Jo Ann Walsh Dotson, RN MSN. Ms. Dotson is the MCH Director for the state and is the Bureau Chief for the Family and Community Health Bureau. She has been with the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services for 16 years and previously managed the public health home visiting and primary care programs. Ms. Dotson is a former faculty member with the Montana State University College of Nursing where she taught nursing for seven years. She was also adjunct faculty at Carroll College School of Nursing in Helena from 1994 to 1998. Ms. Dotson has a bachelor of science in nursing from Baylor University, a master of science in maternal and child health nursing from the University of Texas, and is currently in the Ph.D. program through the School of Nursing at Oregon Health and Sciences University.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The start time is negotiable. May of 2007 would be ideal.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes. Montana has had a series of students over the last 8 years, both from the GSIP program and through arrangements with Emory University and other academic institutions. Helena, which would be the site of the student placement, has a small private college, and short term rentals are available during summers in accordance with the academic year. The local newspaper, the Helena Independent Record (<http://www.helenair.com>), has housing listings in its online classifieds section. We will provide the student with information on housing and life in Helena that was collected from previous interns and can recommend locations and solicit the 170 Division staff for housing recommendations at the student's request. Housing in Helena is reasonably priced.

Helena has limited public transportation. There are buses that run on limited routes within the city limits. Several students have completed a 10 week rotation with no car, using a bicycle. While a vehicle would be beneficial, especially in order to enjoy the beautiful state, it is not a requirement. Much of the housing within Helena city limits is within biking or walking distance of the internship site.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Nevada

Department/Agency: Nevada State Health Division

Program: Bureau of Family Health Services and Center for Health Data and Research

Location of Internship Site: Reno, Nevada

Title of Internship Position: MCH Epidemiologist

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

Nevada State Division's Bureau of Family Health Services (BFHS) and Center for Health Data and Research (CHDR) are the key players on the MCH issues and MCH data analyses and epidemiology in the State of Nevada. They have created a MCH data warehouse where houses multiple MCH related databases for advanced MCH epidemiological projects. CHDR has a satellite office at School of Public Health University of Nevada-Reno (UNR). The student will be physically stationed at UNR campus but will work closely with staff at BFHS and CHDR.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

The student will work on data formatting, cleansing, weighting, analyzing the "Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) woman's health module data collected in year 2006. Will work with other researchers on a special woman's health report which includes cancer related woman's health data from databases of woman's health connect (screening), death registry, hospital discharge, BRFSS and cancer registry. The student will provide statistical analysis and preparation of narrative charts and graphics, and compile, tabulate and editing this report.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

As mentioned in section 2, The student will work on data formatting, cleansing, weighting, analyzing the "Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) woman's health module data collected in year 2006. Will work with other researchers on a special woman's health report which includes cancer related woman's health data from databases of woman's health connect (screening), death registry, hospital discharge, BRFSS and cancer registry. The student will provide statistical analysis and preparation of narrative charts and graphics, and compile, tabulate and editing this report.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Course training in epidemiology and biostatistics. Familiar to at least one statistical software, e.g. SAS or SPSS.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

William Lee, Biostatistician and SSDI Project Coordinator for the Center for Health Data and Research will be the primary supervisor.

Dr. Wei Yang and Ms. Judy Wright will also be available to oversee the project. Judy is the Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Family Health Services. Dr. Yang is the State Chief Biostatistician and Director of Center for Health Data and Research. He is also a faculty member at School of Public Health, University of Nevada-Reno.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

May, 2007.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Will help the student in locating the housing at either UNR campus dorms or nearby apartment. The work site is closed to Downtown Reno and has access to public transportations.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name:	Dr. Wei Yang
Mailing Address:	Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics, 505 E. King Street Room 102 Carson City, NV 89701
Email address:	Wyang@nvhd.state.nv.us
Telephone:	775-684-4182
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Ohio

Department/Agency: Columbus Public Health

Program: Office of Assessment and Surveillance

Location of Internship Site: Columbus Public Health 240 Parsons Ave., Columbus, OH 43215

Title of Internship Position: Graduate Student Intern

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment ___ Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Office of Assessment and Surveillance at Columbus Public Health is a central source for local health-related data and information. We work to help improve the health of the Columbus community by:

- measuring the health of Columbus through the collection, study and reporting of health data;
- looking for and investigating outbreaks of disease; and by
- providing support to customers who want to use data effectively in community health policy, planning, and programming decisions.

Six full-time masters-prepared epidemiologists, including the director, staff the office. We work primarily with population-level data, such as vital statistics, behavioral risk surveys, injury hospitalizations, fatality review, and reportable diseases, for the purpose of community health assessment. We are also responsible for enhancing, maintaining, and monitoring all data sources associated with the acute disease surveillance system regularly.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose: The purpose of this internship is to assist with conducting an assessment of the health of women, children and families in Columbus and Franklin County.

Goals: The main goal of this project is to identify, analyze and describe trends and current status of key indicators of maternal and infant health that will inform policy, programming and funding decisions within the community.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) The student will have a better understanding of the challenges of conducting an assessment and of working to blend quantitative and qualitative data in a meaningful way.
- 2) The student will improve data analysis and use skills.
- 3) The student will gain insight into the workings of a local public health department.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The student will be working with both quantitative and qualitative data. Initially, the student will be required to familiarize her/himself with background material about the importance of understanding the health of women, children and families locally, as well as with the wealth of data sets available. This includes locally available sets, such as vital statistics, behavioral risk, and program data, as well as state and national data sets (e.g., PRAMS, BRFSS, vital, Census) that can be queried or acquired. A list of indicators will be reviewed

before analysis. Descriptive analysis of data (including calculation of frequencies, prevalence and morbidity and mortality rates), with comparisons to appropriate groups, will be the primary analytic task. Data will need to be organized in a logical manner. If time permits, findings should be presented in the form of a report, fact sheets, presentations, or poster and should include both narrative and graphical representations of the data (charts, tables, etc.). With regard to qualitative data, the student will be responsible for creating a tool to assess access to, utilization of, and satisfaction with health care services for women and children. The student will also assist with organizing and facilitating several community focus groups to collect these data.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The student should be capable of performing descriptive analyses of data using software such as SAS, STATA, and/or SPSS. The student should be fully competent with key Microsoft products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook and Internet Explorer) and have a good working knowledge of Access. The student should be competent in conducting research and data queries using the internet. A solid understanding of question development for use in focus groups is desired. The student will need to have excellent written and verbal skills, be a motivated individual and will be expected to contribute to the organization.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary supervisor will be Kathy Cowen, MS, Director of the Office of Assessment and Surveillance. Ms. Cowen has been working in the area of maternal and child health epidemiology for most of her tenure at Columbus Public Health (10 years). She has had the opportunity to participate in numerous data team-learning initiatives sponsored by CityMatCH, such as the Perinatal Periods of Risk (PPOR) Practice Collaborative and the Data Use Institute. She serves as the analytic lead for PPOR analysis in Columbus and as a member of the Region IV team of Ohio's Perinatal Data Use Collaborative.

Secondary supervisor will be Karen Gray, MS, CHES, Program Manager in the Division of Maternal and Child Health. Ms. Gray is a certified health education specialist with primary interest in increasing access to early prenatal care. She uses data for program planning, priority setting, grant writing and evaluation.

Additional guidance and technical assistance will be available from Carolyn Slack, division director for Maternal and Child Health, and staff epidemiologists, all with Master's degrees in Preventive Medicine or Public Health.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

May is probably the best time to start; however, campus housing is more available in mid-June. A start date can be negotiated.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes, we can assist in locating and securing housing for the student. The Ohio State University has single rooms available in a graduate dormitory tower on campus. A common kitchen is available to all building occupants. Cost for this would be approximately \$450 per month (or \$35 per day). Campus is approximately five miles from the health department and is on the public bus route (Central Ohio Transit Authority—C.O.T.A.). Apartments with a short-term rent agreement could also be available.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Kathy Cowen, MS

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Columbus, OH 43215-5331

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Oregon (A)

Department/Agency: Public Health Division, Office of Family Health

Program: Adolescent Health

Location of Internship Site: Public Health Division, Portland, Oregon

Title of Internship Position: Depression and Physical Activity Among Oregon Adolescents

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Office of Family Health (OFH) is Oregon's Title V agency. A number of sections are housed within OFH, including: Immunization; Oral (Dental) Health; Genetics; School Health; Reproductive Health (Family Planning); Perinatal, Child, Adolescent, and Women's Health; Women, Infants, Children (WIC) and Breastfeeding; and Nutrition / Physical Activity. The Adolescent Health Section strives to: advocate for adolescent access to quality health education and health services, develop and promote evidence-based strategies and programs, identify and direct resources that create sustainable state and local programs, and implement clear and effective adolescent health communications. One of the Adolescent Health Section's purposes is to collect, evaluate and report, on an ongoing basis, data about adolescent health and access to health education and services. The Adolescent Health Section is comprised of approximately 15 professionals with diverse training and education. In addition, OFH has a full-time maternal and child health (MCH) epidemiologist, a full-time post-doctoral CSTE / CDC MCH Epidemiologist Fellow, and research analysts who work on the Oregon Healthy Teens (OHT) survey (the Youth Risk Behavior Survey or YRBS).

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Accurate estimates of the extent of youth problems are essential for knowing which schools and communities need which programs and whether the programs, when implemented, are working. The Oregon Healthy Teens (OHT) survey (i.e., the Youth Risk Behavior Survey or YRBS) is Oregon's effort to monitor the health and well-being of adolescents. The survey is an anonymous and voluntary research-based survey, conducted among 8th and 11th graders across the state. OHT monitors the factors that influence successful development. Research has shown that risk factors and assets that affect young people include family, school, neighborhood, and community characteristics. By measuring these influences as well as youth behavior, the OHT survey provides information to help schools and communities focus on the things that are most important to ensure successful youth development.

Purpose: To describe the association between physical activity and depression and the emotional and mental health status among 8th and 11th grade students in Oregon

Goals: To conduct a literature review; to conduct a descriptive and analytic epidemiologic analysis of relevant variables within the OHT survey data; to learn how data can be used to provide a basis for public health improvement

Objectives: To provide an analysis of data that describes the association between physical activity and depression and the emotional and mental health status among 8th and 11th grade students in Oregon; and to work with the Adolescent Health Section on proposed recommendations to the Public Health Division about ways to improve physical activity levels and mental health in this school-age population

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The intern would conduct a literature review about what is known about the association between physical activity and depression and the emotional and mental health status among adolescent populations. In addition, the intern would analyze data from the OHT survey regarding the association between level of physical activity and depression and the emotional and mental health status of 8th and 11th grade adolescents in Oregon. Other tasks and activities include preparing tables, figures, or graphs that describe the demographic features and descriptive and analytic results of the survey data and writing either a draft manuscript or report for the Adolescent Health Section regarding the findings of the project. The intern would also attend meetings of the Physical Activity and Nutrition Workgroup and other meetings or activities related to the project.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Software applications: The intern should have experience and be comfortable with using Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint) and in preparing tables, figures, and graphs in either Microsoft Office or in another software application. Ideally, the intern should have some experience / comfort level in using SPSS and/or SAS. Experience with SAS-callable SUDAAN for complex, weighted data is optional.

Statistical / Analytical Competencies: The intern should have some experience in conducting literature searches and should have had at least two basic courses each in epidemiology and biostatistics. The intern should have some experience with running frequencies, contingency tables, and linear or logistic regression as well as interpreting the output. Familiarity with multivariate and multinomial regression would be ideal, but is not required.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

The **primary supervisor** for the intern will be **Laurin Kasehagen**, MA, PhD. She is the post-doctoral CSTE / CDC MCH Epidemiology Fellow for OFH. Laurin has a master's in anthropology from New Mexico State University and a doctorate in epidemiology and biostatistics from Case Western Reserve University.

Secondary supervision of the intern will be provided by **Ken D. Rosenberg**, MD, MPH, the MCH Epidemiologist for OFH. In addition, **Robert Nystrom**, MA, the Adolescent Health Section Manager will provide programmatic and policy development guidance and technical assistance for the intern.

Supervisors and the intern will work closely with: the Nutrition and Physical Activity Workgroup; the Adolescent Health Section staff; the research analysts for the OHT survey in Oregon; and Beth Epstein, MD, the OFH Medical Director.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Between April and June 2007.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

OFH will be able to assist the intern in locating and securing housing. The State office building in Portland is conveniently located near apartments and residential neighborhoods, restaurants, grocery stores, and shopping malls, the airport, and the city center. The work site is within easy walking distance as well as

public transportation to many neighborhoods. Previous GSIP interns have found housing in private homes by responding to advertisements in local newspapers. Short-term (3-month) leases are available in many apartment complexes.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Laurin Kasehagen, MA, PhD
CSTE / CDC MCH Epidemiology Fellow

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Telephone: 971-673-0383

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Oregon (B)

Department/Agency: Public Health Division; Office of Family Health

Program: Women's Health or Perinatal Health

Location of Internship Site: 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 850, Portland, OR 97232

Title of Internship Position: Postpartum Maternal Physical Activity or Use of Folic Acid by postpartum WIC clients

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Office of Family Health is Oregon's Title V agency. It includes programs on Perinatal, Child, and Adolescent Health, School Health, Family Planning, Immunization, Oral Health and WIC.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives. Student will have the opportunity to choose between the following two programs:

Project 1 - Postpartum Maternal Physical Activity:

The Oregon Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a survey of about 1800 postpartum women per year, asking questions about events before, during and after pregnancy.

Purpose: Assessment of physical activity among Oregon postpartum women.

Goals: analyze Oregon PRAMS data; review literature; learn about programs that improve women's health -- especially that include physical activity.

Objectives: Make recommendations to state health department about ways to improve the health of postpartum women via physical activity.

Project 2 - Use of Folic Acid by postpartum WIC clients

Learning Objectives for the Graduate Student Intern:

By completing this internship the student will be able to:

- a. Increase proficiency in the use of statistical analysis software.
- b. Critique different statistical tests to determine which are most appropriate for the type of data and project goals.
- c. Develop an appreciation for mixing quantitative and qualitative techniques.
- d. Feel more comfortable with developing interview and focus group questions.
- e. Critically evaluate quantitative analysis results to determine the practical as well as statistical significance.
- f. See self as important link in communicating epidemiological data in a manner meaningful to program staff.
- g. Identify resources (publications, trainings, mentors) to continue learning after the internship.

Proposed Project to Support Student Learning Objectives:

Purpose: Previous work has shown that WIC clients are less likely to have taken periconceptual folic acid (PFA) than non-WIC clients. In 2002, the Oregon WIC program implemented a counseling protocol specific to promoting PFA. The purpose of this project is to determine whether this new counseling protocol has increased PFA intake among WIC mothers, strengthened local WIC staff's ability to counsel on PFA, and increased knowledge of the importance of PFA in WIC clients.

Goal: Increase the proportion of Oregon WIC mothers who consume a daily source of folic acid.

Objective: Utilize a mix of qualitative and quantitative techniques to develop a better understanding of WIC's current and potential impact on FA consumption among its post partum clients.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project? (Skills required depend on the project.)

Project 1 - Postpartum Maternal Physical Activity:

- a. analyze data from the 2004 Oregon PRAMS survey about which postpartum women are least likely to get physical activity.
- b. review literature and talk to people about what programs have been successful in helping postpartum women increase their physical activity.
- c. write up findings for women's health program.
- d. summarize data for state and local health department program staff, and rural health providers and advocates.

Project 2 - Use of Folic Acid by postpartum WIC clients

- a) The intern will use data from the Oregon PRAMS survey (1998-2004) about use of periconceptual folic acid (PFA). Analyst will particularly look at new mothers who had a live birth less than 24 months before the index birth and were WIC clients after the birth of earlier baby. We are interested in looking at trends over time in PFA and in correlating WIC education about folic acid (FA) with women subsequently taking PFA. Other data sources (including WIC client data and BRFSS) will be explored.
- b) The intern will conduct a limited number of key informant interviews with WIC staff about current methods of educating post partum mothers about continuing daily folic acid intake. Staff will also be asked about perceived changes in folic acid education after the implementation of a specific counseling protocol in 2002.
- c) The intern will assist with developing either interview or focus groups questions for WIC mothers to further explore their knowledge about folic acid sources (foods and pills), health benefits of folic acid, sources of information/counseling on folic acid intake, perceived need to continue taking folic acid when no longer pregnant or breastfeeding, and barriers to daily folic acid consumption.
- d) The intern will summarize project findings for WIC and state health department program staff and make recommendations to the Oregon WIC program on how to increase the proportion of clients who get adequate FA daily.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Some experience using STATA, SAS, SPSS or SUDAAN is required. Experience or coursework in qualitative analysis is helpful but not required.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary supervisor will be Ken Rosenberg, MD, MPH, Maternal & Child Health Epidemiologist in the Office of Family Health. Secondary supervisor will be James Gaudino, MD, MS, MPH, medical epidemiologist in the Immunization Program of the Office of Family Health. Consultation will be available from Richard Leman, MD, MPH, chronic disease epidemiologist.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Starting time could be any time from February to July 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

We will be able to assist the student in locating and securing housing. Housing near the worksite is plentiful and inexpensive. Previous GSIP interns have found housing in private homes by responding to advertisements in the local daily newspaper. The worksite is easily accessible via public transportation from many neighborhoods.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name:	Kenneth D. Rosenberg, MD, MPH Maternal & Child Health Epidemiologist
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Telephone:	971-673-0237
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Pennsylvania

Department/Agency: Department of Health

Program: Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Program

Location of Internship Site: Health & Welfare Building, 7th Floor East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120

Title of Internship Position: Scientific, Engineering, and Technical Intern (Public Health)

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

Pennsylvania's Infant Hearing Education, Assessment, Reporting and Referral (IHEARR) Act (Act 89 of 2001) became law in November of 2001, requiring the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) to administer a statewide Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention (UNHSI) program. DOH has UNHSI grant funding from HRSA for outreach, education, follow-up and linkage efforts. All of the state's 120 hospitals with birthing facilities report screening results data to DOH and refer the names of newborns not passing rescreening and/or failing to show for scheduled rescreening appointments. DOH's Nurse Consultants engage in active follow-up for all infants referred, following each case to logical conclusion. A total of 2,260 cases for infants born in Calendar Year 2005 were referred to DOH for follow-up. Follow-up activities include telephone contact, e-mail, facsimile and written correspondence with hospitals, families, primary care physicians, audiologists, and Early Intervention agencies. When initiating follow-up for individual infants, the Nurse Consultants identify the follow-up primary care physician/medical home (PCP/MH) for each infant and confirm with each PCP that the individual is indeed their patient. Specific program objectives include: (1) completion of screening within 30 days; (2) diagnostic audiological evaluation within three months for those not passing rescreening; and (3) treatment, amplification, and/or linkage to Part C, Early Intervention (EI) services by the age of six months. This is known as the "1-3-6 follow-up process queue" All UNHSI program efforts are consistent with the Healthy People (HP) 2010 Objective #28-11.

Currently, approximately 50% of cases referred to DOH for UNHSI follow-up have an incorrectly identified PCP/MH on the initial referral, causing delays in follow-up and subsequent losses to follow-up. In May 2007, DOH will launch a major initiative with the Pennsylvania Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (PA AAP) to enhance PCP/MH linkage for referred cases in UNHSI. As one part of the initiative, PA AAP will work with DOH to identify birthing hospitals with large percentages of newborns seen during the birth admission by physicians other than the child's follow-up PCP, and will track the incidence of incorrectly identified PCPs at time of discharge from the birth admission. DOH follow-up efforts are often set back initially when the birthing facility's attending physician is incorrectly identified as the child's PCP/MH. PA AAP will deliver pilot quality improvement presentations to system-based pediatric/family practices as a first step in developing a modular presentation for recurring itinerant presentations.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

a) Purpose: Engage in monitoring and analysis of beginning/pilot phase of PCP/MH linkage initiative with PA AAP to assure adequate progress during project's early phases, and to confirm the positive effect of early

identification and linkage to a PCP/MH for referred infants in the 1-3-6 process queue. A positive effect is defined by timely progress from follow-up step to follow-up step within the 1-3-6 process queue framework.

b) Goals: Increase the number of newborn hearing screening referrals to DOH that have the correctly identified PCP/MH during early phase of the initiative so that when the 2½ year project has run its course, initial PCP/MH linkage will have increased from 50% to 90% at the time DOH receives the referral.

c) Objectives:

The MCH intern will work with DOH follow-up staff to review referred cases in order to identify those birthing hospitals where the PCP/MH is incorrectly identified on the initial referral. The MCH intern will develop an Access database to enter selected information on those facilities obtained from queries against the NSS data system, and will produce feedback reports and statistical information for PA AAP and the DOH UNHSI program staff to gauge progress during the initial project phase.

The intern will use 2005 and 2006 birth year cohort data from the UNHSI follow-up side of DOH's Newborn Screening System (NSS) to identify birthing hospitals that do a comparatively better job, as well as those in need of improvement, at initial identification of the PCP/MH for newborns not passing hearing screening and rescreening (i.e., by the time of referring the case to DOH for follow-up). The intern will develop test ratings based on numbers of losses to follow, as well as quantifiable measures of follow-up queue sequential stage progress and setback.

Analyze two years of monitoring and follow-up data to ascertain whether optimum linkages to a PCP/MH (i.e., at time of discharge) can demonstrably better position infants for more favorable follow-up outcomes, as defined by timely progress toward rescreening, diagnosis, treatment/habilitation and linkage to EI through the application of test measures of progress and setback.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Currently, cases submitted to DOH for follow-up are referred as hard copy reports. Information from the reports is entered by follow-up staff into the online web-based NSS reporting and tracking system. Data can be obtained from this system from database queries run on request by Bureau of Information Technology (BIT) support staff. The MCH intern will develop an Access database which will contain information that will allow the identification of facilities with the highest incidence of incorrectly identified PCPs. The data will be analyzed in SPSS using techniques such as t-tests, difference of means tests, cross tabs, measures of strength of association, chi-square, and related nonparametric measures.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The intern should be proficient in the use of SPSS PC, the Microsoft Office suite, including Word, Excel Access and Power Point (the latter to present the results of analysis to staff). Ability to conduct simple descriptive statistical analysis, and to apply methods such as cross tabs, t-tests, difference of means tests, measures of strength of association, chi-square, and related nonparametric measures in analysis. Ideally, the intern will have some exposure to queuing theory and analysis, although this is not considered essential.

Also necessary is the ability to apply effective critical thinking skills is needed, as is an understanding the dynamics of organizational communication and workflow; effective written, oral and interpersonal communication skills; understanding work team dynamics and decision processes; understanding data gathering formats; writing analytical reports; preparing and delivering presentations; implementing logical decision making processes; and using project and time management tools to ensure that work is completed.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

The primary supervisor will be Robert F. Staver, Public Health Program Manager (UNHSI Program Manager). The secondary supervisor will be Arthur A. Florio, UNHSI Program Administrator. Mr. Staver has 21 years of state government quantitative and program analytical experience in the areas of public health, human services licensing, postsecondary and higher education, legislative oversight, and corrections forecasting. Mr. Florio has been the program administrator of the newborn hearing screening program since September 2004. He is completely familiar with information contained in case referral forms, works daily with the birthing facilities, and has detailed knowledge of the Newborn Screening System. Mr. Staver and Mr. Florio work closely, and on an ongoing basis, with PA AAP and its UNHSI physician advisor, Dr. Robert C. Cicco, who is a leading clinical and policy advocate in Maternal and Child Health.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The most suitable time would be during the summer of 2007 beginning in early to mid-June.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

The intern would have to make arrangements to obtain housing. The work site is easily accessible to public transportation. A major bus stop is within one block of the work site. Free parking is not available at the work site. The intern will be provided with a list of private nearby apartments. There are nearby apartments at affordable rates within easy walking distance of the work location (Dept. of Health headquarters).

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Robert F. Staver, Public Health Program Manager

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Health & Welfare Building
Division of Newborn Screening and Genetics
7th Floor East Wing
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Texas

Department/Agency: Texas Department of State Health Services

Program: Birth Defects Epidemiology & Surveillance/Texas Center for Birth Defects Research & Prevention

Location of Internship Site: Austin, Texas

Title of Internship Position: Birth Defects Data Analyst

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Texas Birth Defects Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch (BDES) encompasses two major components: the Texas Birth Defects Registry (Registry) and the Texas Center for Birth Defects Research and Prevention (Texas Center). In order to respond to community concerns about the occurrence of birth defects, the Texas Birth Defects Registry was established to identify and describe the patterns of birth defects in Texas through operation of an active surveillance system. It is now the largest birth defects registry of its kind in the world; one benefit of that is the ability to study the risk factors associated with relatively rare birth defects.

The Registry employs an active surveillance approach, which entails staff routinely visiting all hospitals and birthing centers where affected children are delivered or treated. Staff review logs to find potential cases, review medical records of potential cases to identify true cases, and abstract relevant information including birth defect diagnoses; medical tests and procedures; gestational age; delivery information; maternal illnesses, delivery complications, maternal exposures; and demographic information.

BDES is one of 10 state programs participating in the National Birth Defects Prevention Study (NBDPS), one of the largest case-control studies ever done on the causes of birth defects. For this study, interviews are conducted and biological samples are collected from case mothers (women who have had babies or pregnancies affected by birth defects) and control mothers (women who have had babies with no birth defects). The NBDPS began in 1997 and currently has over 5000 cases and nearly 14,000 controls available for study which researchers are using to examine the causes of birth defects associated with socio-demographics, genetics, nutrition, and the environment factors.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

- a) Purpose: State monitoring programs and registries provide researchers with basic information about rates of birth defects and can help identify trends and are particularly useful for generating hypotheses for further investigation or research. When combined with studies of genetics, molecular biology, etiologic investigations and environmental exposures, the information provided by birth defects registries has the potential to help uncover the causes of these conditions and prevent future cases (Trust for America's Health, 2002). With 18,594 completed interviews for cases and controls in the NBDPS data set, we are increasingly able to design and carry out rigorous studies of risk factors for specific birth defects. The primary purpose of this internship is to provide analytic support in the development of an existing study and to work with team members to develop at least one study.

- b) Goals: The primary goal of the internship is to provide analytic support for one of major studies initiated by the Texas Center which has been approved by the NBDPS data sharing committee. Among existing proposals are the following: *Birth Defects, pregnancy outcomes, and selected risk factors in the NBDPS: Is there a relationship with parents' national birthplace?*; *Maternal fish consumption and adverse outcomes in the NBDPS*; and *Paternal characteristics and adverse pregnancy outcomes other than birth defects*. The intern will work closely with our NBDPS epidemiologist to analyze data, interpret the findings and present it in such a way as to elucidate answers to the study questions. The intern will also assist with literature review and writing of a manuscript.
- c) Objectives: At the completion of the internship, the candidate will lead and/or collaborate on analysis for at least one pending project and may also have the opportunity to present findings or to assist in manuscript development.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

- Conduct literature review of all known risk factors for the category/ies of interest. Write a summary.
- Plan the analytic approach.
- In collaboration with the NBDPS data analyst, review existing analytic SAS programs that will be required for this project. Adapt old and write new SAS programs as needed, and use them for analysis.
- For each specific defect:
 - generate odds ratios with confidence intervals to study the association between individual socio-demographic risk factors and exposures to the selected birth defects;
 - run logistic regression to calculate crude and adjusted odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals to compare maternal risk factors and exposures to the referent group. Potential confounders will also be identified among a list of maternal risk factors and exposures during the pregnancy reported during the interviews to express the results of the logistic regression as odds ratios with 95% confidence intervals
- Produce charts, handouts, and tables summarizing the analysis.
- Assist with writing manuscript including methods and results section.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

- Skill in using SAS for data management and analysis (essential).
- Knowledge of how to calculate and interpret odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals.
- Skill in conducting regression analysis and interpreting the results. Logistic regression is preferred, but not necessary.
- Skill in writing and presenting results of simple and complex analyses.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: Tunu Ramadhani, PhD, Epidemiologist. Dr. Ramadhani is an Epidemiologist, with the Texas Department of State Health Services, performing statistical data analyses from the National Birth Defects Prevention Study. Dr. Ramadhani has conducted analyses, summarized data, and provided interpretations of the findings, written several reports, manuscripts and published in peer reviewed epidemiological journals. Examples of papers include *“Residential mobility patterns and exposure misclassification in epidemiologic studies of birth defects”*, *“Medical records vs. interview responses: a comparative analysis of selected variables for linked birth defect cases”* and *“Improved national prevalence estimates for 18 selected major birth defects-United States, 1999–2001”*.

Secondary Supervisor: Mark Canfield, Ph.D., BDES Manager and Co-Principle Investigator of the Texas

component of the NBDPS. Dr. Canfield has been involved in birth defects epidemiology and research for more than 12 years, and has authored numerous manuscripts from the NBDPS, including *Folic acid awareness and use among women with a history of a neural tube defect pregnancy - Texas, 2000-2001*, and *Maternal obesity, gestational diabetes, and central nervous system birth defects*.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Open.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

We can provide advice about housing opportunities in the area, but no direct assistance. The Texas Department of State Health Services is located very near the University of Texas and therefore there are many rental properties within easy walking or biking distance. We are located on or very near several bus lines.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Amy P. Case, MAHS

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Birth Defects Epidemiology & Surveillance Branch
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Virginia (A)

Department/Agency: Virginia Department of Health

Program: Office of Family Health Services, Policy & Assessment Unit

Location of Internship Site: Richmond, VA 23219

Title of Internship Position: Maternal and Child Health Surveillance Internship

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The internship project will be housed in the Office of Family Health Services (OFHS) in the Virginia Department of Health. The OFHS contains six divisions (Women and Infants' Health, Child and Adolescent Health, Oral Health, Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, Injury and Violence Prevention, and WIC and Community Nutrition) and the office-level Business Unit and Policy & Assessment Unit. The intern will be placed in the Policy and Assessment Unit, which is headed by Virginia's Title V coordinator and includes both mentors, the PRAMS coordinator, and BRFSS coordinator.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose:

To aid in the planning and implementation of MCH surveillance while providing hands-on experience with the analysis and interpretation of MCH surveillance data.

Goal 1. Gain an understanding of how the Policy & Assessment Unit uses MCH-related surveillance data to set priorities and contribute to evidence-based policy.

Objective 1a. Attend monthly OFHS epidemiology workgroup meetings.

Objective 1b. Meet with OFHS epidemiologists to discuss their role in MCH surveillance and the data-related challenges they encounter.

Goal 2. Enhance the use of MCH surveillance data in the OFHS.

Objective 2a. Extract Virginia-specific data from at least one national dataset (e.g., National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs, National Survey of Children's Health, National Asthma Survey).

Additionally, the intern will choose from ONE of the following:

Objective 2b. Examine the medical history fields on the birth certificate and birth events in hospital discharge data to assess reporting of co-morbidities for pregnancy. Address the question: Which is the better source?

Objective 2c. Examine the events of delivery on the birth certificate and birth events in hospital discharge data to assess reporting of complications of childbirth.

Objective 2d. Examine pregnancy-related visits to the hospital for the same patient in hospital discharge data. Profile visits by race/ethnicity, payer, and Virginia health district. Address the questions: What is the average number of visits? What are the diagnoses and procedures related to these visits?

Objective 2e. Examine the rate of Cesarean births over time (procedure codes in hospital discharge, mode of delivery in birth certificate). Identify trends among women (complications, race/ethnicity, birthweight, gestational age, etc.).

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The intern will be expected to perform data analyses (e.g. frequencies, cross tabulations, rates, risk ratios) using maternal and child health surveillance data including birth records and hospital discharge data. Upon completion of analyses, the intern will be expected to summarize the results in the form of a written brief or a presentation.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The intern will be expected to conduct data analyses (e.g. frequencies, cross tabulations, rates, risk ratios) using statistical software (SAS or SPSS), independently perform literature searches using Medline and other sources, and have a basic understanding of the key concepts of public health surveillance.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Derek Chapman, Ph.D. will be the primary supervisor. He has a dual appointment as 1) Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Community Health at Virginia Commonwealth University and 2) Maternal & Child Health Epidemiologist for the Virginia Department of Health. Dr. Chapman teaches a graduate-level Maternal & Child Health Epidemiology course, and his primary research areas include the prevention of developmental disabilities, the impact of sociodemographic factors on children's health and development, and data linkage methodology. Current activities at the Virginia Department of Health include improving access to and use of maternal and child health surveillance data for program planning and evaluation efforts and creating new data linkages among health department datasets.

Caroline Stampfel, MPH will be the secondary supervisor. She is in the second year of a CSTE Applied Epidemiology Fellowship in Maternal and Child Health. Caroline works directly with Dr. Chapman on a number of office-level MCH surveillance activities, including creating and maintaining a Data Mart containing 15 years of vital records and hospital discharge data, helping establish Virginia's first PRAMS protocol and sampling frame, and providing training to increase epidemiological competencies among OFHS staff. She has also served a teaching assistant for the past two years for a graduate Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology course at Virginia Commonwealth University.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The summer session is preferable (beginning ins May or June), but internships beginning later will be accepted.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

The Virginia Department of Health is located in downtown Richmond and is accessible via public transportation. We cannot provide direct assistance with securing housing; however, we would be happy to send housing information (apartment listings, contact information, etc.) to the intern.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name:	Derek Chapman
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Fax:	804-864-7670

**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Washington

Department/Agency: Department of Health

Program: Maternal and Child Assessment Section

Location of Internship Site: Olympia, WA

Title of Internship Position:

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The internship project will be housed in the Maternal Child Health (MCH) section of Community and Family Health, Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The MCH Program works to promote an environment that supports and encourages the optimal health of all women of childbearing age, infants, children, adolescents and their families. Maternal and Child Health has five major program areas: Children with Special Health Care Needs, Child and Adolescent Health, Maternal and Infant Health, Genetics, and Immunizations. The intern will be located within the MCH Assessment Section, which provides assessment services to all four areas. The primary project supervisor will be Dr. Riley Peters, manager of the MCH Assessment Unit at the Washington State Department of Health.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

There are two components of this proposed project:

- I. Updating Adolescent Health Fact Sheets
- II. Complete a bias analysis of adolescent survey (Healthy Youth Survey 2006)

I. Updating Adolescent Health Fact Sheets:

- a) Purpose: The purpose of this component is to provide updated data and information for DOH's Teen Health Fact Sheets which address key issues that adolescents face and target families, health providers, and teens. Topic areas for the 17 Fact Sheets include suicide and depression, physical health and development, drug and alcohol use, eating disorders, sexual health and others. The fact sheets include both data and interventions and resources and were last updated in 2002. The fact sheets are available at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/adolescenthealth.htm> A primary data source for the fact sheets is the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey (HYS), which is a comprehensive school-based survey last implemented in 2006. This survey of 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th graders focuses on health-risk behaviors related to death and injury such as unintentional and intentional injury behaviors, smoking, and substance use as well as risk and protective factors. Data from 2006 will be available in Spring 2007.

b) Goals: Update 5-10 Teen Health Fact Sheets

c) Objectives:

1. Analyze and interpret data on the health status and health behaviors of Washington state adolescents, using multiple data sources including the Healthy Youth Survey.
2. Work with adolescent program staff to develop messages for teens, families and providers for Teen health Fact Sheets.

II. Bias Analysis:

- a) Purpose: A random sample of schools, by grade, were asked to participate in the state sample of the 2006 Healthy Youth Survey. In order to generalize survey results from this sample to all the students in Washington State, DOH performs a bias analysis to ensure that those who participated in the Healthy Youth Survey were not different in their behaviors from those who did not participate.
- b) Goals: Complete bias analysis of Healthy Youth Survey 2006
- c) Objectives:
 1. Develop a bias analysis plan.
 2. Examine four potential forms of bias: school participation bias, student response bias, differences in schools that used the "tear-off" questions compared with schools that did not, and bias on the last items on the survey due to some students being unable to complete the questionnaire in the time allotted.
 3. Summarize results in a report.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The adolescent fact sheets project requires the development of an analytic plan and the analysis and interpretation of data from multiple sources, including the Healthy Youth survey, death certificate data, and hospitalization data. The intern will update at least 5 Teen Health Fact Sheets.

The primary data used in the bias analysis will be the 2006 Health Youth Survey data. The intern will link school-level from the Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Healthy Youth Survey. The dataset may need to be weighted and otherwise manipulated in order to create a format appropriate for analysis. Analysis may include using t-tests for continuous items and chi-squares tests or logistic regression for dichotomous items. The results will be summarized in a report and available on the DOH website. The 2004 Healthy Youth Bias analysis report is available at <http://www3.doh.wa.gov/HYS/ASPX/HYSBias.aspx>. Stata do-files and output from the 2004 bias analysis will be available for reference.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

- Ability to analyze and interpret data.
- Graduate classes in epidemiology and statistics,
- Basic skills in analytic software.

Software skills should include working with word processing, spreadsheets (like Microsoft Word and Excel) and working with statistical software such as Stata

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

The primary supervisor will be Riley Peters, PhD. Dr Peters is an epidemiologist and the manager of the MCH Assessment Section. Dr Peters has experience in developing, implementing and analyzing surveys (including YRBS) at the local level; and in developing and reporting health status reports for various populations.

The secondary supervisor will be Diane Pilkey, RN MPH from the Assessment Section of the Washington State Department of Health Office of Maternal and Child Health. Ms. Pilkey is a graduate of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Prevention Service (PHPS). She has experience analyzing birth and death data, and survey data involving complex samples designs such as the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) and the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring Survey (PRAMS). Ms Pilkey is currently

coordinating the assessment activities of the Washington State Healthy Youth Survey.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

We are flexible on this; whatever works best for the intern.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

There are many apartment complexes and housing options in Olympia and we can provide information to the intern. The worksite is accessible via public transportation.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Diane Pilkey

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Kentucky

Department/Agency: Department for Public Health (DPH), Division of Adult and Child Health Improvement (DACHI), Maternal and Child Health Branch (MCH)

Program: Title V: PRAMS Pilot Project

Location of Internship Site: Department for Public Health, Adult and Child Health Improvement 275 East Main Street, HS2WA, Frankfort, KY 40621

Title of Internship Position: PRAMS Pilot Project Intern Assistant

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment ___ Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

DACHI is under the direction of Dr. Ruth Ann Shepherd, MD. Dr. Shepherd possesses expertise in the area of epidemiology and provides strong leadership in the areas of data collection, data analysis, evaluation and quality. She is highly committed to the PRAMS project and to student education and she is available for consultation to this project as needed.

The MCH Branch, DACHI will house the PRAMS Pilot project. The MCH Branch houses the Title V Block Grant and special initiatives; Child Health Section (Preventive Health and School Health services program, Child Fatality Review, Child Safety program, Lead Poisoning Prevention) ; and, Women's Health Section (Family Planning, Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention program, Perinatal and Abstinences services program). Under the leadership of Linda Lancaster, RN, MPA, the MCH team collaborates on various projects/initiatives and will provide a rich infrastructure to support the intern through program knowledge sharing, consultation and technical assistance.

Ms. Tracey Jewell, MPH, BS, Division MCH Epidemiologist will provide direct first line supervision for the internship. Ms Jewell has 7.5 years experience working with databases, data analysis, surveys, and developing state level reports and publications. Ms Jewell leads the division-wide Epidemiology team and works across Division lines in on-going support of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Survey and Healthy Kentuckians 2010 project.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

The purpose of the internship is to assist in the development of a PRAMS (Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System) Pilot Project. The PRAMS Pilot Project will collect state-specific, population-based data on maternal attitudes and experiences before, during, and shortly after pregnancy.

The goal of the internship is to promote general knowledge and experience of state public health agency activities and to participate in the development, planning and research to implement a PRAMS pilot project.

Objectives for the internship include 1) research/literature review of PRAMS/Pilot projects 2) assist with survey questionnaire development 3) assist with development of sampling frame 4) participation in agency partnership meetings relative to policy development and general design of the PRAMS/Project.

The project supervisor will be Tracey Jewell, MPH, BS, MCH Epidemiologist. The intern and Ms. Jewell will work together to refine all aspects of the project including development of a timeline to fulfill the overall goals and objectives. The intern will be assigned an office, computer and phone and will be provided all

supplies needed to support and accomplish the internship activities.

Ms. Lancaster, RN, MPA, MCH Branch Manager will provide oversight for the internship assuring that the intern has opportunities and experiences to collaborate with public health colleagues and gain understanding and insight into public health systems.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Review of literature, existing data and reports regarding PRAMS pilot projects for design and implementation structure; help with development of survey questionnaire; help with design of the sampling frame and selection of areas within the state in which to sample; help coordinate implementation of the survey, mailing of survey and data entry; analysis of survey results including a written report of findings.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Familiar with Microsoft Access and Excel, SAS a plus

Familiar with or have a desire to learn about Maternal and Child Health issues/data

Possess a basic understanding of survey research and research methodology

Be able to demonstrate excellent communication skills, both oral and written

Have a desire to learn more about surveillance projects and their usefulness in public health research

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: Tracey Jewell, MPH, BS, MCH Epidemiologist

Secondary Supervisor: Linda Lancaster, RN, MPA, Branch Manager, Maternal and Child Health Ms. Lancaster has worked in Title V and MCH programs for 18 years and will assist with general supervision to promote general knowledge and experiences with the Department for Public Health.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Spring/Summer 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship?

No

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Linda Lancaster

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Ohio

Department/Agency: Ohio Department of Health

Program: Division of Family and Community Health Services

Location of Internship Site: Columbus, Ohio

Title of Internship Position: Needs Assessment Enhancement for Ohio's Children with Special Health Care Needs

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment ___ Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Division of Family and Community Health Services (DFCHS) at the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) administers programs and oversees data systems fundamental to maternal and child health (MCH). The division houses six program bureaus, representing the spectrum of MCH and other populations, and one research and evaluation bureau. The internship will be housed at the division level. However, the intern will have opportunities to work with the bureaus, especially the research and evaluation bureau and the two bureaus which house programs for children with special health care needs as these areas are vital to the proposed internship project.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

The Ohio Department of Health engages in an ongoing needs assessment process for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant. The last 5-year cycle of the needs assessment was completed in 2005 and the current cycle will end in 2010. The last needs assessment identified data gaps and questions, which, to answer, required in-depth analysis of existing data sources. Many of those questions relate to the identified priority needs specific to children with special health care needs. It was recognized that in the last 2 years of the cycle, in which intensive activity is focused on a planning process, time and resources were not available for the creation of new data-based information. The appropriate time for the generation of new data-based information from data collection or complex analyses is in the early stages of the needs assessment cycle, which is currently where Ohio finds itself.

The **purpose** of the internship is to provide data-based information on health needs and resources among children with special health care needs in Ohio, through analysis of existing databases, to inform later planning activities in Ohio's current MCH Title V Block Grant needs assessment cycle.

The **goals** are to provide more detailed information 1) on the quality of screening, disorder identification, interventions, care coordination, and medical home among CSHCN, and 2) on the access to comprehensive preventive and treatment services among Ohio's CSHCN. The goals will be accomplished using data from one or more of the following sources: The National Survey of Children's Health, The National Survey of Children with Special Health Care Needs, and the Ohio Family Health Survey.

The **objectives** are to 1) develop an analysis plan informed by a literature review of the topic, 2) conduct appropriate and valid analyses given the data sources and research questions outlined in the plan, 3) summarize and interpret results of the analyses, and 4) draft a brief epidemiological report and present an oral presentation to ODH staff.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

The project will require development of research questions; a literature review; writing of an analysis plan; identification of variables of interest (outcome variables, primary variables of interest, potential confounders and effect modifiers) within available databases; recoding of variables as necessary; application of appropriate analysis methods, and interpretation of results, summarizing results in a brief written report; and preparation and presentation of an oral presentation.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The internship position requires basic SAS data and analytic skills, familiarity with multivariate regression techniques, research design, and writing and communication skills.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

The primary supervisor will be Elizabeth Conrey, MCH Epidemiologist and CDC field assignee, Division of Family and Community Health Services, Ohio Department of Health and Division of Reproductive Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Dr. Conrey has a PhD in Community Nutrition with a minor in Epidemiology from Cornell University. She was an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer with CDC, assigned to the Maternal and Child Nutrition Branch. She is a registered dietitian. Dr. Conrey has experience analyzing public health data, writing reports, publishing peer reviewed journal articles, and supervising students and fellows conducting research activities.

The secondary supervisor will be Ruth Shrock, Title V MCH Block Grant coordinator, Division of Family and Community Health Services, Ohio Department of Health. Ruth has 23 years of experience in public health. She has a Master's degree in Nutrition and a MPH and is a registered dietitian. Ruth has extensive training and experience in needs assessment and coordinates the needs assessment activities for the MCH Block Grant. She frequently provides training in needs assessment to public health audiences in Ohio. Ruth also has 5 years of supervisory experience in public health research and evaluation. During her 18 years as Nutritionist Administrator in the DFCHS, she was preceptor for many students needing field experiences or internships. At the Ohio State University Nisonger Center, she provided nutrition services to children with developmental disabilities; and at Columbus Children's Hospital, she was project coordinator for an EPA-funded lead study.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The internship position is available after September 1, 2007.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes, staff will be able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the internship period. The Ohio Department of Health is located in downtown Columbus, Ohio, with excellent access to public transportation. Several bus lines pass directly in front of the ODH building. Apartments, sublets and other housing available for short term lease exist nearby.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Dr. Elizabeth J. Conrey

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Oklahoma

Department/Agency: Maternal and Child Health Service/Oklahoma State Department of Health

Program: N/A

Location of Internship Site: Oklahoma City, OK

Title of Internship Position: Perinatal Services Analyst

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment ___ Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Maternal and Child Health Service (MCH) will be the organizational unit that houses the internship project. MCH consists of MCH Administration and three Divisions: Child and Adolescent Health, Women's Health and MCH Assessment. MCH Administration consists of Service level administrative support staff as well as the Public Health Social Work Coordinator, MCH Nutritionist and MCH Family Specialists who work across all MCH programs. The Child and Adolescent Health Division staff are primarily nurses and health educators. Programs and services include child health clinical services, school health, adolescent health, early childhood, child care, suicide prevention, teen pregnancy prevention and injury prevention. The Women's Health Division staff are nurses, nurse practitioners and health educators. Programs and services include maternity, family planning and preventive health education services for females and males of reproductive age. MCH Assessment staff are epidemiologists, biostatisticians and program analysts. These staff evaluate MCH programs and services. MCH Assessment staff are also responsible for carrying out statewide population-based surveillance to include the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), the Oklahoma Toddler Survey (TOTS), the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), the Middle School Risk Behavior Survey, the Oklahoma Fifth Grade Health Survey and the Oklahoma First Grade Health Survey. The intern will be assigned to the MCH Assessment division.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

a) PURPOSE: Assess the availability of delivery services across the state of Oklahoma; b) GOAL: Determine the scope of maternity services available to Oklahoma women with respect to socio-economic status and geographic location; c) OBJECTIVES: (1) Identify current and recent providers of maternity care, (2) Administer survey (already developed) to the identified providers, (3) Review responses for validity and consistency, (4) Analyze data and review findings with MCH leadership, (5) Prepare report for presentation to State Perinatal Taskforce.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Analyze survey data obtained from physicians to determine barriers to providing maternity services. A descriptive analysis will be completed to identify the most common barriers influencing physicians to discontinue maternity care. Survey consists of 20 questions designed to collect information from physicians who have delivered a live birth in the past three years.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The applicant should have a working knowledge of and experience using SAS statistical software, knowledge of survey sampling, and basic analytic skills to produce summary statistics.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary supervision: Suzanna Dooley, MS, ARNP
Chief, Maternal and Child Health Service and Title V Program Director

Secondary supervision: Dick Lorenz, MSPH
Director, MCH Assessment

Paul Patrick, MPH
Senior Biostatistician
MCH Assessment

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

June 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

The MCH Service will assist in identifying housing.

There are a limited number of apartments within 1-2 miles from the Oklahoma Department of Health.

A metro bus line has a routine stop south of the Oklahoma Department of Health.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Suzanna Dooley, MS, ARNP

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Oklahoma Department of Health
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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: California

Department/Agency: Department of Public Health

Program: Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health Program

Location of Internship Site: Los Angeles, California

Title of Internship Position: MCAH Graduate Student Intern

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment X Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The intern will be housed in the Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Program of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The intern will be assigned to the Research, Planning and Evaluation (REP) unit. He or she will work closely and collaboratively with MCAH Program staff and key community stakeholders and collaborators.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Los Angeles County (LAC) is the home of nearly 10 million residents and expands to an area of approximately 4,083 square miles. LAC with its large population and multicultural communities creates a unique environment and challenges in the provision of MCAH services. The LAC Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) Programs strive to achieve optimal well being for all women, infants, children and adolescents and their families in LAC. To accomplish this mission, MCAH Programs conduct assessment, policy development and assurance activities on MCAH related issues, and provide leadership in planning, collaborate with public and private providers and community partners in developing and supporting comprehensive systems of preventive and primary care, and contracts with community based organizations (CBO).

The purpose of the internship is for the intern(s) to gain exposure and experience in MCAH research and evaluation related issues as well as program planning and operations. The intern can choose one or more of the following tasks:

- *Los Angeles County Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Survey:*

This survey studies over 5,000 new mothers who deliver live birth infants. The purpose of this survey is to identify potential factors, such as the lack of preconception/prenatal care, smoking, domestic violence, and others, which result in adverse birth outcomes (low birth weight or pre-term birth). The intern will help review the survey tool, conduct phone interviews, manage/analyze data, discuss findings with community-stakeholders to develop effective strategies in improving birth outcomes, and report writing.

- *L.A. Health Overview of a Pregnant Event (HOPE) Survey:*

This study studies over 500 new mothers who experience a fetal or infant loss. The purpose of this study is to identify potential factors related to fetal/infant deaths. The intern will help review the survey tool, maintain fetal/infant surveillance system, analyze data, and discuss findings with community-stakeholders to develop effective strategies in reducing infant/fetal mortality.

- **MCAH Five Year Plan:**

From September 2003 to February 2005, Los Angeles County Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health Programs (MCAH) conducted a long-range planning effort involving multiple community stakeholders to develop a 5-year plan for meeting the health needs of mothers, infants, children and adolescents in Los Angeles County. The intern will work closely with the MCAH Planner to review the objectives, research to identify appropriate activities to achieve the goals and objectives, and develop outcome measures associated with the activities and objectives.

- Assisting community partners in conducting community needs assessment, identify appropriate data analysis project, interventions or prevention strategies in improving birth outcomes and other MCAH related health issues.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

Depending on the intern's skill, experience and interest, he or she may be involved in one or more of the following projects:

- assisting in LAMB/HOPE data management and analyses:
 - conduct data cleaning
 - conduct univariate analysis
 - conduct bivariate analysis (cross-tabulations, chi-square or t-tests)
 - conduct multivariate analysis
 - Conduct multi-level analyses
- researching into best practices related to improving birth outcomes and other MCAH related health issues
- researching into available data to support MCAH planning process and evaluation activities

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

- Knowledge and ability to conceptualize and operationalize in developing a data collection system (e.g. Using Microsoft Excel, or Access);
- Skills in working with statistical packages (e.g. SAS, Epi-Info, SPSS, or others) such as generating frequency and cross-tabulation;
- Skills in data management;
- Skills in analyzing and interpreting data;
- Skills in analyzing and interpreting legislation; and
- Knowledge or experience in Geographic Information System (e.g. MapInfo, ArcView or others), - desired but not required.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Diana Liu, the Epidemiologist for the MCAH Program, will provide mentoring and supervision for this position. Ms. Liu has received a Master degree in Public health and has been working as the epidemiologist for the MCAH Program for almost 10 years. She has in-depth training and knowledge in community needs assessment, program evaluation, MCAH program operations research design, and statistical analysis. For the past four summers, Ms. Liu has successfully worked with GSIP interns.

The secondary supervisor will be Mr. Kevin Donovan, MPH, of the REP unit. Mr. Donovan has received a Masters degree in Public health and has been working as a research analyst for the MCAH Program for over five years. Mr. Donovan has been heavily involved in the planning and implementation of LAMB and L.A. HOPE Projects, and MCAH five-year plan. Furthermore, he is working on several key MCAH evaluations activities.

The intern will also work closely with the REP team that consists of five additional research analysts and

three Information Systems experts. It is always our goal to provide the intern with the most rewarding public health training experience. Prior interns have commented that through their LA County MCAH intern experience, they not only strengthened their understanding of epidemiology, research methodology and statistical analyses, but learned crucial real world skills such as how to translate data into action and how to effectively work with community stakeholders.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Although we would like to have the intern on board soon, the starting date is negotiable.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Rental assistance can be obtained by local real estate services. The MCAH program is located in a high security building and can be easily accessed by several bus lines and Los Angeles Metro Subway system.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: California

Department/Agency: San Francisco Maternal Adolescent and Child Health (MCAH), Epidemiology Unit

Program: Evaluation of Bay Area CenteringPregnancy Program

Location of Internship Site: 30 Van Ness, Suite 260, San Francisco, CA 94102

Title of Internship Position: Epidemiologist

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Epidemiology (Epi) Unit of the San Francisco MCAH Section is directed by MCAH Medical Director, Ellen J. Stein MD, MPH. The Epi Unit has participated in several perinatal research studies in collaboration with the Bay Area Data Collaborative and has presented results nationally at the CDC Preconception Health Summit, APHA and CityMatCH. SF County MCAH Epi Unit is co-investigator with the BayArea CenteringPregnancy (CP) Consortium and PI Elliot Main, MD in evaluating CP in the Bay Area. Before its planned expansion, the Bay Area had 7 CP sites, now has 21 sites, and plans to add several more sites. The CenteringPregnancy Program alters routine prenatal care by bringing women out of the exam room and into groups for prenatal care. Women have their initial intake into obstetric care in the usual manner with history and physical examination occurring within the office/clinic space. They are then invited to join with 8-12 other women with similar due dates in meeting together regularly during their pregnancy. The groups form between 12 and 16 weeks of pregnancy, meet every month for the first four months and then bi-weekly until birth. The groups continue monthly after birth as parenting groups.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

The purpose of the internship is to provide hands-on experience in the design and evaluation of a prospective cohort study with population controls. The goal of the internship is to provide sufficient training so that the intern can assist in the evaluation of the effects of group prenatal care on perinatal outcomes. By the end of the summer, the intern will be able to:

- 1) utilize of Epi Info 6.0 and Epi BC to analyze birth certificate records
- 2) understand how to measure and analyze common public health perinatal outcomes
- 3) apply empirical knowledge learned in classes to a real public health study using survey design and analysis in addition to public health data from vital records.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

It is hypothesized that women receiving group prenatal care will deliver preterm infants of significantly heavier weight than those in individual care. It is also hypothesized that group patients will maintain their preterm pregnancies two weeks longer than individual care patients. Additional outcomes will be added for the nested prospective cohort study of women receiving oral health education and care.

The intern will analyze medical birth certificate outcome data and behavioral data from CP self assessment measures on family/parenting issues, sexual activity/contraception, stress reduction, and methods of dealing with conflict. He or she will also be involved in selecting and alpha testing data collection instruments

deemed appropriate for this project, including the site specific nested oral health component. The intern will also be involved in analyzing the Maternal and Infant Health Assessment (MIHA) and or PRAMS data for correlation of CP outcomes with matched population controls.

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Hypothesis Testing
Program Evaluation
Survey Design and Analysis
SAS, Excel required
Access, Epi Info/Epi BC desired but can train

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor	Secondary Supervisor
Al Abramowitz, MS	Ellen J. Stein, MD, MPH
Sr. Epidemiologist	Medical Director
SF MCAH Epidemiology Unit	SF MCAH Epidemiology Unit
SF Department of Public Health	SF Department of Public Health

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Mid May , Early June 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes.

- 1) Non-financial assistance can be provided in finding dorm housing through affiliates with UC, Berkeley SPH, UCSF, or SF State.
- 2) Assistance in finding a sponsor/host through MCAH can be provided.
- 3) Assistance in finding private sublet housing through craigslist.org or other local housing specialists.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Iowa

Department/Agency: Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH)/Bureau of Family Health

Program: MCH Epidemiology with the Iowa State Systems Development Initiative Project (SSDI)

Location of Internship Site: Des Moines, IA

Title of Internship Position: IDPH Data Capacity Assessment Project

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The internship project will primarily be housed within the Bureau of Family Health. However the nature of this project is to examine the department's data capacity and to promote interbureau communication and collaboration. Therefore the intern's project will cross three IDPH bureaus: the Bureau of Family Health, the Bureau of Information Management, and the Bureau of Health Statistics. The intern will work closely with the MCH Epidemiologist and the SSDI coordinator to carry out this project. The SSDI coordinator has fostered interbureau communication and collaboration and data capacity development over the past several years in a number of ways. For example, the SSDI coordinator convenes regular meetings of project managers and bureau chiefs during which state data needs and ways to address these data needs are discussed. These meetings provide program managers and bureau chiefs the opportunity to learn from one another and build on each other's strengths relative to data needs. Together, the MCH Epidemiologist and the SSDI coordinator conducted a data capacity assessment during the summer of 2005; the internship project will entail repeating this assessment to determine IDPH progress toward building its data capacity to support statewide program and policy development.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

a) The purpose of the Data Capacity Assessment Project is to examine the progress of Iowa's key MCH data systems to provide statewide programs and local contract agencies with policy and program relevant information and data. b) The project's goal is to evaluate the ability of Iowa's key maternal and child health data systems to meet the data needs of statewide programs and local public health agencies as these entities seek to development and revise MCH programs and policies. c) The project objectives are 1) to replicate the 2005 Data Capacity Assessment, 2) to compare 2005 and 2007 assessment results, 3) to recommend future data capacity building activities.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

In collaboration with the SSDI coordinator, the MCH epidemiologist, and MCH Data Committee members the intern will:

1. **Review** and **revise** as needed the current assessment tool
2. **Determine** which programs and their staff will be invited to participate in the assessment
3. **Arrange** to interview MCH program staff and program managers
4. **Conduct** face-to-face interviews of MCH program staff and program managers

5. **Build** a data base to use for data entry and data analysis
6. **Carry** out data entry
7. **Conduct** analysis
8. **Produce** a report and recommendations relative to the assessment results
9. **Present** the results to the MCH Data Committee
10. **Submit** and present the results (abstract) to relevant national or regional conference

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

The project will produce primarily descriptive information. Therefore the intern will need to be comfortable analyzing and reporting on the descriptive results. In addition, the intern will need to be able to examine the results and assist in developing agency level recommendations that may include such things as staff training and workforce development activities or software needs.

A number of software applications can support this project's activities (SPSS, Excel). The software will depend upon the intern's experience and preference.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Debra Kane, PhD, RN, will be the intern's primary supervisor and will be available to guide and provide technical assistance to the intern. Dr. Kane is a CDC assigned MCH Epidemiologist whose role is to promote and improve the health and well-being of women, children, and families by building epidemiology and data capacity at the state level to effectively use information for public health action. She has over 15 years of experience in public health at the local and state level. In addition, she has over 5 years of experience in database management, survey development, data analysis and interpretation. She and the SSDI coordinator worked closely to conduct the 2005 Data Capacity Assessment. The results of the 2005 assessment were used in part to develop the FFY 2007-2011 SSDI grant proposal.

Lucia Dhooge, MBA, RN, will be the intern's secondary supervisor. Ms. Dhooge is a life-long Iowa resident and has worked in the Bureau of Family Health since 2000. As the SSDI coordinator, she has been instrumental in promoting interbureau collaboration and communication. She is knowledgeable about the numerous IDPH data systems and their histories. As a result of her SSDI guidance, Iowa's MCH data workforce has demonstrated increased capacity to meet data system development, maintenance, and integration needs.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

The internship start date is negotiable. A period of 12-14 weeks would allow sufficient time for the intern to complete the project.

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Yes, Bureau of Family Health staff members are able to assist the intern in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship. There are a number of housing options available in Des Moines, including campus dorms and nearby apartments. In addition, several BFH staff members rent rooms to students; one staff member's daughter specifically works to secure short-term housing for visiting colleagues and professionals.

The Lucas State Office Building is accessible by both city and regional buses.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

Name: Debra Kane

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Des Moines, IA 50319

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Maine

Department/Agency: DHHS/CDC

Program: Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program

Location of Internship Site: Augusta with visits to Auburn and Bath

Title of Internship Position: Graduate Internship

Skill Area: Data Analysis and Monitoring Needs Assessment Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Maine WIC Nutrition Program is a health and nutrition program that provides healthy food, nutrition and health education, breastfeeding education and support, and referrals to approximately 24,000 participants each month. Services are provided by contract agencies in all Maine counties at over 100 permanent offices and outreach clinic sites. Eligibility for the program is based upon income guidelines (185% of federal poverty guidelines) as well as identification of a health or nutrition risk condition. Participants are provided checks for healthy foods that may be redeemed at 285 stores across the state. For the past year, Maine WIC has provided Breastfeeding Peer Counselor services at two contract agencies. These Peer Counselors provide education and support to pregnant women, helping them make an educated feeding decision, and support to breastfeeding women to assist them with problems or issues with breastfeeding.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Purpose: Since Peer Counseling is new to Maine WIC, this proposed project would evaluate efforts that have been done since the inception of the program.

Goal: The goals of this project are to help Maine WIC: (1) evaluate how peer counseling is received by participants and WIC agencies, (2) examine the impact of the peer counseling program on breastfeeding duration and breast pump rental rates, and (3) make recommendations for future Peer Counselor projects in other Maine local agencies.

Project Objectives:

1. Analyze and present results on survey data collected from over 1300 women who received peer counseling on their perceptions and satisfaction with the program.
2. Analyze and present results on survey data from peer counselors (n=5) to gauge their perceptions and satisfaction with their role.
3. Interview WIC staff to assess their satisfaction with the peer counselors in their agencies.
4. Determine whether participation in the peer counseling program is associated with breastfeeding initiation and duration using WIC program data,.
5. Examine whether breast pump rental rates have decreased as a result of the implementation of the peer counseling program using WIC program data.
6. Produce summary report of findings and recommendations.

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

During the internship, participants will conduct analyses on:

- WIC participation data from the WIC Program system
- Survey data from participants, peer counselors and WIC staff
- Breastfeeding data from the WIC Program system
- Breast pump rental data from State WIC Agency files

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Participants will be expected to have completed at least one course in biostatistics and one course in epidemiology. They will need to have used or be willing to learn how to use SAS statistical software. The intern will also need skills in presenting summary data in a user-friendly format, using Microsoft Office Applications. The intern should be comfortable with analyzing reports and in speaking with participants to secure data.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary Supervisor: Erika Lichter, ScD, Maternal and Child Health Epidemiologist, Division of Family Health, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; Experience in research methods and public health surveillance; knowledge of epidemiology and statistics, including SAS programming

Secondary Supervisors: Nora Bowne, MPA/HA, Director, WIC Program, and Karen Gallagher, RD, Nutrition Coordinator, Division of Family Health, Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; Content area knowledge of the WIC program and breastfeeding, and experience analyzing WIC program databases.

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

May or June 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

General assistance can be provided in located housing. Apartment rentals are available in the area. Since travel between Augusta, Bath and Auburn Maine is required, it would be necessary for the Intern to have transportation available.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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**MCH Information Resource Center
Graduate Student Internship Program**

**Health Agency Internship Proposal
Summer 2007**

State: Virginia (B)

Department/Agency: Department of Health

Program: Virginia Newborn Screening Services, Division of Child and Adolescent Health

Location of Internship Site: Richmond, Virginia

Title of Internship Position: Evaluation Coordinator

Skill Area: ___ Data Analysis and Monitoring ___ Needs Assessment X Program Evaluation

Please answer the following questions, using attached sheets if necessary.

1. Please give a summary of the program, project, or agency that will house the internship project.

The Division of Child and Adolescent Health (DCAH) is part of the Office of Family Health Services, the Title V recipient for Virginia. DCAH houses the program for children with special health care needs, as well as early childhood health, school age and adolescent health, and pediatric screening. The latter includes Virginia Newborn Screening Services (VNSS) which provides short-term follow up and referral to long-term treatment and care coordination to newborns (and older children) diagnosed with conditions identified through newborn dried blood spot screening. VNSS is a collaborative effort in Virginia, working closely with the Department of General Services' Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (the state lab).

In March 2006, VNSS expanded the scope of screening services to be consistent with the core panel of conditions as recommended by the American College of Medical Genetics' *Newborn Screening: Toward a Uniform Screening Panel and System*. This expansion included procedures for initiating referral of all diagnosed newborns to Care Connection for Children (CCC) the program of care coordination for children with special health care needs. Older children previously diagnosed with conditions otherwise identified by newborn screening have also been referred to CCC. The CCC centers work closely with contracted metabolic and genetic treatment centers in the ongoing medical management of these children.

2. In detail, please describe your proposed internship, including a) purpose, b) goals, and c) objectives.

Since the expansion of VNSS, we have diagnosed 12 newborns with conditions that, prior to March 1, 2006, would have gone undetected by dried blood spot screening. The purpose of this internship is to perform an assessment of the anticipated fiscal impact of the early diagnosis that expanded newborn screening affords.

Goal 1) Describe the projected costs to Virginia associated with long-term treatment of individuals *diagnosed with selected heritable disorders after the newborn period*.

Objective: Identify the typical clinical course/outcomes associated with these heritable disorders

- Conduct literature review
- Interview contracted consultant physicians
- Create a model of expected service utilization

Objective: Identify the projected costs associated with this model of service utilization

- Conduct literature review
- Create a financial model using Medicaid rates and Title V program expenses

Goal 2) Describe the projected costs to Virginia associated with long-term treatment of individuals *diagnosed with selected heritable disorders through VNSS*.

Objective: Identify the projected clinical course/outcomes associated with these heritable disorders when diagnosed in the newborn period.

- Conduct literature review
- Interview contracted consultant physicians
- Create a model of expected service utilization

Objective: Identify the projected costs associated with this model of service utilization

- Conduct literature review
- Create a financial model using Medicaid rates and Title V program expenses

Goal 3) Describe the projected cost difference associated with early diagnosis of selected heritable disorders through VNSS.

- Perform a comparative analysis of the financial models developed under Goals 1 and 2
- Discuss the potential cost-benefit
- Discuss the long-term implications for the VNSS program and Title V

3. What data or analytic tasks and activities will be involved in this project?

- A comprehensive review and synthesis of the literature regarding the clinical course/outcomes associated with selected heritable disorders, and the attendant costs
- Aggregate analysis of reimbursement for projected services, using the Medicaid fee schedule and known costs to the Title V program
- Creation of utilization and financial models, and comparison (cost-benefit analysis)

4. What data or analytic skills does the internship require? (Include software applications and statistical/analytical competencies).

Qualitative analytic skills will be required to evaluate the literature and describe projected utilization of services and costs. Interpretation of clinical information in the literature will be necessary.

Quantitative analytic skills will be required to apply the projected utilization to established fee schedules, and to extrapolate actual expenses from financial reports.

Software should be limited to Excel, with the possible use of SPSS if the analysis warrants advanced statistical application.

5. Who will supervise the student and be available for guidance and technical assistance? Please provide the name, position, department, and information related to specific data and/or analytic background for both a primary and a secondary supervisor.

Primary project oversight: Joanne S. Boise, MSPH -- Division Director, Child and Adolescent Health

Secondary supervisor: Derek Chapman, PhD -- MCH Epidemiologist, Office of Family Health Services

6. When is the most suitable time to begin the internship?

Summer (May/June) 2007

7. Are you able to assist the student in locating and securing housing during the period of the internship? If yes, what type of housing is available (e.g., campus dorms, nearby apartments, etc.)? Is the work site accessible via public transportation?

Available housing information (apartment sublets, roommates wanted, etc) is generally available through colleges in the Richmond metro area.

8. Who will be the contact person for logistics and other communications regarding this internship proposal?

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Division Director, Child and Adolescent Health

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