# PITTSBURGH SUMMER INSTITUTE (PSI) SUMMER 2025 PROJECTS

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## **REACH ArcGIS StoryMap Project**



### **Pittsburgh Summer Institute (PSI)**





Preceptor Name	Samantha Scott	Phone			
Bureau	Health Department	Program	Data Reporting and Disease Control		
Practicum Location	542 4th Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15219				

**Project Summary** [Enter summary of project. This may include information about the target population, nature and scope of work, overall project goals, and work environment.]

Do you have an available workspace? X YES \_\_NO | Do you have an available computer?

This project will involve work on the CDC-funded Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) grant which aims to improve health, prevent chronic diseases, and reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic populations with the highest risk, or burden, of chronic disease. A coalition of 12 community-based partners was developed to increase access to healthy foods, physical activities, vaccines, and breastfeeding support. The goal of this project is to assist with the evaluation component of ongoing grant activities, including data collection from community partners, data analysis, and creating a publicly available ArcGIS StoryMap evaluation deliverable. The story map will be used beyond the scope of the student's project to track evaluation progress annually. Handson instruction in ArcGIS Pro will be provided.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables** [List the primary duties necessary to complete the project and any expected deliverables, such as a database, analysis report, presentation, educational materials, etc.)

#### PRIMARY DELIVERABLES AND ACTIVITIES:

- REACH Coalition Database- data will be compiled from partner reports to create a comprehensive dataset of REACH coalition activity success and ongoing analysis
- Evaluation Story Map- Evaluation data will be used to create a story map to visualize and the progress and accomplishments of the coalition

#### SECONDARY DELIVERABLES AND ACTIVITIES:

- Opportunity to shadow coalition partners to generate success stories shared with the CDC
- Update or create original content for public awareness and engagement with REACH activities
- Present at partner meetings and/or engage with other programs within the health department

**Specific Qualifications** [List any specific skills or resources needed to complete the project, such as access to a vehicle or ability to use specific software. You may also list specific coursework that you would prefer the student to have completed prior to starting the internship].

- Must be able to commute to the office, most of the work is not remote
- Basic knowledge of excel and data entry
- GIS experience preferred but not necessary

### **Vector Control Project**



### **Pittsburgh Summer Institute (PSI)**

2025 Project Request Form



Preceptor Name	J. Nicholas Baldauf	Phone	412-350-3893	
Bureau	Housing & Community Environ.	Program	Vector Control	
Practicum Location Housing & Community Environment Office (3190 Sassafras Way, Strip District, 15201)				
Do you have an available workspace? X YESNO Do you have an available computer? X YESNO				

**Project Summary** [Enter summary of project. This may include information about the target population, nature and scope of work, overall project goals, and work environment.]

#### \*THE VECTOR CONTROL PROGRAM WILL TAKE TWO STUDENTS FOR THIS PROJECT.\*

This practicum opportunity is with ACHD's Mosquito-borne Disease Control Program. The majority of the experience will be spent in the field trapping adult mosquitoes in Allegheny County to be tested for arboviruses such as West Nile Virus. For more information about mosquito surveillance in Allegheny County and Pennsylvania, visit www.depgis.state.pa.us/WNV/index.html.

The interns must be available to work from May 5<sup>th</sup> – Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, on Monday through Thursday for approximately 25-30 hours per week. There is a requirement for the interns to work until Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> therefore flexibility will be given around class schedule once the Fall Semester begins. **A personal vehicle for field work and a valid driver's license are a requirement (no exceptions)**. The Pittsburgh Summer Institute is sponsoring 300 hours for this practicum. After the initial 300 hours worked, the interns will be paid \$15/hour up to an additional 300 hours.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables** [List the primary duties necessary to complete the project and any expected deliverables, such as a database, analysis report, presentation, educational materials, etc.)

#### **PRIMARY ACTIVITIES:**

- Mosquito surveillance (using gravid & BG Sentinel traps to collect adults; larval dipping)
- Sorting and preparing mosquitoes to be shipped for laboratory testing
- Database entry of surveillance results
- Maintaining the equipment used for surveillance

#### POTENTIAL SECONDARY ACTIVITIES:

- Travel to statewide Vector Academy, hosted by PA DEP Vector Control (2 day educational / training event)
- Tick dragging to survey for tick-borne diseases such as Lyme disease
- Public interaction & education (e.g. door-to-door neighborhood outreach, responding to mosquito complaint calls, treating mosquito breeding habitat, neighborhood clean-up activities, educational tabling events, etc.)
- Mosquito controls
- Revising/creating vector control pamphlets & educational materials
- Any other mosquito study that the interns would like to use for graduate thesis/essay material

The interns will learn trapping locations from the preceptor for the first couple weeks, and then trap on their own for the remainder of the summer. The interns will assist the preceptor in meeting a weekly trap minimum as set in the 2025 Mosquito-borne Disease Control Grant provided by the PA Department of Environmental Protection to ACHD.



### **Pittsburgh Summer Institute (PSI)**



2025 Project Request Form

**Specific Qualifications** [List any specific skills or resources needed to complete the project, such as access to a vehicle or ability to use specific software. You may also list specific coursework that you would prefer the student to have completed prior to starting the internship].

A valid driver's license and personal vehicle are mandatory to transport mosquito traps to and from the field. Mileage will be reimbursed at the Pennsylvania Mileage Reimbursement Rate (currently \$0.67/mile) for the entirety of the internship. The interns must be able to lift 50 pounds and be willing to haul traps in their personal vehicles that may get dirty and have an odor from the bait used to lure mosquitoes. The majority of time will be spent in the field therefore the interns must be physically able to conduct such work for the duration of the summer. A personal GPS device would be helpful when driving around to locate trap sites. The interns will be expected to represent the Vector Control Program with professionalism while conducting field work and interacting with the public. When necessary, the interns must be able to provide the public with information regarding the roles and responsibilities of the program.

# **HIV/STI Project**



insurance, and immigration status.

#### Pittsburgh Summer Institute (PSI)





Preceptor Name	Jerone Stoner	Phone	412-578-8059
Bureau	Clinical Services	Program	HIV/STI
Practicum Location 1908 Wylie Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15219			

Do you have an available workspace? \_X\_YES \_\_NO | Do you have an available computer? \_X\_YES \_\_NO | Project Summary [Enter summary of project. This may include information about the target population, nature and

The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) HIV/STI program provides on-site and off-site testing, prevention, and treatment services to the residents of Allegheny County. The ACHD Public Health Clinic is located in Pittsburgh's Hill District neighborhood. The clinic offers free, confidential HIV/STI testing and treatment by walkin or appointment. ACHD Disease Intervention Specialists provide health education, linkage to care, and partner notification services to individuals who are newly diagnosed with one or more reportable STIs (HIV, syphilis, gonorrhea, and chlamydia). Patients who are 13 and older may receive services regardless of parental consent,

In addition to the services provided by the clinic, the HIV/STI program also provides prevention services via community health education and outreach. This includes distributing sexual health literature, condoms, and other resources at health fairs, giving presentations and leading community discussions around sexual health, and managing a county-wide condom distribution program. The HIV/STI program also develops tailored advertising and marketing for the prevention of HIV/STIs. Lastly, the HIV/STI program partners with other healthcare providers and community-based organizations who desire to increase their HIV/STI testing, prevention, and treatment efforts.

The PSI student will have a cubicle in the office space and a laptop with access to the County server and resources. The specific role of the PSI student is to conduct community outreach, assist with managing the condom distribution program, and support the Health Educator with other on-going projects. The PSI student will work with the Health Educator to package requests for condoms from program partners, track the program's condom usage, and provide suggestions for quality improvement (e.g., new/existing partnerships, workflow, etc.).

**Primary Activities and Deliverables** [List the primary duties necessary to complete the project and any expected deliverables, such as a database, analysis report, presentation, educational materials, etc.)

- 1. Manage condom supply through orders from PA DOH and Global Protect
- 2. Maintain the database of condoms ordered and delivered

scope of work, overall project goals, and work environment.]

- 3. Distribute condoms according to the MOU with ACHD
- 5. Attend health fairs and community events to provide HIV/STI education and distribute prevention resources
- 6. Develop monthly reports on condom usage and distribution
- 7. Provide quality improvement report(s), including suggestions for new partnerships, outreach strategies, etc.

**Specific Qualifications** [List any specific skills or resources needed to complete the project, such as access to a vehicle or ability to use specific software. You may also list specific coursework that you would prefer the student to have completed prior to starting the internship].

- Comfortable speaking to and engaging with the public in community settings
- 2. Ability to professionally represent ACHD during interactions with community partners
- 3. Comfortable discussing HIV/STIs transmission and prevention (e.g., condom use). Training will be provided.
- 4. Ability to enter data into a database and maintain accurate information
- Must operate their own vehicle and possess a valid driver's license and insurance (Travel will be reimbursed).

# **Recovery Housing Education Project**



### **Pittsburgh Summer Institute (PSI)**





Preceptor Name	Katie Wooten, MPH	Phone		412-208-0654		
Bureau	Food, Housing, and Public Policy	Program		Overdose Prevention		
Practicum Location	425 First Avenue (Hartley-Rose Building)					
Do you have an available workspace? _X_YES		Do you have an	available con	nputer?	YES	_X_NO

**Project Summary** [Enter summary of project. This may include information about the target population, nature and scope of work, overall project goals, and work environment.]

Recovery Housing Education Project (RHEP): The target populations for this project are (1) people with substance use disorder (SUD) and/or opioid use disorder (OUD) who need recovery housing, and (2) organizations and community groups who provide services to people with SUD/OUD.

This project involves:

- (1) researching and evaluating the recovery housing landscape in Allegheny County,
- (2) identifying evidence-based practices for recovery homes that improve health outcomes, and
- (3) developing recovery housing tools for implementation by the ACHD Overdose Prevention Program (OPP).

The intern will work under the direction of the Overdose Prevention Program Manager at the downtown office to complete the project. Some travel outside of downtown will be required.

**Primary Activities and Deliverables** [List the primary duties necessary to complete the project and any expected deliverables, such as a database, analysis report, presentation, educational materials, etc.)

- 1. Develop a summary report describing recovery housing in Allegheny County.
- 2. Develop a fact sheet about Allegheny County recovery housing for public audiences, including people with OUD/SUD and service providers.
- 3. Develop a recovery housing checklist community members can use to evaluate recovery home options.
- 4. Develop a brief that describes recovery home evidence-based practices.

**Specific Qualifications** [List any specific skills or resources needed to complete the project, such as access to a vehicle or ability to use specific software. You may also list specific coursework that you would prefer the student to have completed prior to starting the internship].

- 1. Successful completion of required first year coursework in the MPH in Behavioral and Community Health Sciences program
- 2. Ability to travel to different locations across Allegheny County to learn about recovery housing and/or meet with community leaders/experts
- 3. Sufficient oral and written communication skills
- 4. Experience with material development for public audiences
- 5. Prior experience with community outreach, health promotion, or education a plus