

**2005 SUMMER SERVICE-LEARNING ASSISTANTSHIP
PROGRAM**

**University of Massachusetts Medical School
Office of Community Programs**

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PROGRAM SUMMARY

I. PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Summer Service-Learning Assistantship Program offers first-year medical students the opportunity to work in a variety of community-based health, educational and human service organizations during the summer months. The main goals of the program are to:

- provide unique service-learning experiences for future physicians
- help students understand the connection between an individual's health and a community's health
- enhance students' understanding of community health care problems and needs of underserved populations
- offer employment opportunities for medical students
- provide community based organizations with needed staffing and services

For the University of Massachusetts Medical School, the program establishes and strengthens relationships with community-based health, education and human service organizations that work with underserved populations across the state.

II. STUDENT PLACEMENTS

The Summer 2005 Community Service Assistantship Program proved to be highly successful both in terms of community agencies expressing interest in participating as host community sites, and first year medical students applying to the program. Twelve students participated in the 2005 Summer Program. They were placed in a total of eleven different agencies, including sites in Boston, Lowell, Martha's Vineyard and Brimfield, as well as Worcester. Three times during the course of the six-week experience, students met with the UMMS faculty coordinators to discuss and reflect upon their experiences using a semi-structured discussion format. As a means of enhancing the learning experience, students kept a journal and presented a poster at the conclusion of the summer. In addition, the faculty advisors had at least one conversation with each of the site preceptors about their views on and recommendations for the program.

III. TYPE OF SITE PLACEMENTS

Community-Based Health Centers or Practices	Community Based Organizations	Academic/Education
Family Health Center, Worcester	Central Mass Area Health Education Center	EcoTarium
Lowell Community Health Center	Martha's Vineyard Health Access Project	
Women's Center at Boston Medical Center	Family Advocate Program at Boston Medical Center	
Hahnemann Family Health Center	Health Care For All	
Fenway Community Health Center		
Brimfield Family Health Care		

IV. PROGRAM FUNDING

- UMass Worcester, Office of Community Programs
- UMass Worcester, Office of Medical Education

V. PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

STUDENT	SITE	PROJECT
Leah Burnett	Central Mass Area Health Education Center Worcester, MA	Special Project Assistant
Misha Shahid Dad	Lowell Community Health Center Lowell, MA	Medical Assistant
Lauren Hittner	Family Advocate Program at BMC Boston, MA	Special Project Assistant
Caroline Kaufman	Women's Center at BMC Boston, MA	Special Project Assistant
Andrea Klayman	Hahnemann Family Health Center Worcester, MA	Medical and Project Assistant
Brad Lewis	Fenway Community Health Center Boston, MA	Medical and Project Assistant
Amanda Malgari	Martha's Vineyard Health Access West Tisbury, MA	Medical and Project Assistant
Candice McElroy	Hahnemann Family Health Center Worcester, MA	Medical and Project Assistant
Melissa Mihelidakis	Brimfield Family Health Care Brimfield, MA	Medical Assistant and Patient Educator
Adetokunbo Olotu	Family Health Center Worcester, MA	Medical Assistant
Kathleen Ryan	Health Care for All	Program Assistant
Peter Townsend	EcoTarium Worcester, MA	Provide simple medical support to environmental camp counselors; review camp medical procedures and provide first-aid.