

“OUR TOWN”

INTERN BLOCK MONTH COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Interns should spend a few sessions a week during their block month getting to know the community where their continuity practice is located, using:

- 1) A “Windshield tour”
- 2) A community scavenger hunt
- 3) Research about town statistics
- 4) Visits to community agencies

Below is the information that you should try to obtain:

Resident: _____

Preceptor: _____

Continuity Clinic Site: _____

Town/City: _____

I. “Windshield tour”: Drive/ walk around your practice community and take notes or photos of

• Your office	• Nearest pharmacy
• “Main Street”	• Daycare
• Public school closest to your office	• Parks/Green spaces
• Public housing	• Local stores/groceries
• Library	• Food pantries
• Town or City Hall	• Farmer’s Market
• Church/synagogue/mosque	

II. Scavenger Hunt (online or in person): Collect some of the following

• How is the town governed?	• Brochure/flyer listing free activities for kids or teens
• Bus schedule (if applicable)	
• School committee meeting dates/times	• Info on library activities for kids
• Menus from 2 restaurants: ethnic, family, upscale	• Town Annual Report

III. Research community statistics

• Town/city population	• Largest racial/ ethnic groups
• # of children	• Major languages (other than English)
• Average family income	• Birth rate
• # living in poverty	• Infant mortality rate
• Average home cost	• Sources of public transportation
• # of bars per capita	• High school graduation/dropout rate
• Largest religious groups	

IV. Visit at least three agencies, meeting with a person in charge.

Think about

- a. resources that your patient use (Head start, Early Intervention, WIC) that you want to learn more about
- b. resources of personal interest to you
- c. visiting the local library or a school are great options

V. How do social determinants of health impact your patients? Have you noticed health care disparities among your patients? Do any of the community resources you've learned about help address social determinants of health and disparities?

VI. Prepare a 5- 10-minute presentation for your fellow PL-1s. We'll have an "Our Town" Dinner in December where you will share your presentation. If other interns have clinic in the same community, you are welcome to present together. Since there are so many of you in Worcester this year, it might be good to focus on different community resources.