



Community Health Initiative by University Students

service  
learning  
reflection  
student leadership  
inter-professionalism

Nov 6, 2009

Dear Health Care Professional,

The Community Health Initiative by University Students (CHIUS) is a student-run volunteer program based on a service-learning framework. Located at the Downtown Community Health Centre in the Downtown Eastside (DTES), the CHIUS clinic links health science students with local residents in a partnership designed to promote community-centered learning for students as well as empowerment and improved health outcomes for DTES residents.

CHIUS is currently recruiting professional mentors for the upcoming year. This is a great opportunity to share your experience and expertise with a group of eager health science students in an environment outside of your workplace. We are seeking mentors from within all of the following health care disciplines: Dietetics, Social Work, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Pharmacy and Nursing. We kindly request a minimum time commitment of one four hour shift per month for which an honorarium will be provided.

As a professional student mentor, you would not only play a crucial role in delivering high quality health care to patients but also act as a teacher and role model for our many student volunteers. During any given shift, the level of student clinical involvement may vary from an observatory role to a complete assessment including a follow-up consultation from a mentor and physician. This would depend on the student's discipline and level of training, as well as the comfort level of all parties involved (patient, student, mentor and physician). All mentors are expected to actively engage students from all the health sciences to foster inter-professionalism within CHIUS. This could occur by way of informal discussions regarding various discipline-specific topics, elaboration on the training, skills and role of your discipline or coaching students on effective ways to interact within a health care team.

As part of our current mentor activities, we will be hosting a CHIUS Mentorship Open House at the Downtown Community Health Centre (569 Powell St, Vancouver) on Saturday, November 28th from 12pm - 2pm. Please join us to learn more about CHIUS, tour the clinic, meet some of the volunteer students and physicians and see if you would like to become a part of CHIUS! Lunch will be provided.

To RSVP for the Mentorship Open House, please email [chius.pr@gmail.com](mailto:chius.pr@gmail.com) with your name, discipline and email address.

For more information about CHIUS, please visit our website at [www.chius.ca](http://www.chius.ca). Also, please contact us with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Alli Bunney (UBC Med 2012) & Meghan MacDonald (UBC Med 2011)  
Public Relations for CHIUS  
Email: [chius.pr@gmail.com](mailto:chius.pr@gmail.com)

Marietta Tang (UBC MOT 2010)

Occupational Therapy Student Rep  
Email: [marietta@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:marietta@interchange.ubc.ca)

*c/o Division of Inner City Medicine, Department of Family Practice,  
1081 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 1Y6 <http://www.chius.ca>*