Potential Service Learning/Capstone Experience Opportunity

Organization name: Bellevue Health Clinic

Organization brief description:
The Bellevue Health Clinic is a general practice clinic, which also provides reproductive health services. A goal of the Bellevue Health Clinic is to develop an Affiliated Reproductive Health Center (ARHC) to be open by summer 2018. One step toward this goal would be to obtain Title X funding, which would also permit the use of a sliding fee scale for reproductive services. Title X is the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning and related preventive health services. Title X includes STD testing and treatment, HIV testing, contraception, annual pap smear and breast exams, pregnancy tests, cervical cancer screening, etc. Abortion services are not covered by Title X and are not part of the ARHC to be developed; however, those services are offered within the same building as the Bellevue Health Clinic.

Organization site contact name and email: Chelsea Souder, MPH; arhc.cs@gmail.com

Description of identified needs and project ideas:
- Conduct interviews with Title X clinics in Lincoln and Omaha (6 total) to better understand their functionality and best practices used within the reproductive health clinics. Additional interviews may also be warranted in remaining 10 clinics across the state of Nebraska. Development of a survey instrument will be necessary.
- Obtain Title X funding to form an Affiliated Reproductive Health Center (ARHC)
  - Assist in characterizing the community to be served to determine what structure is most appropriate for the sliding fee scale
  - Identify which sliding fee scale structures of Title X clinics are most effective
  - Identify most appropriate methods for staffing the clinic

Description of possible Service Learning activities:
Service Learning activities may include observing the existing structure within Bellevue Health Clinic, identifying other funding opportunities for the ARHC, participating in trainings related to Title X designation, and participating in the Title X application process. A student may also use an evidence-based curriculum to develop education and outreach to patients in the clinic and the broader community (i.e. community presentations to youth groups or community coalitions). Touring other Title X clinics to understand their structure will also be helpful. If the capstone experience does not focus on interviewing other Title X clinics, the student may be able to contribute to the development of a survey instrument for interviews with those clinics.

Timeframe of proposed activities to begin:
Summer 2016, Fall 2016, Spring 2017

Depending on when the student begins, the organization may be in a different phase of the Title X application process. Although the needs at that time may have changed, there would still be an opportunity to collaborate with the organization.

Benefit of proposed activities to organization:
Support from a student to address this need, would allow staff at Bellevue Health Clinic to focus on other critical steps of meeting this goal.

*Note—An affiliation agreement will be required prior to student placement
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Benefit of proposed activities to the student:
This is an opportunity for a student to fine tune their people, policy/advocacy, communication, methodological and analytical skills.

The opportunity to assist in an application for obtaining Title X funding is a unique learning experience for a public health student, which will also positively impact the capacity of the Bellevue Health Clinic. Since there are only 16 total Title X clinics in Nebraska and none in Bellevue, this opportunity is great for a resume and a good stepping stone for a student interested in the reproductive health field.

Skill sets of students requested, including possible MPH concentration desired:
This project would fit best for MCH, PHA, HPRO, and COPC. Other concentrations may work as well.

Additional Information:
The address of the Bellevue Health Clinic is 1002 W. Mission Avenue, Bellevue, NE 68005. Some hours may be spent off site.

Pending the nature of the project, the student may be expected to complete a background check.

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