



California Department of Public Health Cal EIS Fellows 10-11 and 11-12



Fellow will complete training year October 31, 2011.

Sharon Brummitt, MPH

Sharon completed her MPH at the University of Texas School of Public Health. For her MPH thesis, she completed an epidemiologic study on cryptosporidiosis. She completed her practicum and was later hired as an epidemiologist with Dallas County Health and Human Services where she participated with case investigations of Cryptosporidiosis and West Nile Virus, outbreak investigations, and surveillance for the 2009 H1N1 pandemic. Sharon plans to earn her PhD in epidemiology and would like to become an EIS officer with the CDC.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor - Dr. Poki Stewart Namkung



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Leah Carlon, MPH

Leah is now in her second year of fellowship and has been placed within Solano County Public Health. Before that, she completed her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at USC. During her first fellowship year, she has been working on a wide variety of projects within Solano County including H1N1 emergency response, outbreak investigations, infant mortality analysis, STD tracking and analysis, and intern supervision. She plans to continue working as an Epidemiologist at the local level before obtaining a PhD.

Stipend provided by the Solano County Dept of Public Health. Preceptors - Jill Cook, Dr. Michael Stacey



Abigail Kroch, PhD, MPH

Abigail completed her MPH at UC Berkeley concentrating in Epidemiology. Before that she completed a postdoctoral fellowship at University of California, San Francisco in the cellular and molecular biology. She did her doctoral work in biology and biophysics at Johns Hopkins University. She has worked for the Center for Weight and Health at UC Berkeley, carrying out data collection at California public schools and data analysis for several child nutrition intervention evaluations. She did her MPH thesis comparing nutrition and physical activity behaviors in students of varied acculturation. She plans to work in epidemiology and community health assessment.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptor - Dr. Wendell Brunner



Danny Kwon, MPH

Danny Kwon completed his MPH at the Loma Linda University School of Public Health in Environmental/Occupational Health and Epidemiology. During his field practicum project, Danny worked on an epidemiologic study evaluating the use of Betel quid with Oral Cancer rates in Cambodia through spatial analyses of the exposure and disease. Prior to the start of the Fellowship, Danny worked as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Riverside County Department of Environmental Health. He is very interested in understanding how environmental factors affect health and disease, and would like to pursue a career as an Environmental Epidemiologist at a local or state health department in the state of California.

Stipend provided by the CDPH Environmental Health Investigations Branch. Preceptor - Dr. Daniel Smith



Alexander Marr, MPH

Alex completed his MPH in epidemiology at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. As a participant in Tulane's Masters Internationalist Program, Alex served with the US Peace Corps in Botswana from 2009-2011. His experience in Botswana focused on coordinating and planning HIV and AIDS programs with local organizations in the Kanye Administrative Authority. With his epidemiology background, he was able to strengthen district level data collection and management techniques which allowed the districts to use localized data in order to actively monitor activities and produce strategically targeted annual plans. After Fellowship, Alex is interested in pursuing a PhD in epidemiology and hopefully to work at a city/county-level health department or for the CDC. In the future, Alex would like to use his training and experience in international development and public health projects.

Stipend provided by the Alameda County Department of Public Health. Preceptor - Dr. Jane Martin

Fellow will complete training year October 31, 2011.

Mina Mohammadi, MPH



Mina obtained her MPH from UC Davis with a concentration in General Public Health. During her studies, she worked under the auspices of the Veteran Immigrant and Refugee Trauma Institute of Sacramento on a seed project conducting a mental health needs assessment of Afghan immigrants living in Northern California. Her previous experiences in public health include interning at a county health department, a non-profit organization and a community health clinic. Mina plans to work as a health program epidemiologist in the public or private sector.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor - Dr. Cassius Lockett



Fellow will complete training year November 28, 2011.

Jaspreet Samra, MPH

Jaspreet completed her MPH in Epidemiology & Biostatistics at USC. As part of her practicum, she assisted with research study design and analysis for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. She recently served as an intern with the Children's Hospital Los Angeles, where she managed data and conducted research on psychosocial outcomes among childhood cancer survivors. Jaspreet's goals include advancing her academics in Public Health and being an epidemiologist serving at the state or national level.

Stipend provided by the Public Health & Health Services Block Grant. Preceptor - Dr. Steve Wirtz



Gail Sondermeyer, MPH

Gail completed her MPH from the University of California, Berkeley concentrating in Infectious Diseases and Vaccinology. Her previous experience in public health includes interning with an international medical non-profit in Uganda and working on an HPV and cervical cancer surveillance program with the CDPH STD Control Branch. For her MPH thesis, she analyzed the results of a statewide survey of CA physicians regarding the HPV vaccine. Gail's goals include becoming an EIS officer with the CDC and pursuing a career in infectious disease epidemiology.

Stipend provided by the Office of Statewide Health and Planning Department (OSHDP). Preceptor - Dr. Merry Holliday-Hanson and Dr. Holly Hoegh



Sara Sowko, MPH

Sara completed her MPH in Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases at Yale School of Public Health. During her practicum and thesis project with UCSF Hospital Epidemiology and Infection Control Department, she completed an evaluation of California's mandated Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) screening for high risk patient groups during the first year of implementation. During her Fellowship placement within Contra Costa Public Health, she hopes to work on topics such as disease investigation, disaster preparedness and social disparities in health. Sara's goals include furthering her academic knowledge in Public Health and serving as an Epidemiologist at the local or state level.

Stipend provided by the Contra Costa County Public Health Department. Preceptors - Dr. Erika Jenssen & Dr. Wendel Brunner