Hillary Alycon
Utilizing the NH BRFSS to analyze Work-Related Injury with Payer Source
Organization: NH DHHS; Div. of PHS; Occupational Health Surveillance Program
Mentor: Karla A. Armenti ScD, Principal Investigator Occupational Health
Summary: An individual’s work is a social determinant of health. Sustaining an injury because of work conditions affects an individual’s health and ability to thrive. Work-related injuries in the United States continue to be both under-reported and an economic burden on our society. While the Bureau of Labor Statistics, an employer reported surveillance system, and other occupational health surveillance systems have reported a decade long decline in work-related injuries, one system, the New Hampshire Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, indicates a five year plateau at almost 5% of those respondents over the age of 18, employed for wages, reporting injuries severe enough to seek medical attention in the previous twelve month period. The object of this study is to bring stakeholder awareness to under-reporting of work-related injuries and to utilize existing data collection systems to obtain additional information about injury, including payer source, occupation and industry.

Dhurata Baci
GIS Analysis of HIV Rates in NH
Organization: NH DHHS; Div. of PHS; Bureau of Infectious Diseases
Mentor: Tylor Young, GIS Analyst
Summary: In 2011 the state budget cuts reduced the number of publicly funded STD clinic sites to zero. The main goal is to look at how the closure of clinics has affected the rates of STD. The project is focused on the geographic distribution of 2014 New Hampshire STD data and provider data including morbidity by place of residence, location of diagnosing provider, location of treating provider and distance from patient to diagnosing/treating provider. This will involve many processes like data cleaning, geocoding, data quality analysis and network analysis. The data will then be compared to a social vulnerability dataset to see what, if any, conclusions can be drawn.

Roberta Cross
The Policy and Advocacy for Proper Use of Child Passenger Restraint Systems in Motor Vehicles in New Hampshire
Organization: New Hampshire Public Health Association, Concord, NH
Mentor: Marie Mulroy, NHPHA President & Policy Chair
Summary: Motor vehicle crashes remain a leading cause of death and disability for children. This project will focus on the current child passenger safety laws in the state of New Hampshire as they relate to children under the age of 18. It will result in a report and policy research on how well current policies are working to prevent injuries and death in children caused by factors such as incorrect usage of child passenger safety restraints. The resulting research and report will be used to provide support to any future legislation as well as assist in the development of potential future surveys on child passenger safety.

Stacey Gabriel
NH Transportation & Public Health Performance Metrics and Guidelines
Organization: Rockingham Planning Commission
Mentors: Scott Bogle; Senior Transportation Planner & Eve Fralick, MPH, MS; Project Director
Institute for Health Policy and Practice
Summary: This project will assist the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) in creating recommendations for public health and transportation performance measures. The Federal requirement is that all Metropolitan Planning Organizations need to develop a series of performance metrics for their regional long range transportation plans (25 year time horizon). The Federal Highway Administration requires that these address areas such as safety, security, congestion management, freight movement, environmental impact, project delivery, and a few others. The final recommendation summary document will include national standard transportation measures, which can be used in conjunction with NH public health data.

Sarah Gerekos  
**Enteric Disease Internship: Campylobacter Investigation**  
**Organization:** NH DHHS; Division of Public Health Services, Bureau of Infectious Disease Control  
**Mentor:** Steffany Cavallo, MPH; Infectious Disease Epidemiologist  
**Summary:** This project focuses on campylobacter diagnosis, a new case definition and outbreak investigation in the State of New Hampshire. The objective of this project is to investigate lab practices across the state while investigating the effect a new case definition from the CDC will have on the outbreak investigation and reportable disease surveillance in the State of New Hampshire.

Amy Huelle RD, LD, CDE  
**Diabetes Prevention: Outreach to the Latino Population and Community Health Workers in Manchester, New Hampshire**  
**Organization:** Manchester Health Department  
**Mentor:** Jaime Hoebeke MPH, MCHES; Division Head Chronic Disease Prevention and Neighborhood Health  
**Summary:** This project is designed to provide a Diabetes Prevention workshop for the Latino community, and for the Community Health Workers at the Manchester Health Department. The Latino population was targeted specifically based on results from a survey that indicate they do not feel they have as much access to services as other minority populations. The goal of the project is to provide outreach to serve and educate this population by providing Diabetes Prevention workshops in schools and churches. The goal of this project is not only to provide workshops directly to this population, but also train community health workers on diabetes prevention/disease process so that there will be sustainable education resources for the Latino community in the future.

Elise Jordan  
**Bone Builders’ Senior Osteoporosis Prevention and Reversal Program in Manchester, New Hampshire**  
**Organization:** Southern New Hampshire Services, Manchester, NH  
**Mentor:** Jennifer Sanders, Volunteer Services Director of Southern New Hampshire Services  
**Summary:** Osteoporosis is a major public health concern for nearly 200,000 seniors with low bone mass in New Hampshire. This project is focused on expanding The Bone Builders Program in Manchester, New Hampshire where over 40,000 individuals have been reported to have Osteoporosis. The mission of the Bone Builders program is to use trained volunteers to provide effective, no-cost, outcomes-based exercise program to protect older adults against fractures caused by osteoporosis by increasing muscular strength, balance and bone density. The intended outcome of this project is to create a successful and sustainable Bone Builders program to empower Manchester’s seniors to prevent and reverse osteoporosis.

Michelle Landry  
**Strafford County Community Health Improvement Plan (2016-2019)**  
**Organization:** ONE Voice for Strafford County & Strafford County Regional Public Health Network  
**Mentor:** Melissa Silvey; Director of Public Health and Substance Misuse Prevention,
**Summary:** This project entails developing a set of evidence-based strategies for a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that will serve as an overarching vision for improving community health as well as an action-oriented strategic plan and framework that can be used to leverage resources and engage and mobilize community stakeholders. The CHIP process will employ research methodologies to include focus groups, one-on-one interviews applying appreciative inquiry protocols, and national, state and county data sets that will be used to guide the development of short- and long-term goals, measurable and realistic objectives, and policy, systems and environmental strategies within the socio-ecological framework to address five prioritized areas:

1. Emergency Preparedness
2. Misuse of Alcohol and Drugs (Substance Abuse, Treatment and Recovery)
3. Behavioral Health
4. Stroke and Heart Disease
5. Obesity and Nutrition

**Nevin Lessard**

*Evaluation of Oral Health Prevention Research in Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*

**Organization:** Center for Developmental Disabilities Evaluation & Research; UMASS Medical School

**Mentors:** Alexandra Bonardi, OTR/L, MHA; Christine Clifford, MHP

**Summary:** This project is focused on the oral health of adults who live with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. This population suffers from poor oral health at rates much higher than the general population, and is therefore an ideal target for intervention. The project itself will involve the analysis of data which will be extracted from prior research. The research is all in the prevention field of oral health for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The analysis and evaluation of this data will be paired with interviews with professionals in the oral health field to determine the future best practices for preventing oral health disease in the target population.

**Takondwa Mphepo**

*Identifying model programs as proper funding channels to provide a source of support for health and housing for frail elderly, low income women of Manchester and surrounding communities.*

**Organization:** The Gale Foundation

**Mentor:** Fred Ruszczek, MPH. Gale Foundation Board Member

**Summary:** The Gale Foundation was established about 10 years ago when the Gale Home of Manchester, established in the 1880’s was sold, and funds combined with other money to create the Gale Foundation. The foundation has been funding various existing agencies to meet the health and housing needs of frail elderly, low income women of Manchester and surrounding communities. The existing community agencies however, are not set up to address this population. There is a need for the Gale Foundation to reassess the size of the target population and identifying model programs that address the health and housing needs of low income, elderly women in order to properly channel funding to the target population.

**Andrea Murphy**

*NH School Wellness Policy Evaluation*

**Organization:** NH DHHS, Division of Public Health: Diabetes, Heart Disease, and Obesity Prevention Program.

**Mentor:** Scot Foster, Physical Activity Coordinator

**Summary:** This project is a collaboration between NH Division of Public Health, Department of Education and UNH Cooperative Extension to examine current NH School Wellness Policies. School Wellness Policies allow schools to create health-promoting environments where students have the opportunity to achieve personal, academic, developmental and social success. Using the Alliance For a Healthier Generation Model Wellness Policy as a framework, the project will analyze what NH schools currently have in place for policies, areas of strength, and areas in need of improvement. This analysis will be used as baseline, and allow for development
of formal workshops/trainings for school districts to assist them in developing and maintaining successful school wellness policies.

Lydia M Mutumbi

**HPV vaccination promotion in young men**

**Organization:** University of New Hampshire Health Sciences Department  
**Mentor:** Kathleen Grace-Bishop, MHSA, CHES; Director of Health Education and promotion  
**Summary:** Genital human papillomavirus (HPV) is the most common sexually transmitted infection (STI). There are more than 40 HPV types that can infect the genital areas of males and females. The HPV vaccines protect both males and females against diseases (including cancers) caused by HPV when given in the recommended age groups. HPV vaccines are given in three shots over six months; it is important to get all three doses. The project aims to provide age appropriate educational material to male students at UNH and empower them and eventually have them opt to get the HPV vaccine.

Tracy Powers

**Medical Marijuana Implementation HB 573 (2013), New Hampshire Public Health Association**

**Organization:** NH Public Health Association  
**Mentors:** Marie Mulroy, President NHPHA, & Abby Shockley, President Providers Association, VP NHPHA  
**Summary:** This policy is focusing on the implementation of the House bill that was passed to allow medicinal marijuana in the state of NH. Currently, we are trying to keep the law as it is written and allow no changes until results are made. There are no distilleries yet running. Current 2015 amendments are looking to change the word "and" to "or" in relation to needing BOTH a medical condition AND a matching symptom (target population) to qualify for the medicinal marijuana card. Further policy changes will be addressed as they occur. A white paper will be written on the policy work and bill, and mentee will attend the meetings and hearings, while addressing the pros and cons from the public health perspective and that of the NHPHA.

Matthew Riley

**VaxNH**

**Organization:** NH DHHS; Division of Public Health Services, Immunization Section  
**Mentor:** Donna McKean, Immunization Information System Manager.  
**Summary:** This project builds upon an exhausted effort to roll out VaxNH, a comprehensive state wide immunization information system, which New Hampshire is the only state in the country without one. At this time, the Vaccine Ordering and Management System, VOMS functionality of VaxNH will be rolled out to all providers that purchase vaccines through the state. VOMS will replace current ways of ordering vaccines through the state and mirror similar processes with additional functionalities and tools that will help both providers and the state’s immunization program. This system will continue to grow the accountability of vaccines purchased by our universal state and when the full system is implemented, increase vaccine coverage rates and decrease vaccine-preventable diseases.

Roland K. Wango and Fabrice Julien

**On-boarding of hospitals in NH for the purpose of Meaningful Use (MU) to the NH Public Health Authority:** Jurisdictional research to identify best Meaningful Use onboarding practices and provide recommendations to NH DPHS

**Organization:** NH DHHS; Division of Public Health Services  
**Mentors:** Virginia Martin, NHEDSS Coordinator; David Swenson, AHEDD Project Manager  
**Summary:** Lack of integration and interoperability across public health information systems leads to the inefficient use of resources and poses a burden on providers asked to report the same information on multiple forms of varying formats to various programs. The current systems do not allow easy aggregation of patient’s
information across systems for care coordination, disease surveillance and research at the level of the State and Nationwide. The project targets hospitals ER departments and laboratories with the aim of “Onboarding” them to the Meaningful Use system; research on Meaningful Use systems in other states and document best practices. The intended outcome is to identify areas for improvement in onboarding process; create and document MU best practice strategies; enhancements to MU web site, and help expedite hospital onboarding.

Mariann White  
**Health in All Policies: Integrating state agencies for a shared purpose**  
**Organization:** NH DHHS; Division of Public Health  
**Mentor:** Mary Ann Cooney, MSN, MPH; Associate Commissioner Department of Health and Human Services  
**Summary:** This project is a continuation of previous work done by graduate students. Health in All Policies looks to integrate cross-collaboration between state agencies and policy makers to evaluate health outcomes when creating laws and changes to state agencies. The objective of this project is to secure funding through the Charitable Foundation to create a part time position within the office of the Governor. At the same time, creating training documents, presentations and meetings with agency commissioners or associate commissioners to create buy-in for a HiAP landscape moving forward into the future.