

Want to Be a Part of MaPHSA Executive Board for 2018-2019?

Nominate Yourself or Your Peers to Run for a Position!

(*Must have completed at least ONE Semester in the USC MPH Program)

(*Must be able to serve through May 2019)

Open Positions: President, VP, Secretary, Director of Finance, Director of Social Events, Director of Student Relations, Director of Community Outreach, (2) GSG Senators

April. 2nd-6th: Email your Nominations to maphsa@usc.edu

- **April. 9th-13th:** Election Week! VOTE through the online ballot.
- New MaPHSA E-Board Members will be Announced shortly after.

If you have any questions, email MaPHSA or talk to any of the current MaPHSA E-Board Members!



Ladybugs Drive Volunteer Kit Assembly Day

Saturday, April 14th

9-11am @ SSB

Help assemble supplies from our Ladybugs Drive!



MaPHSA End of The Year Social

Friday, April 27th

Time & Location TBA

Come celebrate the End of the School Year w/ your fellow peers before Finals!

All are Welcome!



MPH Practicum SPOTLIGHT



Name: Jessica Moran

Track: Health Policy

Practicum Site: The Children's Partnership

1. How did you find your Practicum Site?

I feel super lucky because this opportunity kind of fell into my lap. I was lucky enough to meet the president of the organization, Mayra, last spring when I went to Sacramento for Dr. Cousineau's PM547 course. She was speaking on a panel on what was at risk for minority children in the wake of the current presidential administration. Knowing my interests to work in the children's policy space, Dr. Cousineau encouraged me to go and introduce myself to her! We exchanged business cards and I emailed her as soon as I got back to LA and we set up a meeting in her office. (She actually didn't reply to my first email, but I was so inspired by her and so determined to meet her that I followed up with my original email.) At first, I thought our meeting was just going to be an informational interview about her organization and the work she does but after talking to her for an hour, she offered me an internship! It was definitely a right place at the right time kind of situation.

2. What were some Projects you worked on?

The main project that I was brought on to help with is their *Healthy Mind, Healthy Future* research project to assess the effects of hostile immigration policy on children's mental health. This is a multi-faceted research project that included a physician survey, key informant interviews, focus groups and family surveys. In addition to putting together research materials, I provided initial analysis of the results as they came in. The research portion of the project is wrapping up now and the next step will be working with the policy staff to develop policy proposals based on our findings. Eventually, we want to present our policy proposals to California legislators and hopefully find someone to sponsor our proposals to project children.

I was also able to help out with a smaller research project over the summer that involved conducting a "secret shopper" analysis to determine coverage and access issues with Medi-Cal utilizing, Spanish speaking families in Central and Northern California. I was also able to help the communications team develop materials for our social media sites pertaining to our issue areas, which has been really fun!

3. What was the Biggest Takeaway?

My biggest takeaway from this experience has been to always keep an open mind. I made it a point to try to jump in on every meeting, conference call, or project that interested me, just to learn more about different issue areas. Things also move really fast, especially in the health policy world, so sometimes priorities and deadlines can change from week-to-week so it's important to stay diligent on your tasks but also roll with the punches. The real timeline is never going to be the way you intended it - and that's okay! As long as you work hard, network and keep an open mind you should have a great practicum experience.

4. How will this experience help shape your future plans?

This experience has definitely solidified my interest to work in health policy. Ideally, I want to stay in the children's health policy space but am also open to other issue areas! The skills I've learned here and the network I've built will undoubtedly help me in the future.

