



CanMEDS Best Practices Submission Form
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AUTHOR CONTACT INFORMATION

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CATEGORY

- Curriculum** — a design for education around the CanMEDS competencies.
- Teaching Tool** — a submission that will assist the teaching the specific CanMEDS competencies.
- Assessment Tool** — a submission that will assist in the assessment/evaluation of the CanMEDS competencies.

TYPE OF TOOL

- ITER Manual or Module OSCE Rotation specific objectives Workshops Facilitated Discussions
- FITER Group exercise Rotation Portfolios & Logbooks Website **Other:** *Community Health Initiative*

CanMEDS ROLES

- Medical Expert Communicator Collaborator Manager Health Advocate Scholar Professional **General**

TITLE Limit of 100 characters

COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE BY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS (CHIUS) IS SERVICE-LEARNING MODEL FOR STUDENT DRIVEN HEALTH INITIATIVES THAT RESPONDS TO THE NEEDS OF MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES.

AUTHOR(S)

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PRIMARY INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION

Name: University of British Columbia	Web site: www.chius.ubc.ca
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ABSTRACT Limit of 500 words

CHIUS consists of a student-run clinic, an executive, mentors, and collaborations with local community centres, such as, Downtown Eastside Community Health Centre, Health Contact Centre, Carnegie Centre, and Women’s Information and Safe House. Our inter-professional team of over 300 active volunteers, from medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, rehabilitation therapy, social work, dietetics, and health administration work together to provide programs that emphasizes the development of mental, emotional, social and physical well-being of community members and students in a safe and welcoming environment. As the patient’s health advocates, we strive to diminish barriers to health care and establish strong partnerships.

Active evaluation and refinement of our services ensures that we continue to deliver programs that are responsive to the needs of the students, staff and community members. For example, A. Puri et al., using a qualitative approach, identified the social determinants of health of the downtown eastside sex trade workers. Recommendations that came out of this study included more outreach to these women and providing a women-only program. From this came outreach health and safety programs such as, Women’s Health Clinic - Beauty Nights, and Self-Defense lessons.

Following the growth of the population and expansion of the UBC medical school, students at Prince George and Victoria have started Northern- and Island-CHIUS. Saskatchewan medical students started a Students Wellness Initiative Towards Community Health (SWITCH) program. Island-CHIUS is presently doing a needs assessment. Northern-CHIUS is working with the local aboriginal health society and Tribal Council to initiate a community centre/after hours clinic, front line staff for opportunities of collaboration, and faculty for guidance and support.

At the present time, studies are underway to determine if the students’ experiences at CHIUS have altered the way they will practice their profession, their personal development and whether or not they find the experiences helpful.

REFERENCES

- 1) National Center for Service-Learning U.S. (1979). *Service-learning: a guide for college students*. Washington, DC: ACTION/National Center for Service-Learning.
- 2) Canada, M., & Speck, B.W. (2001). *Developing and implementing service-learning programs*. San Francisco: Jossey Bass
- 3) Wilkinson R., & Marmot M. (2003). *Social determinants of health: The solid facts*.
- 4) World Health Organization. Website:<http://www.who.dk/document/e81384.pdf>

Thank you for your submission. We will be contacting you shortly.