INTRODUCTION

- Worked with the Vanderbilt Community Health Improvement Team at Vanderbilt University Medical Center’s (VUMC) Institute for Medicine and Public Health

- This team focuses on improving the health of communities served by VUMC through engagement, outreach, and a focus on specific needs of the community

- As mandated by the 2010 Affordable Care Act, all non-profit hospitals must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan every three years to maintain tax exempt status

- Information to feed this assessment was gathered through collection of primary and secondary data, and systematic reviews of literature documenting health outcomes and needs

OBJECTIVES

- Engage with community leaders with different backgrounds and needs

- Use skills and knowledge obtained from classroom to understand the complex and interdisciplinary components of factors associated with access to care

- Learn and understand how to plan and execute community health assessments

STRUCTURE/DESIGN

- Communities of focus: Davidson, Rutherford, and Williamson Counties

- Community Prioritized Needs/Areas of Interest: Access to Care, Mental Health, Social Determinants of Health, and Wellness

- Using federal, state, and local resources, gathered secondary data and information pertinent to communities of focus

- Conducted systematic reviews of current and past literature documenting primary health concerns and needs in communities of focus

- Moderated and scribed for interviews with leaders and stakeholders in communities of interest

- Input data from interviews into REDCap

OUTCOMES

- Davidson County Major Themes: growth of Nashville and rising costs of living, job availability, workforce development, land development and infrastructure; growing immigrant population; social determinants of health

- Rutherford County Major Themes: affordable housing and homelessness; social determinants of health; wellness and disease prevention

- Williamson County Major Themes: pollution and particulate matter; excessive alcohol consumption; unaffordable housing and high food insecurity

CONCLUSIONS

- This experience allowed me to gather new skills and knowledge

- There were many recurring themes among VUMC’s communities served including affordability and social determinants of health

- This assessment will allow VUMC to better cater to its patients and communities it serves

Determinants of Health

- Social & Economic Factors: 40%
- Health Behaviors: 30%
- Clinical Care: 10%
- Physical Environment: 10%
- Genes & Biology: 10%

Thank you to JW Randolph, Chelsei Granderson, and Elisa Friedman, who provided me invaluable knowledge and information throughout this practicum experience.