



## PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP PLACEMENT

### **Placement Role: Clinic Assistant – Hospital Elder Life Program (HELP)**

**Host Organization:** North Bay Regional Health Centre

**Placement Service Times:** The Hospital Elder Life program operates seven days a week, from 8am to 7pm. Students to interview with host to discuss availability. To be negotiated with host based on the student academic schedule. Weekday, evening and weekend hours may be required.

**Host Description:** The team consists of the an Elder Life Coordinator and friendly, specially trained volunteers who work closely with nursing and allied health professionals on the Units to provide the best care for the patients. The Hospital Elder Life Program is an innovative approach to improving hospital care for older patients aged 70 and over. We know that many older adults, while in hospital, can have difficulty with their memory, thinking, or moving around. Specially trained HELP volunteers work with older adults to keep the mind and body as active as possible. Being in hospital upsets normal routines of mental and physical activity just at the time a person is coping with illness. This disruption can lead to a loss of independence and premature institutionalization. HELP aims to help maintain cognitive, physical and emotional well-being of hospitalized older adults, benefiting the patient and promoting recovery.

**Placement Duties:** The placement student will spend a minimum of 50 hours training under the supervision of the clinic co-ordinator. A variety of therapeutic treatment modalities will be explored in a clinical setting. Students will have an opportunity to meet the diverse needs of patients through a variety of specialized programs as documented below. In most cases, experiences in all of the programs listed below will be required.

- The Mobilization Program provides assistance with walking or gentle exercises.
- The Therapeutic Activities Program provides interesting activities that keep patients mentally stimulated such as conversation, simple word games, trivia, puzzles and reminiscing.
- The Daily Visitor Program assists in providing an intervention to support to identified patients, as well as to assist patients in remaining oriented to their environment.
- The Meal Assist Program assists patients during mealtime by cutting food, opening cartons, providing companionship and encouraging fluids.
- Participation in additional clinical shadowing opportunities (nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy) may be available to students who indicate interest.

**Placement Requirements:** Interest in allied health care recommended but not required. Successful completion of BPHE Special Populations course is required. Valid police check, CPR Level C/FA. For all clinical placements, an up to date immunization record and TB test is required as well as a mask fitting. Detailed information regarding clinical placement requirements is available on the CLP Portal. **Students interested in this placement must submit in hardcopy to the placement office: a resume, cover letter, provide two references and be willing to interview for the limited number of positions available.** A full day orientation at the North Bay Regional Health Centre will be required for successful candidates.

**Number of Students Accommodated within placement:** (minimum 50 hours): Based on need

**Contact person within organization:**

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**Deadline to apply:** September 23<sup>rd</sup>, by 4pm.