Massachusetts Rural Domestic and Sexual Violence Project
Intern

The Massachusetts Rural Domestic and Sexual Violence Project (MRDSVP) is looking for a student intern for the academic school year (or semester) to assist in the planning and implementation of community engagement initiatives that address issues related to preventing intimate partner and sexual violence in rural Massachusetts. The MRDSVP is a federally funded program that partners with community based agencies to provide services to victims of domestic, sexual violence in 84 rural communities in Massachusetts and offers comprehensive violence prevention education and training to providers and the public in order to raise awareness and effectively respond to these issues in these communities.

The Internship available would assist the Project Director and program partners in the planning and implementation of three community based initiatives:

1) New England Rural Domestic and Sexual Violence Forum, a two day event that brings together rural domestic and sexual violence providers, community leaders and abuse survivors from throughout New England to discuss and engage in learning activities regarding best practices in the field of rural domestic and sexual violence. Responsibilities include assisting in logistical and programmatic planning and implementation for this Forum.

2) The Men’s Engagement Initiative designed to engage men and boys in addressing domestic and sexual violence in rural MA and develop meaningful strategies to promote healthy, respectful relationships.

Responsibilities include assisting in organizing approximately one-two community conversations/workshops with adult male leaders and community stakeholders which promote strategies to respond effectively to interpersonal violence in their communities, participate in the planning of the annual White Ribbon Campaign, assist with meeting preparation with community stakeholders, literature reviews, data collection and development of products (e.g. digital stories, handbooks, resource materials etc.)

3) Economic Empowerment Initiative designed to identify and develop strategies to build economic resources for survivors of domestic and sexual violence in rural communities of Massachusetts.

Responsibilities include assist in the development of the Economic Empowerment Taskforce, comprised of community stakeholders and program partners who will provide overall leadership for this initiative and identify program priorities; assist in the development of surveys for rural domestic and sexual violence survivors on their economic needs; conduct relevant literature reviews, assist with meeting preparation, data collection, data cleaning and reports.

Ideal candidates should have strong communication, research and organizational skills and ability to write clearly and concisely. Knowledge/experience in sexual assault and /or domestic violence prevention education and/or social justice education, community organizing preferred.

This internship/practicum will be based at the Western Regional Health Office of the Dept. of Public Health beginning September 2013 for approximately 8hrs. per week (negotiable). Some regional travel may be expected with an opportunity to participate in regional and statewide domestic and sexual violence prevention meetings and events and with other community public health programs.

DPH will provide supervision for internship. Work will be supervised by Amy Waldman who oversees the program for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. This internship/ would be an excellent opportunity for someone interested in health policy and community health education.

To apply, please send a resume and letter of interest to: Amy Waldman, MA Dept. of Public Health, Project Director, Massachusetts Rural Domestic and Sexual Violence Project by Email: Amy.Waldman@state.ma.us or Fax: 413-784-1037.