

## The ACE Team

**Location**: Edmonton, Outreach Team **Position**: 1-2 PT/Casual Positions

Expected Time Commitment: 1-2 weekends (Saturday + Sunday) per month (ie. 2-4 shifts/mon)

Start Date: September 2021 onwards

Description of Practice Setting: The Adherence and Community Engagement (ACE) Team was created by pharmacists in August 2016. It is an Edmonton pharmacist-led outreach team dedicated to connecting and improving the health outcomes of marginalized individuals experiencing health and social inequities. A team comprised of pharmacists, a licensed practical nurse (LPN) and a social worker provide daily medication administration, management of health concerns and connections to social supports. The clients of ACE are primarily Indigenous individuals experiencing poverty, with advanced HIV/AIDs, hepatitis C, mental health concerns, and active substance use disorders. Over half are living with homelessness. These are clients who have fallen through the cracks, experience multiple barriers engaging in care, and who have a quickly deteriorating health status.

**Therapeutic topics**: HIV, Hep C, mental health, substance use disorder, chronic disease management, infectious diseases/wounds, palliative care, smoking cessation.

## **Role of the Pharmacy Student:**

- Paired with a pharmacist or LPN on outreach, weekend shifts 7:30am-3:30pm (8hrs)
- Support clinical activities: medication dosing, care planning, documentation, monitoring
- Learn how to provide social supports to clients (housing, food access)
- Engage with and collaborate with multiple health and social agencies
- Gain an understanding of harm reduction principles, trauma informed care, Maslow's hierarchy of needs, and the social determinants of health.

## **Qualifications and Skills**

- Must be able and comfortable to drive, clean driving record, non-GDL license.
- Student currently enrolled in a recognized undergraduate pharmacy program
- Available to all students in their 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of the pharmacy program
- Currently registered as a student and in good standing with the Alberta College of Pharmacy
- Willingness to learn, study and develop strong clinical skills
- Enthusiasm and an open mind
- Passion for or interest in working with vulnerable, marginalized populations
- Strong communicator with efficient documentation skills
- Professional in their demeanor and communication
- Takes initiative and able to work independently

Preference will be given to students who are self starters, and demonstrate a passion for working with marginalized populations. Driving ability and performance is vital for the position.

Resumes can be emailed to Klaudia Zabrzenski at klaudia.z@mintcommunities.org