About the Organization:
Access Community Health Centers and the University of Wisconsin, Department of Family Medicine have partnered since July 2009 to operate Wingra Family Medical Center. This clinic is a residency training site for medical students as well as students in nursing, social work, pharmacy and psychology. Clinicians include faculty physicians, resident physicians and physician assistants. Residents are doctors who have finished medical school and are training as specialists in Family Medicine.

Project Opportunity 2015

Racial Disparities in Dane County
Dane County repeatedly ranks near the bottom in national studies on the extent of racial disparities in health, education, justice and child welfare systems. Recent reports by the Wisconsin Council on Families and Children and the Annie E. Casey Foundation show that Wisconsin and Dane County, in particular, have some of the worst racial disparities with African Americans in the entire nation.

This project is a Qualitative Data Analysis Project aiming to collect data, assess, examine and identify elements that are currently implemented and successful in achieving health care equity. The question at hand is... what is already happening and working? Specifically, the project’s goal is to examine the patient experience for African American citizens living in Madison/Dane County using the local health care system.

Activities of the project include:
1. Data collection through interviewing African American citizens from Madison/Dane County, preferably those who are established and those who remain outside the medical care system.
2. Data analysis to identify emerging themes regarding the patient experience
3. Compiling, integrating and understanding relevant and available data highlighting disparity in the African American population in Madison and Dane County related to access to care and quality of care.
4. Literature review and collection of evidence of best practice

Student must have the skills and ability to assist and/or conduct personal interviews, collect qualitative data accurately, and take notes/observe for non-verbal cues. Student will assist with compiling, organizing and interpretation of qualitative data. A student with the ability to work and communicate effectively with a diverse range of patients, community members, and health care providers is the ideal candidate for this project experience. The student should also have strong written and verbal skills, be highly organized and self-directed.

November 10, 2014