Introduction:
PCC Community Wellness Center is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) with eleven clinics, serving West Side Chicago and the near west suburbs. PCC strives to improve health outcomes for the medically underserved and to meet the needs of Chicago’s West Side communities through innovative projects, such as PCC’s urban farm and birthing center.
PCC is now looking to employ some of the country’s best future physicians during their bridge year between college and medical school. PCC’s Gap Year Programs are designed to provide participants with a deep understanding of how physicians can support underserved communities and better recognize health barriers. The Gap Year Programs are also designed to help future physicians recognize—and participate in—all the behind-the-scenes work that help clinics to function, from processing referrals to community outreach.
PCC’s Gap Year Programs are unmatched in the breadth of clinical exposure they provide participants. Participants work one-on-one with patients to address housing and insurance concerns, and to help connect them to treatment. Integrated directly into the interdisciplinary care team, participants learn to how to provide whole-person, patient-centered, care. Participants will be at the forefront of integrated care, engaging regularly with primary care providers, behavioral health specialists, and clinical support staff to provide patients with wrap around services. Participants will leave PCC’s Gap Year Programs with cutting edge knowledge of social justice issues, mental illness diagnoses and treatment, and substance use disorders.
Participants will have the opportunity to propose a Capstone Project during their program. PCC values innovation and creativity, and Capstone Projects allow students to take what they’ve learned from the program and propose an idea that PCC could be feasibly implemented to better the health of the community for years to come.

Chemical Dependency Clinic Gap Year Program Description
In this program, participants will further the aim of PCC’s Chemical Dependency Clinic by providing care coordination services in the West Suburban Medical Center ER. Participants will meet with patients with substance use disorders and support discharge planning by connecting patients to PCC’s services, which include an integrated medication assisted treatment program, behavioral health, and support groups. Participants will also work with patients in need of primary care services to connect them to PCC clinics for continuity care. Participants will become familiar with harm reduction approaches to care and integrated treatment, working closely with interdisciplinary teams that include social workers, ER doctors, specialists, and primary care providers. Participants will become familiar with co-occurring disorders, and MAT approaches to care.
Successful candidates will have graduated from a four-year university with intention to matriculate in an MD or DO program after the Gap Year Program’s completion. Candidates should demonstrate interest in substance use disorder treatment, and previous clinical and behavioral health experience is recommended. Submission of MCAT scores and GPA is not required, but greatly appreciated.

Patient Access Gap Year Program Description
In this program, participants will focus on patient access and operations. An ongoing challenge for community health centers and organizations serving the underserved is how to consistently engage patients in their healthcare. Organizations struggle to balance the need of same day access, an appropriate number of scheduled visits, and a manageable patient flow acknowledging a variable no-show rate. In order to address these operational issues, participants will be responsible for a variety of tasks including new patient registration and orientation, patient scheduling, and care coordination with an emphasis on operational challenges of engagement and patient retention.
Successful candidates will have graduated from a four-year university with intention to matriculate in an MD or DO program after the Gap Year Program’s completion. Candidates should demonstrate interest in operational efficiencies and patient engagement. Submission of MCAT scores and GPA is not required, but greatly appreciated.

Candidates should submit their resume and cover letter by April 26, 2019 to: 
Amanda Brooks, Chief Population Health Officer
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