Project REACH (Rural Experts Advancing Community Health)

1. What are some common reasons individuals might want to participate in Project REACH?

* To learn more about health policy
* To gain skills in advocacy and leadership
* To improve skills in policy communication
* To learn how to identify and use local information and data to support a policy proposal
* To be connected with a network of people and organizations doing great work to improve health outcomes in rural Minnesota

1. What will participants get out of this program?

Upon completion of the program, participants will receive a $1,200 stipend and a certificate of completion. Travel costs up to $500 are covered for costs to attend trainings and/or meetings at the state legislature. Participants will also receive program materials, including books and a laptop or iPad. Throughout the program, participants may have opportunities to have their work published or present their work, and may also be able to earn continuing education credits (as applicable). Both the stipend and program materials will be taxable.

1. If selected to participate, what is the time commitment for Project REACH?

Hour long program sessions will take place virtually twice a month at a time/date that work for participants and program staff/leadership. Technical assistance and other opportunities for communication with University mentors and program contacts will be available throughout the year. Work outside of program sessions will take about 5-8 hours a month. Total time commitment is approximately 8-10 hours a month. To accomplish the goals of the program, the full participation of each individual selected is required.

1. If I am affiliated with the University of Minnesota (e.g. employee or student), can I apply for Project REACH?

Yes, those affiliated with the University of Minnesota may apply if participation does not relate to one’s role within the university system. However, preference will be given to applicants not affiliated with the University of Minnesota.

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