



## Durham County ACEs 2025 Practicum

**Note:** Please submit a CV and cover letter to Kelsey White ([whiteke@unc.edu](mailto:whiteke@unc.edu)) to apply. In the cover letter, please include why you are interested in this practicum position, any relevant coursework you've taken, and any previous qualitative and/or evaluation experience.

<b>Name of Organization</b>	Durham County Department of Public Health
<b>Organization Address</b>	400 E Main St Durham, NC 27701
<b>Organization Description (Brief)</b>	Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) partners with our community to advance health equity, protect the environment, and promote health and wellness for all. The Health Education and Community Transformation Division provides a variety of learning opportunities that encourage voluntary adoption of behaviors and supports policies and changes to the environment that promote health and prevent disease and disability.
<b>Name and Title of Preceptor</b>	Primary Preceptor: Jess Bousquette, Adverse Childhood Experiences and Resilience Coordinator  Co-Preceptor: Dr. Deborah Baron, Postdoctoral Fellow, UNC Sheps Center
<b>Preceptor Experience and Education</b> (Provide your professional background and describe any experience working with students). Preceptor qualification requirements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least five years of full-time, professional public health experience; OR</li> <li>- A graduate degree in public health or a related field and at least two years of full-time, professional public health experience.</li> </ul>	<p>Jess Bousquette (MPH) is a Gillings Health Behavior alumna with over a decade of experience working in non-profit and government roles. Since 2020, Jess has served as the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Resilience Coordinator. Among her roles, Jess leads the DCoDPH's Trauma-Informed Organization Initiative. Jess has been a preceptor for several MPH practicum students. Before working at Durham County, Jess worked for nearly a decade in Washington, D.C. on international development and humanitarian policy and funding.</p> <p>Deborah Baron (PhD, MPH) is a trained global public health professional with 25 years' experience working at the intersection of HIV, sexual and reproductive health, resilience and trauma-informed care. Deborah has a PhD in Health Behavior, and is currently a post-doctoral fellow with the UNC Sheps Center, where she is conducting a formative evaluation of the DCoDPH's Trauma-Informed Organization Initiative. Deborah has mentoring and teaching experience with both UNC undergraduate and MPH students, including serving as a Co-Instructor of Record for HBEH 520: Introduction to Global Health, previously serving as the T.A. for HBEH 753: Qualitative Methods for 3 years, and guest lecturing in over 7 Gillings courses. Prior to her PhD studies, Deborah lived in Johannesburg,</p>



	South Africa from 2007-2018, where she managed HIV prevention research studies across Southern and Eastern Africa.
<b>Preceptor contact information</b> (email, phone)	<a href="mailto:jbousquette@dconc.gov">jbousquette@dconc.gov</a> , 919-560-7899  <a href="mailto:dbaron18@live.unc.edu">dbaron18@live.unc.edu</a> , 919-884-8416
<b>Preference for contact</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email Kelsey (whiteke@unc.edu) to Apply <input type="checkbox"/> Phone
<b>Ideal start date</b> (the earliest start date for students is May 13, 2024)	Preferably available to start mid-February to early March 2025.
<b>Ideal end date</b> (students must complete their hours by August 16, 2024)	July 1, 2025 (Exact date to be confirmed as project progresses)
<b>Paid work/Compensation for work</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Range of funding available</b> (hourly or total).	\$4,000 for 200 hours through UNC Hub
<b>Opportunity to handle quantitative data</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Description of the Proposed Practicum</b> (Describe the work experience and/or project: context, health problem, population)	<p>The practicum student will work with the Durham County Department of Public Health (DCoDPH) and Deborah Baron on a formative evaluation of DCoDPH's Trauma-Informed Organization Initiative (TIOI). The TIOI seeks to support Durham County Department of Public Health staff to uphold the principles of trauma-informed care when working with clients, colleagues, community partners and vendors and to build an environment within the Department of Public Health that is trauma-informed.</p> <p>The qualitative formative evaluation will assess the preliminary phase of the TIOI implementation, including: 1) identify current strengths and areas for growth in the initiative, and 2) assess acceptability and readiness for additional policy and procedure changes, and 3) identify priority program components to inform the development of a clinic-based trauma-informed pilot project. The practicum student will work closely with Deborah Baron, and contribute to the data collection, analysis, and reporting of this formative evaluation. Practicum activities are listed below under roles and responsibilities.</p>
<b>Benefit to student</b> (How will this placement be of interest and benefit to a student?)	<p>The student will have the opportunity to work within a local health department on a critical and emerging topic (trauma-informed care) within public health practice. The student will receive training, mentorship, and applied experience in conducting a qualitative evaluation, including conducting qualitative data collection and analysis.</p> <p>Through conducting the desk review, the student will contribute to better understanding evidence-based trauma-informed approaches to public health, which will directly contribute to Durham County's local public health practice.</p>



<b>Roles and Responsibilities of the student</b>	<p>This is a 200 hour opportunity that can be completed between February - June 2025. Exact start/end dates are negotiable.</p> <p>Practicum activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Conduct key informant interviews with DCoDPH staff and partner organization stakeholders.</li><li>• Participate in codebook development and data analysis.</li><li>• Code qualitative transcripts in Dedoose (online software).</li><li>• Conduct desk review and report findings. Desk review scope to include internal documents (e.g., policies, meeting reports, trainings) and external (e.g., publicly available resources on trauma-informed practices from partner organizations).</li><li>• Attend ACEs program meetings and provide updates as needed.</li></ul> <p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Complete mandatory HIPPA training prior to starting the practicum.</li><li>• Must follow all Durham County and Durham County Department of Public Health policies.</li><li>• Complete online training on “How to Implement Trauma-Informed Care: An Introduction”</li></ul>
<b>Skills and Experience Required</b>	<p>Required skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Excellent qualitative interviewing skills (e.g., active listening, probing)</li><li>• Qualitative coding and analytical skills to interpret qualitative data</li><li>• Excellent written and oral communication skills</li><li>• Ability to work well independently and with a team</li><li>• Strong interpersonal and organizational skills</li></ul> <p>Required experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Experience using qualitative methods with community partners</li><li>• Experience working with a diverse group of partners to achieve a common goal</li><li>• Professional and/or lived experience working with communities who have experienced trauma</li></ul> <p>Preferred qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledgeable about trauma-informed care principles and practices</li><li>• Experience working in a clinical care or public health department setting</li><li>• Familiarity with Dedoose qualitative data analysis software (training and software will be provided)</li></ul>
<b>Expected Outputs</b> (Practicum experience must yield at least two student-generated, practical work products (e.g., project plans, grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coded transcripts from qualitative interviews</li><li>• Desk review synthesis report (~10 pages)</li><li>• Stakeholder presentation of key findings from desk review</li></ul>



proposals, training manuals or lesson plans, surveys, memos, videos, podcasts, presentations, spreadsheets, websites, photos with accompanying explanatory text, or other digital artifacts of learning), produced for the practicum site's use and benefit, that demonstrate attainment of five <a href="#">CEPH MPH Foundational Competencies</a> )	
<b>NOTES</b> (Your opportunity to add anything else.)	

*Please return to Kelsey White, Durham County Hub Coordinator  
Email: [whiteke@unc.edu](mailto:whiteke@unc.edu)*

For more information on the MPH Practicum student requirements or preceptor requirements and responsibilities, visit <https://sph.unc.edu/resource-pages/mph-practicum-preceptor-information/>