

Available Service Learning Experiences for 2022-23 (DMNS; Halifax Campus)

Please note that all experiences were developed with flexibility in mind so that we can complete experiences virtually as needed but the default this year will be in person engagement.

DRAFT = partnership confirmed but the project details are in development.

COMPLETE = partnership and project details are both confirmed.

Service Learning (SL) Experience Profiles 2022-23

1. 211 Nova Scotia - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** 211 Nova Scotia provides access to information, advocates for those in need, and encourages investment in social programs and services. They seek to ignite hope and foster human connection.
- **Vision:** A service that is known, accessible, relevant and a credible voice for social change. A connected community where everyone's needs are met.
- 211 Nova Scotia offers navigational assistance connecting Nova Scotians experiencing unmet social or human needs with government, community groups, and non-profit programs and services that can help. We offer support for health and mental health, financial aid, housing/shelter, transportation, food, and more. The need for programs and services in the province has never been greater. From 2020-2021 we've had a 34% increase in calls from Nova Scotians, demonstrating the urgent need for support. 211 is available to everyone in the province at no cost, 365 days a year, 24/7 in over 240 languages.
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1 solo project by 1 student or 1 group project for 2-3 students.
- **SL experience description:** 211 Nova Scotia recognizes that accessing programs and services in relation to health can be complex. In 2021, 23% of 211 callers were in need of food, 20% of callers were seeking healthcare support, and 8% of callers sought out mental health programs and services. 211 has a wealth of data and statistics that a student could easily use to develop health advocacy-focused tools and resources (e.g., pamphlets, infographics, posters, and more). Students will have a chance to spend time at the 211 centre and shadow calls to learn more about the issues faced by Nova Scotians first-hand, as well as the opportunity to talk with our support staff and ask questions about 211. 211 Nova Scotia has a diverse team coming from various backgrounds who are more than happy to support oncoming students.
- **Projects may include (but are not limited to):**
 - Developing communications and/or promotional materials targeted at healthcare professionals (such as doctor's offices, hospital lobbies, etc.) to enhance to utilization of 211 as a social prescribing referral source.



→ Data reports and trends analysis on a topic of the student's choice that could focus on a priority community and determine some health equity approaches that address key structural and social determinants of health.

→ Creating videos that showcase a specific need (or multiple needs) of Nova Scotians and including testimonials from clients as well as service providers.

→ Developing a resource for community-based supports in a specific geographical area of the province.

- URL: <https://ns.211.ca/>
- Special requirements: None
- Legal Partnership Agreement signed on: Pending renewal for 2022

2. Northwood - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** As a leader in continuing care, we build meaningful relationships with our clients every day and make a positive difference in the communities we serve.
- **Vision:** People living life to the fullest, flourishing in a community of belonging, dignity and choice.

Position Description #1: Community Resource Mapping

Number of Service Learning Positions Available: 2

Description of Service Learning Project: Students will work with Northwood staff working across various positions supporting older adults living in community. Students will collaborate with staff on a resource-mapping project, helping to create a list of community resources available to support seniors in different community across Nova Scotia. Students will learn about Northwood's current community assessment tool, the ACT (Age Care Technologies Survey). This survey is a tool that assesses concerns and priorities of older adults across the healthy aging domains of Wellness, Independence, Social, and Health. Students will use survey domains as a framework to build community resource lists. These lists would be used across the organization to refer clients to programs and organization who can support them across domains of healthy aging. Students will have the opportunity to sit in on ACT surveys, talk to seniors about their community experiences, and talk to other community-focused organizations to understand current offerings. Students will also have the opportunity to talk to staff and learn about community programs and initiatives currently offered by Northwood. This will be a large project, not likely completed by one person alone. Students can choose to focus in on an area of interest (food security, financial assistance, mental health, etc.) to contribute towards the larger goal.

Position Description #2: Long Term Care Resident Resource Map

Number of Service Learning Positions Available: 1-2

Description of Service Learning Project 2:

Description of Service Learning Project: The student(s) will get to learn about other community organizations and resources throughout the experience. Student(s) could attend internal/community meetings to learn more about continuing care aspects of the organization, the variety of clients, and broader systems level issues. The Client Relations Coordinator is open to co-creating the project based on a balance between student interests, and skills, and the needs of the organization. One project identified that would support the clients living in long term care at Northwood is a resource map. Similar to the community mapping for seniors living in community, this mapping would support clients in long term care to help them navigate and understand the services available at Northwood, when they can be accessed and how to access them and to know when external resources need to be sought.

- URL: <https://nwood.ns.ca/>
- Special requirements: None
- Legal Partnership Agreement signed on: August 16, 2016

3. Dalhousie School of Social Work Community Clinic – DRAFT (projects in development)

- Mission & Vision

The purpose of the clinic is threefold:

- 1) To provide a low barrier case management/counselling service to individuals in the HRM;
- 2) To host SW students for practice experience;
- 3) To create an interprofessional learning environment with applicable professions and offer our clients those services from a social justice perspective.

The Clinic seeks to offer undergraduate students an opportunity to learn frontline practice from a social justice perspective and to ultimately improve the life circumstances of clients and enhance existing front line services by supporting their work and collaborating on complex cases.

- URL: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/health/socialwork/programs/Dalhousie-School-of-Social-Work-Community-Clinic.html>
- Number of SL student positions available: 1
- SL experience description: The clinic is open to co-creating the project based on a balance between student interests, and skills, and the needs of the clinic.
- Special requirements: None.
- Legal Partnership Agreement signed on: N/A

4. The Schizophrenia Society of Nova Scotia – DRAFT (projects in development and a name change coming!)

- Mission and Vision: We provide programs, services, and education to support and empower individuals and families affected by mental illness to achieve their goals and



live their best lives. Vision: We envision an inclusive society where all people affected by mental illness are embraced, connected and supported to reach their full potential.

Values and Guiding Principles

- We believe people have a reason to hope
 - We believe people are not defined by their illness
 - We believe family and friends play an essential role in a person's recovery
 - We believe that people's access to service should not be impeded by financial, cultural or other discriminatory barriers
 - We believe that we can reduce stigma through communication and education
 - We believe that no one is alone and success is achieved collaboratively
 - We believe that recovery is possible and uniquely defined by each individual
- URL: <https://www.ssns.ca/>
 - Number of SL student positions available: 1-2
 - SL experience description: The student(s) will get to learn about other community organizations and resources, such as the Self-Help Connection. Student(s) will also be welcome to attend staff and community meetings, depending upon Public Health measures related to COVID-19, to learn more about the organization, clients, and the broader systems level issues.
 - Projects are in development but project ideas are welcome based upon student interest as well.
 - Special requirements: None.
 - Legal Partnership Agreement signed on: August 10, 2017

5. Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA) – COMPLETE

- **Mission:** ILA's mission is to support African Canadian learners' success in science, technology, engineering and math by promoting the skills and attitudes necessary for academic achievement, career and life goals
- **Vision:** ILA's vision is to be a leader in providing high-quality science, technology, engineering and math after-school opportunities for African Canadian learners to strengthen Canada's capacity for innovation.
- **Number of Service Learning student positions available:** 1-2 students
- **Service Learning experience description:** ILA is a university-community initiative that seeks to improve the academic performance of African-Canadians in STEM subjects and the representation of African Canadians in STEM professions by providing opportunities for young learners to engage in activities that strengthen their science and math aptitude. ILA keeps looking for new ways to engage African Canadian

learners in medical careers and as such, we seek medical students that are passionate and interested in the issues affecting the education of African Canadian learners. With this experience, you will become a contributor to tackling the issues affecting African Canadian education. You will help develop one medicine related activity that will be used to increase African Canadian learners' interest in medicine. The activity will be tailored to a grade between grades 6 – 9. We will need you to have the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in the medical program
- Aptitude in at least two STEM subjects/field of study: Medical Sciences, Health Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics etc.
- Strong research skills.
- Ability to relay complicated STEM information in simple terms suited to the Gr. 6-9 level.
- Self-motivated, independent, able to set objectives and meet deadlines.
- Knowledge of 'African' STEM inventors/innovators an asset.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.

Previous hands-on activities created by the past service-learning students with ILA has been instrumental in teaching African Nova Scotian learners in junior high schools about medicine. You have the flexibility to create a project that is of interest to you for African Descent Youths. In the past, a service-learning student has developed a bouldering/climbing event for our youths.

- URL: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/imhotep.html>
- **Special requirements:** An interest in the issues affecting the education of African Canadian learners
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** Not applicable.

6. Health Association of African Canadians (HAAC) - COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** The Health Association of African Canadians (HAAC) is a non-profit health association that was established in 2000. It is the only, solely health focused, African Canadian Organization in the province. From its establishment, HAAC has been fully engaged in Nova Scotia's health system. Among its membership are clinicians, policy influencers, community leaders and engaged stakeholders of all ages and backgrounds. HAAC's mandate is to promote and improve the health of African Canadians in Nova Scotia through education, research, health-care delivery and policy reform. HAAC's vision is to have thriving, healthy African Canadian Communities in Nova Scotia.
- URL: <http://haac.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available: 1**



- **SL experience description:** During this period of time HAAC is engaged in numerous projects, advocacy efforts, research and initiative collaborations. The student will have an opportunity to find areas of interest and be invited to join work in progress. This will include some meetings and project events. The student will be invited to be involved in writing reports and have the opportunity to strengthen community engagement during their time with HAAC.
- **Special requirements:** Preference will be given to a student who identifies as a Person of African Ancestry (African, Caribbean or Black).
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** September 29th, 2019

7. Regional Residential Services Society - COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** Regional Residential Services Society offers residential choices that support the individual dreams and goals of adults with intellectual disabilities. RRSS is a not-for-profit society, registered under the Societies Act of the Province of Nova Scotia. It has supported adults with intellectual disabilities in a variety of residential settings since 1979. RRSS is based in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM). It presently supports approximately 164 persons and employs over 450 staff.
- **URL:** <http://rrss.ns.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2
- **SL experience description:** RRSS had the pleasure of working with Service-Learning Students this past year who created a three-part reflective module for medical students in the format of an electronic workbook. This workbook is titled “Understanding Ableism” and serves as a resource for medical students to understand the history of disability in North America, understand their role in current disability advocacy through medicine and to reflect on their own assumptions and biases. The students worked with members of the RRSS community to ensure that first person experiences were reflected in the content of the workbook. It would be of great benefit to RRSS to have the contents of the workbook transformed into a video that can be utilized for training. Students will have an opportunity to meet with members of our Resident Council as well as other members of the RRSS community in order to collaborate on creating this video project.
- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** September 11, 2017

8. Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS) – COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** The vision of ISANS is a community where all can belong and grow. ISANS is a leading community organization that welcomes immigrants to Nova

Scotia. Working in partnership, we offer services & create opportunities to help immigrants to participate fully in Canadian life.

- ISANS recognizes the key role of immigrants in Canadian society. We work with newcomers to help them build a future in Canada. We provide a wide range of services to immigrants, from refugee resettlement to professional programs, from family counselling to English in the Workplace. ISANS was created by the merger of Metropolitan Immigrant Settlement Association (MISA) and Halifax Immigrant Learning Centre (HILC) – together we have a combined experience of over fifty years serving immigrants in Nova Scotia. We are the largest immigrant-serving agency in Atlantic Canada with over 270 staff members from more than 64 countries. We offer services in an inclusive manner, respectful of, and sensitive to, diversity. We make partnership, professionalism and accountability a priority in every aspect of our work.
- **URL:** <https://www.isans.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 3
- **SL experience description:** Students will be provided with information about ISANS’s clients, who are refugees, brief tour and orientation to ISANS, approx. 2 hours; student will have chance to talk to staff, ask questions about our programs and services. Students are welcomed to attend numerous orientation sessions for clients (Introduction to Nova Scotia, Health Care System orientation session, Family Support orientation session etc.)
 - Projects might include the following but ISANS is also open to working with the student to create an experience that aligns with their passion and interests:
 - “Welcome to Halifax” – students will be introduced to newly arrived family and organize/arrange activity that will serve as an introduction to Halifax, for example mini field trip, dinner at restaurant, winter activities, ferry to Dartmouth, museums, libraries etc. It will help students to experience barriers that newcomers face with simple daily activities.
 - “Welcome to Halifax” video project – create short videos that introduce Halifax amenities like parks, museums, playgrounds, Halifax Waterfront. Student can choose one location so we can build small video library for new arrived clients; two years ago, students created video introduction to Point Pleasant Park.
 - Working with the Disabilities support coordinator, the students could have conversations with newcomers who have complex health care needs and identify a barrier that they could draw attention to an advocate for changes (whether this be though political advocacy, media campaigns, health policy briefs, etc.); Student could also develop a resource for community-based supports for newcomers with disabilities.



- Administrative project, for example:
 - create resource booklet for newcomers on different topics, for example: housing, how to find apartment in NS, moving info, address change etc.;
 - create resource booklet “My Neighbourhood” or ethnic food stores and restaurants in area.
- **Special requirements:** An interest in working with Government assisted refugees and newcomers.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** March 21st, 2018

9. Mainline Needle Exchange - COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** Mainline, a project of the Mi'Kmaq Native Friendship Centre is a health promotion project dedicated to supporting people through harm reduction programs. Harm reduction treats drug use as a health concern rather than a criminal or moral issue. We are committed to supporting people to focus on their health and well-being through: raising awareness, education and empowerment.
- **URL:** <https://mainlineneedleexchange.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2
- **SL experience description:** Mainline is leading an in-reach project in which we are working to address needs and harms experienced by people who use drugs when they go to hospital. As part of this work, Peer staff and Peer navigators go into hospitals and connect with people who use substances (PWUS) to provide them with support, safer use supplies, and referrals. Another aspect of the project involves developing relationships with staff in the hospital and working to provide resources and mechanisms for health care providers to enhance the care they provide to people who use drugs, to support patients who use drugs to stay and complete their treatment, and deliver care in a way that is consistent with harm reduction. A service learning student from Dal Med would be an asset to this project in a) working to build connections with health care providers, and b) developing resources for providers. Resources developed could include simple point-of-care tools, evidence summaries, and background research to support policy development efforts already underway at the Halifax Infirmary in partnership with Dr. Tommy Brothers. Resources should emphasize the philosophy and evidence behind harm reduction, and evidence-based ways to integrate harm reduction approaches in hospital policies and practices. Service learning students would also have the opportunity to shadow staff at Mainline’s fixed site and to accompany Peer staff and Peer Navigators on foot patrol outreach which could include in-reach to clients in hospital.
- **Special requirements:** Desire to advocate for and collaborate with people from different walks of life.



- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** May 13th, 2016

10. **Direction 180 (SUNAR) - COMPLETE**

- **Mission and Vision:** To help opioid dependent populations reach their full potential, including physical, spiritual, social, emotional, and mental well-being. About the organization: Direction 180 is a community-based opioid treatment program located in the North End of Halifax, Nova Scotia. This non-profit organization has been running since 2001 as a program of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Center. Direction 180 employs a low-threshold harm reduction treatment model, offering supportive treatment regardless of whether a client discontinues the use of opioids and/or other drugs. Harm-reduction treatment models are based on principles aiming to reduce the harmful consequences associated with illicit substance use, such as: intravenous drug use, needle/equipment sharing, spread of blood-borne pathogens, criminal involvement, and overdose. Direction 180 supports the overall care of clients in an effort to improve social determinants of health. This is achieved through the provision of opioid agonist treatment, medical monitoring, counseling, education, and community advocacy.
- **URL:**
<https://direction180.ca>; <https://sunar.ca>; <https://www.facebook.com/SUNatlanticregion>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2 (Group Project)
- **SL experience description:** The student(s) will primarily be working with the Substance User Network of the Atlantic Region (SUNAR) and its leadership team. SUNAR hosts twice-monthly meetings with their membership which includes 8 sites across the Atlantic region led by and for people with lived and living experience (PWLE) of substance use. Building on SUNAR's most recent evaluation and the success of the 2021-22 SL experience, a need has been identified by some SUNAR members to learn more about the types of safer supply prescriptions that people are receiving from their physicians to help them advocate for themselves. To this end, we are proposing a project involving the creation of a simple tip sheet by medical students in collaboration with SUNAR members and physicians with expertise in safer supply. This tip sheet would be aimed at helping PWLE advocate for their own access to safer supply with their family physicians, and include examples of prescriptions that could replace different street drugs and advice on how to have these conversations.
- **Special requirements:** Possess a keen interest in harm reduction-related health care and health advocacy (particularly safer supply); consultation with physicians who prescribe safer supply; and working with marginalized populations who use substances
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** March 13, 2020



11. Self Help Connection – DRAFT (project in development)

- **Mission:** To empower Nova Scotians to take responsibility for their health and wellness by increasing knowledge, skills and resources for individual and collective action.
- **Vision:** To shape health communities in Nova Scotia through education, self-discovery and promotion of well-being while fostering connection to others.
- **URL:** <https://selfhelpconnection.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2
- **SL experience description:** The previous SL student project identified strategies to educate health care providers on the peer support services for patients and their families in the hospital and a variety of medical specialty settings (i.e. specialists clinics). The aim was to identify the barriers to accessing peer support and strategies to overcome these barriers and incorporate peer support into a patient's care plan. Following up on this work, the Self Help Connection (SHC) is interested in creating patient education to provide healthcare providers/clinicians/navigators' information/confidence to increase patient awareness of mental health wellness peer support programming to support personal wellness through and with chronic illness. An infographic which would include further information on youth population and family through IWK on peer support and social prescribing for mental wellness through chronic illness. With the statistic that 66% of Nova Scotians over the age of 12 have a chronic illness, the SHC board is especially interested in finding ways to support youth and families.
- **Special requirements:** None
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** In progress

12. Chebucto Connections, Pathways to Education Program – COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** Pathways to Education works in low-income neighborhoods to increase high school graduation rates and encourage participation in post-secondary education and lead to meaningful employment. The program aims to remove barriers to education, focusing on academic support, mentoring, financial incentives and advocacy. This approach places equal focus on soft life skills and hard academic skills.
 - Pathways to Education in Spryfield supports over 300 students in their academic journey. Each student has a caseworker who helps them keep up with their schoolwork, set goals, and connect to the resources they need to be successful in their academic pursuits. In addition to homework help, students receive mentoring and post-secondary and career planning help.
- **URL:** <http://chebuctoconnections.ca/pathways-to-education/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2-3

- **SL experience description:** Placement students and volunteers typically support the After School Program (ASP) as Program Assistants. Program Assistants support all aspects of the ASP from assisting with set up, planning and developing alternative programs, supporting workshops and events, tutoring and mentoring, and assisting with the Healthy Snack Program.
- **Special requirements:** Service Learning students must be self-motivated, creative, and able to work with little direction or supervision. Interest in youth initiatives and community development an asset. Experience developing and delivering youth-focused educational programming an asset.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** July 8th, 2020

13. The Youth Project - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** The Youth Project's mission is to make Nova Scotia a safer, healthier, and happier place for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth through support, education, resource expansion and community development. The Youth Project has been proudly providing resources to the 2SLGBTQIA+ (Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/ Questioning, Intersex, Asexual, +) community for 29 years, since 1993. The Youth Project is a provincial, multiservice organization hosting an education team, programming team, and support services worker with an aim to further the inclusion and wellness of 2SLGBTQIA+ under the age of 25, foster 2SLGBTQIA+ knowledge exchange and training, increase access to public services for Two Spirit, trans and non-binary youth, and provide social, health, and cultural programs/services/celebrations for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth. The Youth Project hosts offices in central Halifax, Cape Breton, and the Valley.
- **URL:** <https://youthproject.ns.ca/>; **Instagram:** [@nsyouthproject](https://www.instagram.com/nsyouthproject); **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/TheYouthProject/
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1
- **SL experience description:** This project is based in resource compilation for 2SLGBTQIA+ youth provincially. The area of research and creation will be determined based on the students interests/passions. Some examples could look like creating accessible and visually engaging health/legal pathways for 2SLGBTQIA+ systems navigation, compiling Two Spirit, trans, and non-binary best practices of equitable/comprehensive care, compiling resources/ research that focus on informed consent models of care/2SLGBTQIA+ client autonomy frameworks.
- **Special requirements:** Preference will be given to students who identify with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community.



14. Canadian Association of People Who Use Drugs – DRAFT (projects in development)

- **Mission:** Our guiding principle is “Nothing About Us Without Us” and we seek to develop networks of informed and empowered people who work to improve the health and social conditions of people who use illegal drugs. We are committed to ensuring people who use drugs have a voice regionally and nationally. We believe people who use drugs should be engaged and involved in any program, service or policy designed for them.
- **URL:** <https://www.capud.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2
- **SL experience description:** Service learning students will have the opportunity to spend time at the CAPUD office and get to know the staff and the organization. For the experience, they will attend a meeting focused on the decriminalization of drugs in partnership with the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition. This meeting is the National Decrim Strategy Meeting. After the meeting, students and CAPUD staff will debrief about actionable next steps that can be facilitated by the students in collaboration with CAPUD and other partners. CAPUD does a lot of knowledge mobilization and translation work and CAPUD welcomes support from community agencies and students to support hosting events such as webinars, in-person gatherings (*depending on COVID restrictions*) and various other engagements with our membership.

“In response to the ongoing overdose epidemic that has killed tens of thousands of Canadians. The Canadian Association of People who Use Drugs (CAPUD) is suing the government of Canada to remove the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) penalties (decriminalize) all forms of drug possession and some forms of drug trafficking, in response to the ongoing overdose epidemic in Canada. These criminal penalties create harms for persons who use drugs (PWUDs) and prevent PWUDs from accessing medical treatment and harm reduction.” <https://drugdecrimcanada.com/>

- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

15. Brigadoon Village – COMPLETE

- **Mission:** Brigadoon Village, is a non-profit recreational facility that delivers year-round camp programming to children, youth, and families living with health conditions or other life challenges in Atlantic Canada. While at Brigadoon, campers learn more about their illness, share experiences, and create special friendships with other children who share similar life challenges. Not to mention, they get to laugh, swim, cook, canoe, and have extraordinary fun. For many, they are meeting others



who are just like them for the first time. The opportunity to share and bond with another child with the same chronic illness is life-changing. Brigadoon Village passionately transforms the lives of Atlantic Canadian children and youth living with health conditions and other life challenges to help them reach their full potential through experiential learning, meaningful connections, and exceptional fun.

- **URL:** <https://brigadoonvillage.org/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 3 (group project)
- **SL experience description:**
 - **Goals of partnership:**
 - To increase our impact by engaging DAL Med Students in valuable experiences that will expand their understanding of vulnerable populations as they go on to complete their education and professional career paths.
 - To cultivate leadership by offering fun, interactive, and informative learning opportunities for Dal Med students to experience first-hand the impact of our mentoring programs.
 - To amplify our voice by educating and advocating the importance of Developmental Relationships and the health benefits of volunteering.
 - To create meaningful mentoring situations between Dal Med students and local youth in various BBBS programs
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress



16. Mobile Food Market - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** Our goal is simple: To find innovative solutions to food access issues. The Mobile Food Market (MFM) focuses on making healthy, affordable, high quality food available in communities with limited access to healthy food. We understand geography matters. Across our region, some communities have many grocery store options while other communities have limited or no ways to buy fresh, high quality fruits and vegetables. We are working to bring food to the people. People experience different degrees of difficulties with accessing healthy food. We know individuals with mobility issues, seniors living alone, low income families, and single parents are at higher risk of not getting the food they need every day. We are working in communities where many people have food access issues. Sometimes the food sold in the local grocery store isn't the food we enjoy eating or know how to cook. We are working to offer a wide and tailored selection of fruits and vegetables in each community.
- **URL:** <http://www.mobilefoodmarket.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2
- **SL experience description:**
 - In collaboration with the Mobile Food Market (MFM), the Dal Med Service Learning student would be involved in a seniors-led fresh food box program with Metro Regional Housing Authority.(MRHA) in 3 communities. The students would have the opportunity to work alongside MFM staff and the seniors planning committee to enhance the engagement and learning opportunities for MRHA residents and food box customers. This year we have been able to purchase ipads for the seniors to be able to do some computer literacy and menu planning and ordering. The students would first undergo an orientation with the MFM Coordinator to ensure they have a solid understanding of the broader work of the MFM as well as for the program specifically. The MFM Coordinator and students would work together to decide on the specific deliverables for the placement based on the student's interests, feedback from the senior planning committee and Covid 19 protocol. Examples of student deliverables could be to design and host an in-person workshop for building residents on a relevant health/lifestyle related topic, design learning materials to be inserted in the food boxes for distribution, engage the seniors planning committee in designing the program evaluation and support evaluation collection, etc.
 - The Students could create a deliverable of senior engagement and participation and outcomes of not only the food component but the social engagement and participation aspects of the program.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

17. Newcomer Health Clinic - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** Newcomer Health Clinic began with four family physicians providing care for refugees using donated resources and office space within ISANS in the spring of 2014. Since June 2015, the clinic is operated within the Mumford Professional Centre and is a partnership between Primary Health Care, Nova Scotia Health Authority, local family physicians, the Immigrant Settlement Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS), the Halifax Refugee Clinic and the IWK Health Centre. The Newcomer Health Clinic provides preventative health and primary medical services for government assisted refugees, privately sponsored refugees and refugee claimants in the greater Halifax area. Patients are supported with finding and transitioning to a family practice in the community within a two year period. The clinic has family physicians, registered nurses and administrative support who provide services that include ensuring up-to-date vaccinations, chronic disease management and routine primary care.
- **URL:** <http://www.nshealth.ca/content/newcomer-health-clinic>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2 (group project)
- **SL experience description:**
 - **Gateway Project:** For the first term, the student will be connecting with doctors at the Newcomer Health Clinic to see if they are agreeable with participating again for the upcoming year. The student will continue to work with Dr. Tim Holland, Dr. Mandi Irwin and the previous students who have been involved in developing and offering the Gateway project (Rachel Parker, Rebecca Scanlan, Christopher O’Grady and Rumana Rafiq) to develop the plan for 2022-23. This project is a continuation of Rumana Rafiq’s work from 2019-2020, and Christopher’s work for 2020-21, and Rachel and Rebecca from 2021-22. In this project, an opportunity was developed for Med 1 and Med 2 Dalhousie students to visit the Newcomer Health Clinic on Mumford Road. Here, participants helped take the Post Arrival Health Assessment (PAHA) history of a family who had recently come to Canada and learned to work with an interpreter.

Facilitating this project involves coordinating with clinic staff and setting up a training session for students prior to visiting the clinic in collaboration with the clinic physicians. The student must also provide email communication with participants and ensure they complete the necessary prerequisites prior to visiting the clinic, such as an existing online training module in newcomer health. At the end of the experience, the student will collect feedback from participants. The end goal of this initiative is to introduce medical students to important skills relating to cross-cultural competency, such as working with

interpreters, taking a history of a newcomer patient, and increasing medical student awareness of barriers faced by newcomers.

18. Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre – DRAFT (projects are in development)

- **Mission:** The Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Society is a non-profit, board governed organization that currently operates nine core programs. It is one of one hundred and nineteen Friendship Centre's across Canada and opened its doors on September 17th, 1973. The society was incorporated on June 2nd, 1975. The mission of the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre is to provide structured, social-based programming for Urban Aboriginal People while serving as a focal point for the urban aboriginal community to gather for a variety of community functions and events.
- **URL:** <https://mymnfc.com/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2-4 (two projects – either individual or group projects)
- **SL experience description:** While the details of projects are still in development, students who would like to do their service learning experience with the MNFC can expect to be able to choose from a variety of projects based on their interests. Examples could include:
 - Being involved with the new urban Indigenous Health Clinic – this will likely involve some awareness raising activities and some social referral and prescribing outreach to local hospitals and Physicians.
 - Building on the lunch and learn concept, student could attend the elders dinner and engage in conversation. The conversations to take on a health-specific focus and students could then design information or a presentation on a topic of interest to the elders/seniors for feedback and distribution.
 - Students could be connected to the parents support group to determine if there are unmet needs that could be addressed through resource or health systems navigation. This would be an opportunity to do health advocacy at the individual level.
 - Students are encouraged to check out the website and the many programs offered by the centre. If there is one that interests you – let us know!
- **Special requirements:** None! Everyone is welcome.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

19. Elizabeth Fry Society of Mainland Nova Scotia – COMPLETE

- **Mission:** The Elizabeth Fry Society of Mainland Nova Scotia (EFMNS) is a non-profit, charitable organizations that engage with vulnerable women and girls to foster reintegration, rehabilitation, personal empowerment and to address the root causes of criminalization. The women we support are often at a high risk of returning to the cycle of poverty, homelessness and self-harm that can cause criminalization. We are devoted to improving the lives of women in our province through comprehensive housing supports, innovative programming initiatives, justice system reform and through building individual strength and capacity in all of the women we serve. EFMNS provide the structure for marginalized women and girls to transform their lives from a cycle of poverty and insecurity to one of stability, growth and hope.
- **URL:** <https://efrymns.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2 (group project but with unique contributions)
- **SL experience description:** With the move to more to more conditional community sentencing, the E Fry Society has been met with a new equity and resource challenge whereby people are being released from prison who are on Methadone but then are not permitted to leave the community-based premises to obtain their medication without a trained supervision. This places a significant human resource responsibility on the organization for which no additional funds have been provided to create a peer support or navigator position for these daily medication needs. SL students could be involved in advocacy and systems change efforts in several ways.
 - Students could be involved in making connections between community-based organizations and peer support groups to look for opportunities to collaborate and support each other. This work could also involve some advocacy campaigning to draw attention to needed systems change issues and resource challenges.
 - This could also involve some background research and advocacy around having the E Fry staff trained to administer Methadone on site (they are able to administer Suboxone).
 - Students could be involved in looking at sustainable models of practice for this type of care upon release requirement and risk mitigation. Safety protocols, confidentiality and other training needs will be identified.
- **Special requirements:** TBD
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress



20. Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) and Vision Loss Rehabilitation (a Branch of the CNIB) - COMPLETE

- **Mission of the CNIB:** To change what it is to be blind through innovative programs and powerful advocacy that enable Canadians impacted by blindness to live the lives they choose.
- **Values of the CNIB: Empowerment** - We take bold, decisive action to move our mission forward and empower people impacted by blindness to find their courage, raise their voices and realize their dreams. **Inclusiveness** - We are a community that welcomes all. We embrace one another's differences and we break down barriers that would exclude anyone from being meaningfully engaged in our world. **Passion** - We care deeply about what we do, because we know how much it matters. We pursue our goals relentlessly and we don't give up on anyone, or anything. **Innovation** - We think big, take risks and embrace change that can accelerate progress and enable success for our clients, volunteers, donors and employees. **Collaboration** - We believe that to make change happen, we need to bring people, ideas and resources together in new and exciting combinations. Teamwork is fundamental to our success. **Integrity** - We treat others the way we want to be treated. We are kind, fair, honest and respectful and we maintain open and transparent decision-making in all aspects of our work.
- **Vision of VLR:** Vision Loss Rehabilitation Nova Scotia is a health services organization. We provide training that enables people who are blind or partially sighted to develop or restore key daily living skills, helping enhance their independence, safety and mobility. Our certified specialists work closely with ophthalmologists, optometrists and other health care professionals, providing essential care on a referral basis in homes and communities throughout Nova Scotia. The services offered by Vision Loss Rehabilitation Nova Scotia are funded by the Government of Nova Scotia.
- **Mission of VLR:** To change what it is to be blind through innovative programs and powerful advocacy that enable Canadians impacted by blindness to live the lives they choose.
- **Values of VLR:** Empowerment, Inclusiveness, Innovation, Passion, Collaboration and Integrity.
- **URLs:** www.cnib.ca; <https://visionlossrehab.ca/en/about-us>
- **Number of SL student positions available: 2-3 (group project)**
SL experience description: CNIB and VLR would like to have Dal med students work on a project that will assist us in identifying gaps in the healthcare system when it comes to the comfort level of those living with sight loss and their experience when either visiting a hospital for an appointment or staying in the hospital for any length of time. Examples of these gaps include:



- navigating from the front door of the hospital to their appointments
- being served meals in their hospital rooms and not being able to access the menu or figure out what is on their tray when a meal is dropped off (often times patients also have difficulty unpackaging their food)
- hospital staff knowing how to properly guide people with sight loss
- nurses and doctors communicating effectively with patients with sight loss
- The students could conduct a couple of focus groups with people with sight loss to obtain more information about these gaps. With the information learned, students could take the next steps in doing some health advocacy (e.g., lunch and learn session at a hospital, creating a resource that can be shared across the wards, even some media attention) to raise awareness of these gaps and what hospitals and staff can do to make the experience better.
- **Special requirements:** None
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress.

21. prideHealth - DRAFT (projects are in development)

- **Mission:** prideHealth works to improve access to health services which are safe, coordinated, comprehensive, and culturally appropriate for people who are two-spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual (members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community).

The prideHealth navigator works with individuals and groups to help members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community connect with:

- Services within the Health System, such as STIBBI (sexually transmitted and blood borne infections) testing, and services related to gender transition
- Resources in the community such as peer supports, social groups, and advocacy
- **URL:** <https://www.nshealth.ca/content/pridehealth>
- **Number of SL student positions available:**
- **SL experience description:** TBD
- **Special requirements:** TBD
- **Legal agreement signed on:** Not required.

22. SeaStar Child and Youth Advocacy Centre - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** SeaStar is a safe, welcoming place, where different agencies and services work together to improve the way our community responds to concerns of child abuse. As a leader in Atlantic Canada, SeaStar's innovative approach brings together professionals from law enforcement, child welfare, health care, mental health, and



justice systems. Our aim is to create one integrated approach to investigation, assessment, and treatment of suspected violence or abuse.

- **URL:** <https://www.seastarcyac.ca/>

- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1

SL experience description: The prospective student will work with SeaStar to develop a project idea that fits the program's needs and the student's learning objectives, strengths, and areas of interest. The experience may include a visit to SeaStar and START, and opportunities for discussion with team members to gain greater understanding of the program's work and client population. This placement is best suited to a student who is self-motivated and comfortable working independently, and who is interested in demonstrating initiative in co-developing project ideas.

- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** Not required.

23. Halifax Sexual Health Centre - COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** Improve and optimize the sexual health of all members of our community, by providing high quality and caring services, and empowering clients to make healthy choices.

- **Vision:** All members of our community have full, equal, non-judgmental and safe access to sexual, reproductive, and gender-affirming health care and education.

- **URL:** hshc.ca

- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1 – 2

- **SL experience description:** Our SL experience can vary depending on the interest of the student. Students could prepare a survey to put into the community to gather data that HSHC can use for advocacy purposes. Students could also participate in one of the many health promotion/community education activities that we do at HSHC. That could include presenting sexual health education in schools, professional development for other health care providers, creating informational social media posts, doing an "Ask Me Anything" on social media, and more. Project topics options are open ended depending on the interest of the student. Students are welcome to shadow/participate in activities that are already planned, or create new events and resources. As we are a clinical space, we also welcome our student(s) to observe and shadow our physicians providing primary care services.

- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

24. Spencer House - COMPLETE



- **Mission and Vision:** Spencer House's mission is to support the social participation and inclusion of seniors in our community by providing programs and services that enable older adults to live independently, contribute to their community, and maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. We are a community drop-in centre for the 50+ crowd. Our program offers: daily homemade lunches, social activities (such as Bingo, music socials, exercise classes, trivia, card games, and karaoke), health and wellness programs, and educational workshops of interest to older adults.
- **URL:** <https://www.spencerhouse.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1- 4 (could be an individual or group project)
- **SL experience description:**
 - By interacting with our members directly, you will obtain first-hand information of the current issues that aging adults are facing regarding food insecurity, housing insecurity, access to health care and services, access to transportation, among others. You will have the opportunity to support and advocate for said issues and make a direct positive impact on the lives of aging members of the community.
 - Seniors represent around 51% of Nova Scotia's population, and this percentage will continue to increase. Now more than ever seniors are in need for advocacy, especially in regard to health care services and access to it. We want to be part of the evolution of social prescription, as Spencer House is an ideal social space for seniors in the community.
 - Project topics are currently open-ended and can be determined by the student(s) after connecting with our members and staff. The project will concentrate on health advocacy for aging adults in Nova Scotia.
- **Special requirements:** Possess an interest in advocacy for aging adults. Able to work in a group or independently, as needed.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** April 22, 2022.

25. Mobile Outreach Street Health - COMPLETE

- **Mission and Vision:** MOSH provides accessible primary health care services to people who are homeless, insecurely housed, street involved and underserved in our community. The MOSH team is a collaborative primary health care team of two full-time nurses, half-time occupational therapist, half-time administrative support and 12 hours of physician care per week.
- **Why MOSH?** Access to the existing health care system is difficult and even impossible to access for many people living on the margins of society. MOSH aims to meet people in spaces where there is a greater level of comfort, take primary health care to

them, establish relationships and build trust as a means to improve their health outcomes.

- **URL:** <https://mosshalifax.ca/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2 (group project)
- **SL experience description:** Service learning students could be involved in a variety of activities, possibly including support and data collection for the MOSH Justice project evaluation, safe supply initiative, and other programs that are in various stages of development. Other opportunities to be directly involved in clinic activities are likely. Direct supervisor TBD (3 MDs, 1 NP, many nurses and 2 OTs - collaborative multidisciplinary team).
- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** Not applicable.

26. Doctors for Decriminalization - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** Doctors for Decriminalization is a coalition of Canadian clinicians that recognizes the harms associated with the criminalization of substance use, which disproportionately impacts our society's most marginalized populations, and advocates for responsible and evidence-informed drug and substance policy with the goal to improve the health of all Canadians.
Core Principles:
 - Respect for dignity
 - Social justice: promoting health equity and preventing systemic discrimination
 - Evidence-informed practice
 - Human Rights based approach to policy development- especially valuing the right to health
- **URL:** <https://www.docs4decrim.org/>
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 1
- **SL experience description:** Doctors for Decriminalization could take 1 service learning student to help maintain a database of members and to support the coordination of national advocacy efforts around drug decriminalization. Would need to be available for a monthly Monday evening meeting.
- **Special requirements:** An interest in and passion for the decriminalization of substance use, social justice and human rights.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress.