

Available Community-Engaged Service Learning Experiences for 2023-24 (DMNS; Halifax Campus)

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

COMPLETE = partnership and project details are both confirmed.

Community-Engaged Service Learning (CESL) Experience Profiles 2023-24

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 CESL student positions available:** 1 solo project by 1 student or 1 group project for 2-3 students.
- **CESL 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: In progress

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.
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 1 solo project by 1 student or 1 group project for 2-3 students.
- **CESL experience description:** Northwood is open to working with student(s) who are interested in mental health, dementia or older adults and are open to co-creating the project with the student(s). Previously, students collaborated 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 also learned 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 used the survey domains as a framework to build community resource lists. These lists have been used across the organization to refer clients to programs and organization who can support them across domains of healthy aging.
- URL: <https://nwood.ns.ca/>
- Special requirements: None
- Legal Partnership Agreement signed on: In progress

3. Imhotep’s Legacy Academy (ILA) – COMPLETE

- **Mission:** ILA’s mission is to support learners of African descent 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 learners of African descent to strengthen Canada’s capacity for innovation.
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 1-2 students
- **CESL experience and project description:** ILA is a university-community initiative that seeks to improve the academic performance of learners of African descent in STEM subjects and the representation of learners of African descent 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 learners of African descent in medical careers and as such, we seek medical students that are passionate and interested in the issues affecting the education of learners of African descent. With this experience, you will become a contributor to tackling the issues affecting learners of African descent education. You will help develop one medicine related activity that will be used to increase learners of African descent interest in medicine. The activity will be tailored to a grade between grades 6 – 9. We will need you to have the following requirements:

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

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

- **URL:** <https://www.imhotep.ca/en/>
- **Special requirements:** An interest in the issues affecting the education of youth of African descent.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** Not applicable.

4. 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 service improvement and policy reform within a cultural competence framework. HAAC's vision is to have thriving, healthy African Canadian Communities in Nova Scotia.
- **URL:** <http://haac.ca/>
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 1

- **CESL 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

5. 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 CESL student positions available:** 2
- **CESL experience description:** RRSS had the pleasure of working with Service-Learning Students who created a three-part reflective module for medical students in the format of an electronic workbook and another who created a video to improve communication between people with intellectual disabilities and medical professionals. 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 their project which could build off the work that has been started - The RRSS Resident Council could work with the student(s) to develop a self-advocacy tool to enhance communication of adults with disabilities with medical professionals during their medical appointments.
- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** September 11, 2017

6. 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 an orientation to the Life Skills Program.
 - 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 Team Lead, Immigrant Health and Disability Program, 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 through political advocacy, media campaigns, health policy briefs, etc.); Student could also develop a resource for community-based supports for newcomers with disabilities.
 - Examples - Accessing Blood Collection Services; Accessing pharmacy services
 - 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., and have it translated into as many languages as possible.

- Create resource booklet “My Neighbourhood” or ethnic food stores and restaurants in area with photos and addresses of the stores. Information could include photos and locations of parks and pharmacies as well.
- **Special requirements:** An interest in working with Government assisted refugees and newcomers.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** March 21st, 2018

7. 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 (group project)
- **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

8. Direction 180 - DRAFT

- **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>;
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 2 (Group Project)
- **CESL experience description:** A specific experience and project has not yet been determined but there are many options within the main site or at the overdose prevention site, ReFix. Student would have the opportunity to visit both sites, shadow staff and participate in programming.
- **Special requirements:** Possess a keen interest in harm reduction-related health care and health advocacy and working with people with living and lived experience using substances.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** March 13, 2020

9. 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 CESL student positions available:** 2-3
- **CESL experience description:** CESL students will support or lead the development of an after-school program session, series of sessions, and/or resources for students in

collaboration with Pathways to Education staff. The focus of this project will be determined by the CESL students and Pathways staff, and be informed by the needs of our students. In 2023, CESL students supported the "Period Packs" program which helped educate students with periods on what to expect and how to be prepared when their period arrives unexpectedly.

- **Special requirements:** Service Learning students will be asked to attend various after-school programming sessions at Chebucto Connections (531 Herring Cove Rd.) in order to get to know some of our students and assess their needs. Students must be self-motivated, creative, and able to work with little direction or supervision. Interest in youth initiatives and community development is an asset. Experience developing and delivering youth-focused educational programming is also an asset.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** July 8th, 2020

10. The Youth Project - DRAFT

- **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 CESL student positions available:** 1
- **CESL 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.
- **Legal Partnership Agreement signed on:** In progress.

11. **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 CESL student positions available:** 2 (group project)
- **CESL 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

12. Mobile Food Market - DRAFT

- **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 CESL student positions available:** 2
- **CESL 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

13. 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 transferring to a family practice in the community, ideally, within a two year period. The clinic has family physicians, registered nurses, social worker, dietitian, and administrative support who provide services that include ensuring post-arrival screening, up-to-date vaccinations, chronic disease management and routine primary care.
- **URL:** <http://www.nshealth.ca/content/newcomer-health-clinic>
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 2-3
- **CESL experience description:**
- **Project 1 (2 students – group project):**
 - 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 and Dr Dylan Sohi and the previous students who have been involved in developing and offering the Gateway project ([add most recent students?] Rachel Parker, Rebecca Scanlan, Christopher O’Grady, Rumana Rafiq). 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.

The student(s) in this experience will take on the role of Gateway Coordinator(s). 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 Coordinator(s) 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. The Student Gateway Coordinator(s) must also coordinate between students and the clinic to build a schedule for participating students. At the end of the experience, the Coordinator(s) 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.

- **Project 2: Eye Health Station at Preschool Clinics (1-2 students)**
 - The Newcomer Health Clinic hosts Preschool Clinics in Fall and Spring. These are multidisciplinary clinics including nursing team who provide well child assessments and vaccinations. In the Spring session, NHC hopes to include an eye health station which is run by CESL medical student coordinators. In this project, you would be a coordinator for the Eye Health station of the Preschool Clinics. You would recruit a small number of medical student participants. You would coordinate the schedule of students with the RN team lead at NHC. You would provide some basic training for the students to know what to expect and provide at the eye station (e.g., visual acuity using an interpreter).

14. Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre – Wije'winen Health Centre - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** The Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre is a non-profit, board governed organization that currently operates nine core programs and over 55 supportive programs. It is one of one hundred and nineteen Friendship Centres 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 and health-focused programming for the urban Indigenous community while serving as a focal point for the community to gather for a variety of functions and events. In July, 2022, the MNFC opened the Wije'winen Health Centre – which houses the first urban Indigenous medical clinic in the region.
- **URL:** <https://mymnfc.com/> and <https://www.wijewinenhealthcentre.com/>
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 2-4 (two projects – either individual or group projects)
- **CESL experience description:** While the details of projects are still in development, students who would like to do their service-learning experience with the MNFC at the Wije'winen Health Centre can expect to be able to choose from a variety of projects based on their interests. Examples could include:
 - Co-creating awareness raising resources and distributing; enhancing referrals and social prescribing outreach to local hospitals and physicians.
 - Co-create initiatives and resource material for other health professionals regarding Indigenous education materials with a focus on Mi'kmaw people.
 - As part of the experience, students will be invited to attend several of the cultural trainings offered by the centre and shadow a physician at the clinic.

- **Special requirements:** None! Everyone is welcome. An interest in providing care for underserved populations, especially Indigenous patients/community, is an asset.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

15. Elizabeth Fry Society of Mainland Nova Scotia – DRAFT

- **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 CESL student positions available:** 2 (group project but with unique contributions)
- **CESL experience description:** While the Elizabeth Fry Society does not identify itself as a crisis centre, its staff frequently engages with clients undergoing crises, whether within the office or in the community. Recognizing the criminalization faced by women with substance use disorders or mental health concerns/diagnoses, their primary goal is to provide support rather than involve police in these critical situations. By implementing specialized training tailored to the needs of the individuals in crisis that E Fry serves, the organization aims to safeguard both the client and the worker, thereby reducing the criminalization of this vulnerable population and enhancing individual safety. Students will continue the previous work done by students to create a training module(s) tailored specifically to the needs and experiences of Elizabeth Fry workers and clients.
- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

16. Canadian National Institute for the Blind (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.

- **URLs:** www.cnib.ca
- **Number of SL student positions available:** 2-3 (group project)
- **CESL experience description:** CNIB 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.

17. **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 CESL student positions available: TBD
- CESL experience description: TBD
- Special requirements: TBD
- Legal agreement signed on: Not required.

18. Ronald McDonald House Charities Atlantic - COMPLETE

- **Mission:** Ronald McDonald House Charities® (RMHC®) Atlantic helps families with ill or injured children stay together and near the medical care they need. Our programs include Ronald McDonald House®, a “home-away-from-home” for out of town families with sick children, and two Ronald McDonald Family Room® Programs, offering an oasis of calm and support inside the hospital. Ronald McDonald House Charities Atlantic is a non-profit organization. We depend upon charitable donations and volunteer support from many individuals, corporations and foundations to fulfill our mission. We receive no operational funding from government.
- **URL:** <https://rmhcatlantic.ca/en/>
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 1-2
CESL experience description: As part of the CESL experience, the student will have the opportunity to tour the house and participate in some of the programming to obtain a better familiarity with the organization. For the project, RMH will have a new location and will need a new intro video for that space. They also have Family Rooms within the IWK Health Centre and The Moncton Hospital that would benefit from a similar intro video. An example of a previously completed video project can be found here: rmhcatlantic.ca/familytour
Special requirements: None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress

19. 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 CESL student positions available:** 1 – 2
- **CESL experience description:** Our CESL 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

20. 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 CESL student positions available:** 1- 4 (could be an individual or group project)
- **CESL 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.

- Potential project topics include:
 - To explore affordability and accessibility for medications for seniors living on a fixed income. For example, many of our members are diabetic, but are struggling to afford both basic living necessities and medication, as costs of living increase. The student would speak with seniors first-hand who are experiencing these challenges and gather information/resources.
 - To continue this years' service learning project by making connections with local organizations to share the brochure that was created.
- **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.

21. The North Grove - DRAFT

- **Mission and Vision:** The North Grove is a dynamic community hub. Our Family and Community Food Centre offer programs, services and space for people to learn and connect through family support, food and friendship.
 - We are a community hub where people come together to grow, cook, share and advocate for good food and a healthy and fair food system
 - We offer programs, resources and activities that promote healthy child, parent and family development
 - Our space provides opportunities for supportive relationships to form among families and community members
 - We advocate for public policies that promote the well-being of individuals, families and communities
 - We work with partners to achieve common goals
- **URL:** <https://www.thenorthgrove.ca/>
- **Number of CESL student positions available:** 1-2
- **CESL experience description:** The experience and project are in development but the student would
- **Special requirements:** None.
- **Legal agreement signed on:** In progress.