

McKinley County, New Mexico – Job Announcement

MCHA Public & Community Health Internship 2026 –

McKinley County Health Profile Project

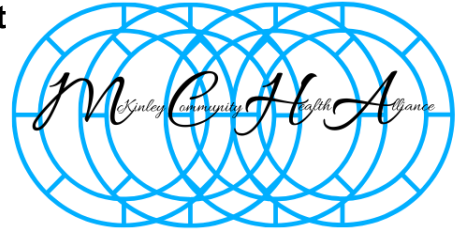
Employment Status: Independent Contractor

Position: Intern (Part Time~12hrs/week)

Salary/Compensation: \$7,500 Total - \$2,500 Monthly

Length: 12 weeks, ~3 months (~48 hours/month, ~150 total hours)

Position available: Fall (October 2026—January 2027)



The McKinley Community Health Alliance (mckinleyhealthalliance.org) is composed of individual community members, groups, service providers, and other agencies committed to the mission and vision of the Health Alliance. We (MCHA) are a non-hierarchical (shared/flat leadership) participatory advocacy organization with open membership.

Our organization's mission is to affect and facilitate change in systems that perpetuate health, education, economic, and environmental inequities by engaging individuals and agencies to understand and address the underlying “root” causes of poverty/income inequity, institutional racism, and multi-generational trauma.

We envision healthy communities in which Individual and Family Wellness, Educational Quality, Community Wellness, Access to Services, Cultural Respect, and a Cooperative Spirit are increasingly evident.

Our community goal is to enhance the overall quality of life for all McKinley Community members to live healthy and productive lives by; identifying resources and funding; increasing networking among community agencies and regional partners to prevent duplication of services, working collaboratively with the community to address and understand inequalities in systems, and work to change those systems together.

The Alliance also serves as our McKinley County Health Council for McKinley County, and the state of New Mexico, in collaboration with the New Mexico Department of Health to work on county and statewide public health systems. As the county’s health council, we are responsible for identifying community needs, resources, and health priorities. We continuously evaluate the community's system of care, support education, programs, and advocacy efforts to improve community health in McKinley County and the State of New Mexico.

As a health council we also produce detailed assessments of local health needs and resources, mobilize communities to address important local health problems, and develop comprehensive, detailed, long-range community health improvement plans (CHIPs) that help guide the work of healthcare providers, non-profit organizations, and state, county, city, and tribal government agencies/leadership.

Our organization has undertaken an update to our McKinley County Health Profile (last updated by the health council in 2014); a detailed assessment and health equity perspective of our county health needs and resources. (<https://mckinleyhealthalliance.org/community-health-data>) We plan to produce/publish the updated profile in 2027.

We are seeking paid part-time interns to help our Alliance/Health Council in compiling and completing the planned McKinley County Health Profile Update.

The MCHA Public & Community Health Intern will be an Independent/Self-employed Contractor with Gallup Community Health (MCHA's fiscal sponsoring organization: <https://gallupcommunityhealth.org/>) and will work closely with the Health Profile project team and manager, the McKinley Community Health Alliance, the MCHA core team, partnering community agencies/organizations and the McKinley community to conduct the assessment and produce the health profile.

The position primarily is remote/"work from home", with some travel in the community and possible in state and/or regionally (travel outside the McKinley Community will be compensable/reimbursable).

The position is open to all adult applicants currently residing and/or living in the McKinley County, New Mexico and with some basic/beginning knowledge and/or education on public and community health topics.

Responsibilities:

- With the MCHA Health Profile Team and McKinley community; conduct assessment, collection, and research of Public and Community Health related data (including community member interviews) into a McKinley Community Health Profile.
- Work with MCHA Health Profile Project Manager to report on all deliverables, complete trainings, readings, and maintain communications for scheduling and all other matters.
- Complete Basic Community/Public Health Introduction and Public Health Data Research Trainings (6).
- Complete (3) Monthly Internship Google Form Reporting, (3) Monthly Reflection Papers, and Prepare (3) Monthly Invoices; Due the Second Friday monthly.
- Attend bi-weekly meetings of the Health Profile Team (TBD).
- Attend monthly McKinley Community Health Meeting (2nd Wednesday monthly, 11am-1pm) & MCHA Core Team Meetings (3rd Tuesday Monthly, 11am-1pm).
 - Produce basic meeting notes for Monthly Community Health Meeting.
- Present Internship Reflection/Presentation following internship conclusion.
- Participation in other community events/meetings, as needed, and if scheduling allows.
- Possible travel in McKinley County, Regionally, and/or in the state of NM.
(*reimbursable/compensable for travel outside of the McKinley Community).

Qualifications:

- Any academic and/or lived experience with basic community and public health topics.
- Willingness to learn/educate others about public/community health.
- Knowledge/familiarity of Gallup and McKinley County and understanding of local cultures and peoples including the Navajo/Dine, Zuni, and our other neighboring tribal communities/nations.
- Interpersonal/cooperative people skills.
- Well rounded/competent reading & communication skills (written + verbal).
- Basic Emailing (Gmail), Web Conferencing (Zoom), & Word Processing (Word/GoogleDocs) skills and technical abilities; as well as any basic office applications knowledge (Equipment can be supplied).
- Public Health Research or Professional ability/aspirations, not required but valued.
- Any fluency (oral/written) in Navajo, Zuni and/or Spanish languages are also encouraged to apply.
- Contractor shall maintain general liability insurance of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and provide proof of coverage upon request. Cost to get and maintain insurance will be reimbursable. Assistance, if needed, will also be provided to obtain liability insurance.

Salary/Compensation:

\$7,500 total (3 months) - \$2,500 monthly (includes paid time off/sick leave, as needed)
This is an independent contractor/self-employed (1099) position and all taxes (local, state and federal) and liabilities will be the responsibility of the contractor/self-employed individual.

If you are interested in applying for the upcoming Fall position (October 2026 - January 2027), please email us a letter of interest chrisbhudson@mckinleyhealthalliance.org **by Monday, September 21st, 2026.**

Please include at least 2 professional referrals to contact for reference, and a resume/academic transcript (if available)**.

Interviews will take place online (via zoom), September 22nd—29th, 2026.

The position will start Monday, October 5th, 2026, through January 15th, 2027*.

*Includes Three Holiday Weeks Off (November 23rd—27th, & December 21st, 2026—January 2nd, 2027).

**AI (Artificial intelligence) generated submissions will not be accepted.

Notes: If you are not interested in the position but would like to volunteer to serve on the hiring committee, the health profile team, and/or offer mentoring, training or other support to our paid interns once hired, please email us at the same address.

Please share with anyone you think might be a good candidate for this opportunity.

We would like to thank the New Mexico McCune Foundation for the general operations funding awarded that enabled this Leveraging Opportunities in Health Care project for our communities' health and wellbeing. (<https://nmmccune.org/grant-recipients/#current-grantees>)



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