

**Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics
 Mini-Grant Application**

Applications will be evaluated by the CSL Mini-Grant Committee based on the following criteria:

1. The project is responsive to a real community need as defined by the community.	7. The project has a realistic timeframe
2. The student has identified an appropriate mentor, and there is evidence that the mentor is “on board”	8. The project has an appropriate budget
3. There is evidence of community engagement already underway	9. Projected number of community beneficiaries is appropriate
4. There is a realistic plan for community engagement	10. There are measurable objectives and anticipated outcomes
5. An appropriate site for the project has been identified	11. The project proposal has a realistic chance of making an impact on the identified community in need
6. The proposal clearly states how the project reflects an approach to service learning	

Completely answer each of the following to the best of your ability.

1. Project Title:

PMIG HIV Screening: OraQuick ADVANCE Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody Test

2. Applicant(s) contact information. *Please list the names, emails, and phone numbers of each member participating in the project. Please identify the group leader in box 1.*

Name/Degree	School/yr of training (IE SON1, or MS2)	Email	Cell/office phone
Daniel Clark/MD	MS2	Personal information blocked for privacy	
Beth Melia/MD	MS2		

3. Mentor:

Dr Ruth Berggren MD

4. Project Description *Briefly describe the specific community need, project site, intended activities, organization (if partnering with agency), target audience, and time frame of proposed project. Please name and describe the role of the Project Mentor(s) in this section. (500 words or less)*

At-risk individuals for contracting HIV include men who have sex with men, IV drug users, and heterosexual individuals with more than three partners a year. These populations are typically elusive, making the delivery of preventive services and early treatment difficult. Screening for HIV with rapid throat swab tests allows a quick and accurate diagnosis. This tool, however, is relatively expensive (\$12/test when purchased in bulk) and therefore should be used specifically to diagnose high-risk individuals. Dr. Ruth Berggren (CLIA certified) and Vanessa Gonzalez of the San Antonio AIDS Foundation will supervise as 2nd year medical students in Frontera train other medical students in PMIG and PHR to use OraQuick ADVANCE Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody Tests.

Homeless populations and those dependent on government social services (e.g. housing, mental health, etc.) often engage in higher-risk behaviors. Ideally, this proposed project will transform into an integral service at the new student-run clinic at Haven for Hope, the city of San Antonio's homeless ministry. However, this proposal seeks to address the community need through other means while the Haven for Hope clinic is being developed. Travis Park United Methodist Church Corazon homeless ministry, which has 4 physician exam rooms and 2 eye chairs, is the preferred first site evaluation because our services would compliment this established operation. Criteria for site selection mainly centers on a need for patient privacy and choice of a common gathering place of individuals engaged in high-risk behaviors for contracting HIV.

Dr. Berggren and colleagues at the Brady Green clinic have agreed to take all referrals of persons testing positive at the screenings. Follow-up care and counseling will therefore be readily assessable for those testing positive; those with a negative diagnosis will receive behavioral counseling and service referrals as necessary.

5. Community Needs Assessment & Impact: *Describe the methods you/your team will use to assess the needs of the target community (i.e. focus groups, surveys, interviews, etc.) in order to determine that the proposed project will meet a community need. Include the plan for community engagement and the projected number of community beneficiaries.*

I met with the Mental Health Program Director at Corazon Ministries and discussed their need for further HIV screening. Currently, the San Antonio AIDS Foundation educates and screens an average of 7-8 homeless persons on the last Tuesday of every month at Travis Park. This patient population varies from the 30-40 homeless individuals who visit Travis Park's health clinics every Sunday morning (a more transient group). Therefore, Corazon Ministries has a felt need for expanded HIV education and screening services and expressed confidence that scheduling these events on Sundays from 8-10 am will elicit a greater response than those conducted by San Antonio AIDS Foundation during the week.

6. Objectives & Outcomes: Please describe at least two objectives your proposed project will address and how the outcomes will be defined. (i.e. By the end of this four-week fitness workshop, participants will learn how to increase their physical activity level from 10 minutes per day to 30 minutes per day.)

The screening component of this project aims to both accurately diagnose HIV/AIDS and connect individuals testing positive to a primary care physician to treat their disease state. OraQuick ADVANCE Rapid HIV-1/2 Antibody Test will be used, which showed a sensitivity of 99.4% and a specificity of 97.6% in one study, along with an overwhelming patient preference (88.6%) for this form of screening over traditional blood testing (Bryson et. al. 2007). Specifically, PMIG hopes to: (1) Increase the overall uptake of HIV screening at Travis Park by 200% (testing 14 individuals in addition to the 7 tested each month by the San Antonio AIDS Foundation), and (2) Achieve a 100% follow-up visit with a physician at Brady Green Clinic for all patients testing positive at the screening (both for confirmatory Western blot testing and for treatment, when necessary).

7. Results / Evaluation: Briefly describe what evaluation tools (i.e. pre/post test, survey, focus group, etc.) you will use to determine the effectiveness of the proposed service project. Also, describe how you will present the project results to the targeted community.

A Microsoft Access database will be utilized to track the total number of screened patients, positive test results, referrals for medical treatment, counseling referrals, and successful follow-up through an initial physician visit at the Brady Green Clinic. Statistical analysis of this data will be undertaken and a full report of findings printed at the conclusion of the project.

8. Reflection: *Please describe the mechanism you will use for reflection (journaling, blogging, discussions with mentor), and the manner in which your project mentor will engage with you in the reflection process.*

Dr. Berggren and I will meet quarterly to discuss and evaluate the progress of the project. Additionally, we will correspond through email should any issues/concerns arise and I will submit monthly updates regarding screening outcomes.

9. Budget: *Itemize all anticipated expenses for your project (i.e. printing, supplies, fitness equipment, etc.) PLEASE NOTE: Food is not an acceptable budget item unless it is being used as a teaching activity that relates directly to the objectives of the project. Incentives are not allowed.*

Item	Quantity	Estimated Cost
Item 1	X	\$X
Item 2	X	\$X
Item 3	X	\$X
Total		\$500

10. Letter of Support:

- I have submitted a letter of support from my Mentor.

11. Conditions:

- I acknowledge that if awarded a Mini-Grant of any amount I will sign a consent form stating that I will comply with following conditions:
- I understand that reimbursement for expenditures on this grant requires that I submit original receipts to the Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics.
 - I will maintain and document regular contact with my mentor (at least quarterly for a year-long project).
 - I will complete the report required to provide student service learning hours and number of beneficiaries from my project.
 - I will submit an abstract and a poster for inclusion in the Annual Community Service Learning Conference.
 - I will attend the Annual Community Service Learning Conference

Please submit your letter of support from your mentor confirming his/her availability and commitment to your project before submitting your application. Mentors may send letters as a Word document or PDF to Melanie Stone at csl@uthscsa.edu, fax typed letters to 210-567-0805 or mail to: Melanie Stone, Center for Medical Humanities & Ethics, 7703 Floyd Curl Dr., MC 7730, San Antonio, TX 78229.

You will receive notification of your application status within three (3) weeks.

For more information, please email or call Melanie Stone, Community Service Learning Coordinator, 210-567-0523.