The Center on Health, Risk and Society (CHRS) within the Sociology Department of American University invites applications from qualified undergraduate and graduate students for summer internship with two of its research projects.

The first project, Project Parivartan, which means "long-term change," as well as "metamorphosis," conducts research on the implementation and impact of structural interventions (with a focus on community mobilization) for HIV prevention among female sex workers in two states in India - Andhra Pradesh, and more recently, in Maharashtra. Project Parivartan is currently in Phase II, with four key areas of research interests; (i) policing initiatives (ii) economic vulnerability (iii) community mobilization and (iv) transition of ownership from NGOs to CBOs.

The second project, Impact Assessment of HIV Prevention Programs in India (the HIV Synthesis Project) involves generating innovative methodological approaches to compiling, synthesizing and analyzing HIV-related data in order to understand the collective impact of all HIV prevention programming across the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu.

Both these projects are funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as part of its Avahan, India AIDS Initiative. The projects are based at CHRS and led by Principal Investigator Kim M. Blankenship, Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology, and Director, CHRS.

Qualifications:

Paid internships are available to undergraduate or graduate students with the following qualifications:

Required

- Excellent research, writing, and communication skills or desire to develop such skills
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to work within tight deadlines
- Strong proficiency with MS Office, particularly excel

Preferred

- Prior experience in health-related research, and program evaluation
- Some experience with quantitative and qualitative research software and EndNote an advantage

Key responsibilities include, but not limited to, some combination of the following:

- Transcribing and summarizing interviews
- Coding interview data
- Conducting literature reviews
- Identifying sources for and gathering relevant secondary data
- Support with web hosting, and maintaining/updating e-library
Duration of internship: The interns typically are expected to work for up to 35 hours a week for a period of 10 weeks, starting mid-May but the start date, hours, and length of internship is negotiable.

Interested candidates must submit the following materials:

- Cover letter, be sure to describe any research related experiences
- Resume
- Writing sample

Applications are to be sent via e-mail to Nimesh Dhungana at nimesh.dhungana@american.edu by April 20, 2011.