

# **PITTSBURGH HEALTH CORPS**

## **Member Service Description**

### **Kidstart Assistant**

#### ***I. Site Info***

##### ***Site Name and Location:***

Health Care for the Homeless/Primary Care Health Services, Inc.  
7227 Hamilton Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

##### ***Organization Description and Mission:***

Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) operates as part of Primary Care Health Services, Inc. and serves homeless men, women, and children in the greater Pittsburgh area, providing primary care, mental health, substance abuse, and/or case management services. The KIDSTART program, administered through HCH, is dedicated to serving the community's homeless children (ages birth-12 years old) and their families emphasizing a comprehensive case management approach.

##### ***Critical Community Need(s) to be addressed through member service:***

Homeless families face many barriers when trying to break the cycle of homelessness. The shortage of low income housing and the consumer's inability to navigate the complex social services network makes finding stable housing, finding appropriate child care, and finding community resources difficult. Research on family homelessness shows that without special supports, many homeless children are likely to suffer from severe and multiple developmental delays and emotional and behavioral problems. The Pittsburgh Health Corps volunteers will provide case management assistance to address these issues by assisting consumers in applying for entitlement programs, obtaining transportation, providing health education, and assisting with developmental and behavioral screenings for each child and making referrals to appropriate special needs programs. The uniqueness of KIDSTART lies in the time devoted to develop a long term relationship, providing consistent support to children and their families throughout the critical period of homelessness and the transition to permanent housing.

##### ***Site Supervisor Name/Title/Phone/Fax/Email:***

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## ***II. Service Description***

### ***Position Title:***

KIDSTART Assistant

### ***Service Activities/Responsibilities:***

Responsibilities will include: Performing outreach and client intake at various shelter and transitional housing sites, documenting client information and completing the HCH encounter form, assisting with behavioral and developmental screenings, referring clients to community programs. When not at the various clinic sites, the KIDSTART Assistant will report to the HCH office and assist with answering phones, fielding requests for assistance and other duties as assigned.

### ***Overall Service Goals:***

To provide access to health and social services to a minimum of 100 homeless children and their families.

To ensure routine pediatric care for a minimum of 100 children under age 12.

To assist KIDSTART Coordinator with Behavioral Health and Development Screenings for a minimum of 50 children under age 12.

To assist in obtaining a minimum of 100 pediatric patient history/intakes at HCH Pediatric clinics.

To assist KIDSTART Coordinator with rotating monthly educational presentations at 6 shelters/bridge/transitional programs.

### ***Outcome Measures: (be sure to qualify what measurable impact the member will have through service at Partner Site)***

The KIDSTART assistant will have a direct impact on the homeless consumer's ability to access social services and special needs programs. The KIDSTART Assistant will document the number of consumers he/she assists at the shelter sites in registering for services, educated about health care issues, helped with transportation, and referred for other necessary services.

## ***III. Performance Measures: The PHC AmeriCorps program is based on National Health Corps Performance Measures. Each PHC member should provide services that fall in at least one of the NHC Performance Measures below:***

### **1. Access to Care**

*Does your service position include assessing eligibility for, completing paperwork for, and enrolling community members in adult/child health insurance and/or patient medication assistance programs?(please check one)  YES  NO*

*If "yes", please provide site specifics and explain the details regarding how the member will provide service with these programs:*

## **2. Individual & Group Health Education Instruction**

*Does your service position include any of the following:*

*Teaching health education classes, workshops, one on one sessions, leading clubs or organized activities on public health topics including home/public safety, violence prevention, smoking cessation, nutrition and exercise, asthma, diabetes, hypertension, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis and other public health topics that meet local community needs. (please check one) X  YES  NO*

*If "yes", please provide site specifics and explain the details regarding how the member will provide health education:*

The Kidstart Assistant will provide monthly client focused health education groups at various homeless congregate locations for a minimum of 60 homeless consumers. The Kidstart Assistant will design and implement 3 curriculum related to healthy lifestyle, physical fitness, and parent/child bonding.

## **3. Health Screening, Testing & Immunization**

*Does your service position include the member organizing, coordinating, promoting and/or participating in health screenings, testing and immunization campaigns for HIV/STDs and other communicable diseases, BMI, blood pressure and other issues that respond to local needs? (please check one) X  YES  NO*

*If "yes", please provide site specifics and explain the details regarding how the member will provide service relating to health screenings, testing, and immunization:*

The Kidstart Assistant will assist Kidstart Coordinator with at least 50 behavioral (Child Behavioral Checklist) and developmental screenings (AGS Early Screening Profile) for children ages 1 ½ - 12 years old. The Kidstart Assistant will help score the screenings and refer the children for follow-up services if warranted.

## **4. Health Information & Outreach Material Distribution**

*Does your service position include the member distributing health education and outreach materials to individuals in underserved populations? (please check one) X  YES  NO*

*If "yes", please provide site specifics and explain the details regarding the information that will be distributed and how it relates to the services provided by the site as a whole:*

The member will distribute appropriate information as needed. It will be focused on conditions the clients are interested in as well as preventive measures covering such topics as responsible parenting, child discipline, physical activities for children, HIV/AIDS, immunizations, shelters, tobacco use, nutrition and domestic violence. The member will also create a binder with this basic information for future Health Corps members. This information can also be incorporated into the monthly newsletters.

### **5. Promotion of Health Professions**

*Does your service description include giving the member the opportunity to be trained on health professions, health care settings, health care education opportunities, the healthcare needs of the underserved, health disparities, cultural competency, and various health related topics such as tobacco, asthma, hypertension, nutrition and HIV/AIDS? (please check one) X  YES  NO*

*If “yes”, please provide site specifics and explain the details regarding how the member will be trained, gain experience in the health related topics mentioned:*

The Kidstart Assistant will interact with a variety of health professionals including Physicians, Nurses, Pharmacists, Social Workers, and health profession students. The Kidstart Assistant will attend relevant workshops/trainings/conference to learn more about health related topics including health disparities and cultural competency.

### ***IV. Logistical Info***

#### ***Expected Work Schedule:***

40 hours per week

#### ***Orientation Plan:***

The KIDSTART Assistant will spend two weeks traveling to the various shelter sites and training with the KIDSTART Coordinator at those sites. The KIDSTART Assistant will also be trained to perform and score child screenings and will be introduced to proper documentation techniques.

#### ***Service Location(s) if different from site address:***

The KIDSTART Assistant will attend home visits with KIDSTART Coordinator and also attend various shelter/transitional housing sites including: Women’s Center and Shelter, Woman’s Space East, New Beginnings, Sankofa, Open Arms, Alle-Kiski HOPE Center, Healthy Start House, Salvation Army Family Crisis Center. Locations will vary as need requires.

#### ***Additional Info (parking, transportation, ID, etc.):***

Parking is free at the HCH office location, which is also located close to bus transportation.

#### ***Member Qualifications:***

Bachelors Degree preferred

Dependable and punctual

Good communication skills essential (both oral and written)

Accuracy in documentation

Ability to work with the homeless population and desire to work with at-risk children

Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, and Adobe Acrobat Professional