

## Internship Opportunity with CHRISTUS Santa Rosa— Emergency Room (ED) Navigator



CHRISTUS Santa Rosa is a Catholic faith-based, non-profit health care system serving the San Antonio, New Braunfels, and South Texas communities.

CHRISTUS Santa Rosa received the prestigious Accountable Health Communities (AHC) grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to address health-related social needs (HRSN) of Medicare and Medicaid patients.

The AHC Initiative aims to improve community health, reduce health disparities, and decrease preventable hospitalizations.

The AHC Initiative will promote the health and wellbeing of our patients by screening Medicaid and Medicare patients to identify certain unmet HRSNs, referring patients to community resources to meet identified HRSNs, and providing navigation services to assist high-risk patients with accessing social services.

### **As an ED Navigator intern, you will:**

Provide screening, referrals, and navigation services to patients who participate in the AHC program.

- Screen patients using the AHC screening tool to assess needs for food, housing, utilities, transportation, and interpersonal violence.
- Provide community resources referrals to patients identified as high-risk.
- Engage patients by providing navigation services and conducting a patient interview to develop an individualized action plan.
- Provide navigation services until the patient has connected to a community service and the HRSN has been addressed.

**Internship Structure:** CHRISTUS Santa Rosa will work with the student's educational institution for internship requirements. Placement will be located at one of many CHRISTUS hospital facilities to include the Children's Hospital of San Antonio, Medical Center, Westover Hills, and various clinics. Days and hours to be determined.

**For more information, or to apply, please contact:**

**Kristi A. Paiva, MPH, Project Director**

[kristi.paiva@christushealth.org](mailto:kristi.paiva@christushealth.org)

**(210) 704-4890**

**Areas of Applied Knowledge:** Public Health Research and Advocacy, Health Education, Health Program Planning and Implementation

**The ED Navigator Internship will provide valuable work experience to Address Social Determinants of Health Inequities and Advance Health Equity:**

- **Monitoring health status to identify and solve community health problems.**
  - Implementing systematic screening of patients for social needs to address community health inequities
- **Informing, educating, and empowering people about health issues.**
  - Providing navigation services and tailored referrals to community service providers that address social and structural determinants of health
- **Mobilizing community partnerships and action to identify and solve health problems.**
  - Engaging and collaborating with community service partners to improve population health
- **Linking people to needed personal health services**
  - Identifying vulnerable populations through screening for HRSNs
  - Providing ongoing case management.
  - Providing culturally appropriate and targeted health information for Medicaid and Medicare patients
  - Tailoring community referrals to address housing, food, utilities, transportation, safety, and other HRSNs.
- **Evaluating effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of personal and population-based health services.**
  - Continuous program evaluation to examine impact of the AHC Initiative.
- **Researching new insights and innovative solutions to health problems.**
  - Participating in an innovative initiative that links clinical care with community service providers to address the social needs of Medicaid and Medicare patients.