

Review of: "Public Health Student Internship: An Opportunity to Explore System, Self, and Society"

Lindsey Strieter¹

¹ University of Illinois at Chicago

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The overall message of the article involves both compassion and pragmatism. It makes complete sense that PH students should be immersed in a community setting where real interactions are taking place and learning occurs through relationship building. As having worked in vulnerable communities my whole career, it's important to remember that collaboration with communities takes precedence over studying and directing those communities. Universities and researchers can have patronizing relationships, which in the end, creates a distrust. Finally, it's important to note, that through "biomedical knowledge" and "managerial competencies," medical advances can take place and if implemented properly with a working and trusting relationship in the community, they can have many benefits and members of that community can have better health outcomes.