### Background

The current chronic disease burden, growing health disparities, and evolution of our healthcare system require that medical students be equipped with both public health education to effectively manage patients, navigate the healthcare system, and advocate for health equity. The Institute of Medicine and the AAMC emphasize the need for physicians to be trained in public health.1,2 The inaugural year of the revised curriculum at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences (GW SMHS) represented a first step in the institution to integrate clinical public health into medical education. As part of this process, the Clinical Public Health (CLiPH) Working Group, a student formed advisory council, was created to give real time feedback and assess the Public Health & Health Policy theme curriculum at the first year at GW SMHS. The project objectives were:

- To review and evaluate the effectiveness of the public health theme curriculum in the first year of the revised curriculum, including first year medical students’ perceptions and knowledge of the public health theme.
- To develop a proposal to maximize opportunities and achieve better integration of the public health theme into the curriculum.

### Project Objectives and Work Plan

Below is a summary of the overarching project goals, the specific deliverables and the current status of the large project. Because this project has many moving parts and many contributors, this Work Plan served as a living document for project tracking and organization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Work Plan</th>
<th>Deliverables</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Literature Review</td>
<td>Conduct a short literature review to synthesize current landscape in regard to public health in medical education.</td>
<td>2 page literature summary</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Summary of Student &amp; Department Surveys</td>
<td>Analyze student and professional feedback and compile summary reports to direct work to enrich the clinical public health curriculum.</td>
<td>2 page summary of student feedback from COME and OME surveys</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Review and Recommendation Summaries: Public Health Sessions</td>
<td>Complete a review and recommendations for each session within the public health and health policy curriculum theme.</td>
<td>Completion of PHi Session reviews submitted to the Public Health and Health Policy Theme Director</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Work Plan</td>
<td>Work within case based structure of disease and clinical courses to highlight public health concepts.</td>
<td>Compilation of CSR reviews submitted to the CSR directors</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. SMHS for Class of 2016 Survey</td>
<td>Submit IRB addendum application for data collection of the incoming M2 Class of 2019 evaluation of the clinical public health awareness and interest, and perceptions of the public health curriculum at the GW SMHS.</td>
<td>IRB addendum</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Faculty &amp; Expert Engagement</td>
<td>Engage in GW faculty and clinical public health and medicine educators in face-to-face methods (in person feedback and evaluable input).</td>
<td>CHF position description</td>
<td>Completed (1 position secured at this time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Marketing of GW’s MD Program Clinical Public Health Curriculum</td>
<td>Map political and public health outcomes of the means by which effectively market and share the unique and innovative curriculum for clinical public health implementation at the GW SMHS</td>
<td>Summary of supported website revisions.</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Institutionalization of CLiPH Working Group</td>
<td>Develop Clinical Public Health Competency in the SMD.</td>
<td>Establish working relationships between the CLiPH Student Group and all SMD.</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Next Steps

Future work to revise the curriculum should include study of the evolution of students’ knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs surrounding clinical public health and the impact it has on their development as a physician. To better inform the development of the curriculum and how best to engage students within the public health, major stakeholders, such as health departments, community stakeholders, public health experts, and most importantly students should continue to be a part of the dialogue.

The group aims toward public health integration across the four year medical degree curriculum and better collaboration with the GW Milken School of Public Health (SPH) to create an expanded scope of practice within public health for practicing physicians. The CLiPH working group aspires to cultivate a “core social institution” that is of the community, charmed by the community in partnership.3 The CLiPH vision for clinical public health integration:

- Longitudinal community engagement and service
- Expanded network of mentors actively conducting public health work
- Interprofessional education and collaboration
- Advocacy training and opportunities
- Skills in epidemiology, biostatistics, and EBM
- Appropriate evaluation measures for public health
- Social justice integration

### Acknowledgements

Student summer projects were funded by the Health Services Scholarship. The student working group would like to give special appreciation for the guidance and mentorship of Dean Dayton, Dr. Popiel, Dean Goldman, Anne Linton, Dr. Bartholomew, and the numerous SMHS and SPH faculty that collaborated on this project.

### References