## 2012

# **CHIBPS**

# CENTER FOR HEALTH, IDENTITY, BEHAVIOR & PREVENTION STUDIES



# Summer Research Internship Program

A unique opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students



## Current Research Studies: Project 18 (P-18)

Young men who have sex with men (YMSM) continue to experience health disparities with greater frequency than their heterosexual peers. These disparities include increased incidence of substance abuse, HIV infection and various mental health burdens. Collectively these mini epidemics have been theorized to operate synergistically forming a syndemic. This study seeks to explore the theory of syndemic production among YMSM.

Project 18 (P-18) is a longitudinal investigation exploring the developmental pathways of risk and resiliencies with regard to substance use, sexual risk-taking and mental health burden in a sample of 675 18 year-old young men who have sex with men. Seven waves of data will be collected over the course of three years.

The P-18 team consists of researchers from a variety of disciplines including developmental psychology, counseling psychology and public health and social work. Together, we bring a multidisciplinary approach to our study.

The primary goals of P-18 include:

- 1) Explore the trajectories of drug use, sexual risk-taking and mental health burden across time.
- 2) Delineate the risk and protective bases of physical, relational, and psychosocial factors.
- 3) Determine the extent to which the development of syndemics varies by race/ethnicity, social class and residential instability.

For more information about CHIBPS, visit our website at: www.chibps.org



### 2012 CHIBPS Research

## Internship Program

The Center for Health, Identity, Behavior & Prevention Studies (CHIBPS) at New York University, directed by Dr. Perry Halkitis, is seeking undergraduate and graduate interns to join our research team. Our work is nested within the theories of health, counseling, and developmental psychology, and focuses on human development, mental health, and risk taking, including substance use and HIV transmission.

Interns will work on P-18, a psychologically-based longitudinal investigation of the risk and protective bases for substance use, sexual risk-taking and mental health burden in a sample of 600 young men who have sex with men.

Interns should demonstrate a desire to work in a multi-cultural environment with a commitment to diversity, and be team-oriented yet able to work independently.

#### **Intern Responsibilities:**

- Participant recruitment
- Conduct assessments with participants
- Supporting research team in literature review, data compilation, and writing
- Assisting senior researchers with projects
- Coordination and transcription of discovery (qualitative) interviews
- Quantitative data coding and analysis

This is an excellent opportunity to hone research and analytical skills, especially for those interested in applying to social science graduate programs or pursing a career in public health. This is an unpaid research opportunity.

#### **Intern Requirements:**

- Available 30 hours a week
- Demonstrate flexibility
- Comfort with diverse populations
- Respect for confidentiality
- Strong team work skills
- Excellent attention to detail
- Ability to document your work
- Experience with statistical package helpful but not necessary (SPSS)

#### How to Apply:

- Students interested in applying to the CHIBPS internship program should e-mail their resume and a brief letter detailing their interest in a CHIBPS internship to Rob Moeller at robmoeller@nyu.edu .
- For more information about the research center, visit our website at www.chibps.org