



University of Connecticut

Center for Public Health and Health Policy

## Post Doctoral Fellowship Opening in Public Health

Postdoctoral position available beginning July 2008 funded under a USDA National Research Initiative Integrated Obesity Project awarded to Ann M. Ferris, Ph.D., R.D. The position is available for 2 years, with the potential for continuation. The project is designed to evaluate the Information, Motivation, and Behavioral Skills (IMB) model of behavior change to nutrition outreach efforts targeting obesity through reduction of sweetened beverages in preschool children using parents as the agents of change. A randomized control group design at 20 Hartford and Willimantic, CT preschools is planned over a 3 year period using service-learning students to deliver outreach in an innovative “sound bite” approach. The project is led by an interdisciplinary interventionist team with special expertise in qualitative methods, survey research design, and community-based participatory action research. The postdoctoral fellowship will involve working with the team to implement the intervention, oversee data collection and analysis, author reports and manuscripts for dissemination in peer-reviewed journals, and assist with writing grant proposals.

We are seeking a candidate with interest in urban health and working with community agencies; a Ph.D. in public health, nutrition, or a related field by the time of appointment; strong organizational, collaborative, and communication skills; multidisciplinary and multicultural experience; the ability to travel from the offices in Storrs to the intervention sites; a solid understanding of quantitative analyses; and prior publication in peer-reviewed journals. The ability to speak Spanish is desirable. Salary is in the high 30's, in accordance with University of Connecticut guidelines. Full health benefits are included.

Applicants should submit their curriculum vitae, a brief statement of research interests and plans, and the names, addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of at least three references to:

Ann Ferris, Ph.D., R.D.

Center for Public Health and Health Policy

99 Ash Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, MC 7160

East Hartford, CT 06108

or by e-mail to: [aferris@uchc.edu](mailto:aferris@uchc.edu)

Screening of applications will begin May 15, 2008 and continue until the position is filled.