WHAT DO Health Navigators DO?

As a member of the healthcare team, navigators act as a bridge between the team, patients, family and community to improve health outcomes. There are many different roles that a navigator can become:

- Assisting with enrolling individuals into health care.
- Helping people access health care and services.
- Acting as a patient advocate to ensure they are receiving services.
- Promoting the importance of preventive health care and when to use urgent and emergency care.
- Providing case management to ensure individuals are following up with care and receiving services.
- Teaching and empowering individuals to use the primary health care system and when to use the emergency care system.

“The health care system is very complicated for someone who has little understanding of their health coverage and the importance of a primary care home. As Navigators, our goal is to help our consumers understand their coverage to get and maintain the care they need.”

— Ana Rodriguez, Patient Navigator
Omni Family Health

“Omni Family Health Navigators assist consumers/patients in navigating through the medical system. We help enroll into Covered California insurance, Medi-Cal, Food Stamps and Cash Aid. We assist in linking up patients to a primary care home and trouble shoot for them if we have to. We are a patient advocate and case manager all in one.”

— Cyndi Ozuna-Bomar, Healthcare Navigator Outreach Supervisor
Omni Family Health

For more information go to https://tinyurl.com/BCPBHS

@bcpublichealthsciences  @BCPBHS  BCPBHS

BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE
WHAT IS A Health Navigator?

A Patient or Health Navigator is a health care professional who works as part of a team or health care system to reduce barriers to accessing health care and promoting prevention services.

A health navigator helps patients communicate with their healthcare providers so they get the information they need to make decisions about their health care and also help them navigate health care insurance. For many the process of accessing health care can be difficult.

“Patient navigators help people overcome barriers to health care access and understand how to make the most of their health care options. They prevent health problems in the community through education and collaboration with community partners making a difference in people’s lives.”
— Carlos Bello, Member Health Educator Bilingual Kern Health Systems

IMPORTANT SKILLS SETS:
+ Possess critical thinking skills
+ Advocate for others
+ Help those who are sick
+ Enjoy navigating systems
+ Like to learn new things
+ Possess strong people skills and is knowledgeable about community resources

WHAT Employment Opportunities ARE AVAILABLE FOR HEALTH NAVIGATORS?

There is an increased demand for public health care workers. According to the US Department of Labor Outlook, the job growth for health educators and community health workers is anticipated to grow by 21% over in the next few years. It is predicted that there will be 250,000 jobs needed in 2020.

Course Requirements of Certificate

The Health Navigator Program competencies closely align with the health education profession. All course work will include required public health sciences classes PBHS 20, 21, 22, and 23 with supplemental courses.

Courses are grounded in the principles of public health and can be used to continue course work at the CSU and UC levels. In addition, the curriculum will include an experimental practice-based learning class. The curriculum is designed to be flexible enough to support students in various stages of their career and academic paths.

Total units: 24

**Semester One**
(totals units for this semester - it may be a range)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBHS 20</td>
<td>Introduction to Public Health</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBHS 21</td>
<td>Contemporary Health Concerns</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDS</td>
<td>Lifespan Development*</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMM B9</td>
<td>Health Communication</td>
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**Semester Two**
(totals units for this semester - it may be a range)*

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBHS 22</td>
<td>Drugs, Health and Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PBHS 23</td>
<td>Health and Social Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>HEIT 25</td>
<td>Health Care Reimbursement</td>
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<td>PBHS B48WE</td>
<td>Occupational Work Experience</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Education/Internship**</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

*Or course with similar student learning outcomes on developmentally appropriate practice and human development.

** Substitution based on review with similar student learning outcomes or experiences