SHP Student Interns for Research and Scholarly Activities
Application of Project Proposal Form

Instructions:
Please fill out the form and return via email to Michele Sisco (mcoral@shp.rutgers.edu) by **March 25, 2024**. **Please fill each box to the right of each required field.** If you are sending attachments, please ensure your contact information is added to all your forms.

Faculty Contact Information:

Date submitted:	3/25/24
Faculty Name:	Shankar Srinivasan; Kenneth J. Gill
Department/Program:	Health Informatics and Psychiatric Rehabilitation& & Counseling Professions
Telephone number:	908 566 8806
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Project Detail:

Project Title: (56 characters max)	What do public databases tell us about mortality and mental illness?
Hypothesis:	Publicly available national databases of mortality statistics can be used to identify factors associated with early mortality among persons with mental illness compared to the general population. The age of death of persons with a specific cause of death who have a mental illness will be significantly lower than others dying from the same cause who do not have a mental illness. The age of death of persons receiving Social Security disability benefits due to mental illness will be lower than that of persons receiving disability benefits for other reasons
Description: (Include design, methodology, data collection, techniques, data analysis to be employed, evaluation and interpretation methodology for research component)	The Social Security Death Index, CDC - National Vital Statistics System; Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance system will be examined, as well as BRFSS including states that include mental illness data. In addition, the New Jersey databases of the state's death index and BRFSS which feed the CDC's will also be examined. Relevant descriptive statistics including mean, standard deviation, ranges and percentages will be computed. Cross-tabulations and associated statistics will be assessed with chi-square and related statistics. Predictive models will be assessed with logistic and linear regression. Mortality will be predicted with survival analyses. Contrasts will be assessed with

	analysis of variance models.
	Analyses will be done in the most recently available years and compared to previous years when available.
Specific Student Responsibilities:	1. Download the portions of the databases that are publicly available.
	2. Help prepare permissions to download special requests associated with the databases.
	3. Review existing coding of variables.
	4. Recode variables as needed with faculty
	5. Compute relevant descriptive statistics
	6. Examine statistical associations among age at death cause of death, other conditions including mental illness
	7. Do analysis contrasting age of death by condition.
Start / end date of project:	May through August 2024

Educational:

WHAT OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS? (e.g., journal club, seminars, clinic, rounds)	The primary opportunity will be individual supervision and mentorship by both informatics and psychiatric rehabilitation faculty. Also, participation in Psych Rehab's Scholarly Accomplishment Days.
WHERE DO YOU PLAN TO PRESENT OR PUBLISH THE FINDINGS WITH THE STUDENT? (e.g., national or state meetings, newsletter or journal, SHP poster day)	This project is of such significance it would potentially be publishable in a number of peer-reviewed journals: *Psychiatric Services, Community Mental Health Journal, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Journal.* National conferences might include National Council on Mental Well-Being and National Alliance on Mental Illness, State conferences would include NJPRA, NJAMHA, and NAMI-NJ/ Inclusion of findings in 4th edition of Pratt et al. *Psychiatric Rehabilitation.*

CHECK ALL APPROPRIATE BOXES BELOW AND PROVIDE REQUESTED INFORMATION.

This project is: ☐ clinical   ☐ laboratory   X ☐ behavioral   ☐ survey   ☐ educational

X Other: please specify: archival, statistical_____

☐ This project involves the use of human subjects (including chart review, retrospective studies and questionnaires). NO, public databases, non-human subjects

Pending ☐   Approved ☐   IRB Protocol Number _____

IRB approval must be obtained by June 2024

DocuSigned by:

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Signature of Department Chair Kenneth J. Gill   Date

DocuSigned by:

Shankar Sirinivasan
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Signature of Department Chair Shankar Sirinivasan   Date

OR-For internal use
Form: (1)
Reviewed date:_____
Date processed on website:_____