Public Health Service-Learning Opportunity in Tepatitlán and Tequililla, Mexico:

Are you a proficient Spanish-speaker looking for hands-on community experience in Latin America? Are looking for a chance to design your own project while collaborating with the community? Or participate in community health fairs? If you are a Health Sciences or Graduate student with an interest in Public Health and community/student led initiatives who speaks Spanish than this course is for you.

WHO: Health Sciences/Graduate students with strong Spanish
WHAT & WHERE: 2 credit Service-Learning opportunity around Tepatitlán and Tequililla, Jalisco Mexico.
WHEN: Spring semester course with travel opportunities Summer 2010
Cost: Fees expected to be about $1000 per person (including airfare). Some funding available.

Starting in late 2006, students and faculty from UW-Madison (UW) and University of Guadalajara (UDG) began collaborating around issues of public health and advocacy. Tequililla is a small community outside of Tepatitlán and it has been the site where much of the community-based activities have taken place. After a successful health fair and the initiation of an agricultural project, trust with community leaders began to emerge and the community has invited UDG/UW to work with them as partners as they look for ways to improve their quality of life.

The course is meant to allow students to take control of their own learning and provide opportunities for student-led projects. There will be the possibility of longer (4-6 week) internships related to the student’s project and interests.

The course will be two credits (1 credit for prep-work and follow-up and 1 credit for work in Mexico).

The course objectives are:

1. Generate and implement small community activities related to:
   a. Youth services
   b. Health and nutrition information
   c. Environment and sanitation
   d. Income generation
2. Gather information on each theme and present it to the community
3. Work with and learn from the community and their situation in Tequililla

These objectives with be met through:

- Work as an interdisciplinary team made up of UW students and students from the Universidad de Guadalajara,
- Student-led projects and follow through with the community
- Community site visits to medical centers, markets, job sites, etc.,
- Guided reflections, meetings, and presentations

If you are interested in participating in this course, there will be an informational meeting:

WHEN: OCTOBER 15th, 2009 12PM
WHERE: 1267 Health Sciences Learning Center (1st floor, off of the Atrium)
RSVP by October 12th, 2009 to akwilliams@wisc.edu or dipretebrown@wisc.edu