

During Fall 2020, public health undergraduate student interns collaborated with health department staff and Zuckerman College of Public Health faculty and staff to complete community engagement projects on behalf of the Academic Health Department Initiative. The students created a blog summarizing their experiences.



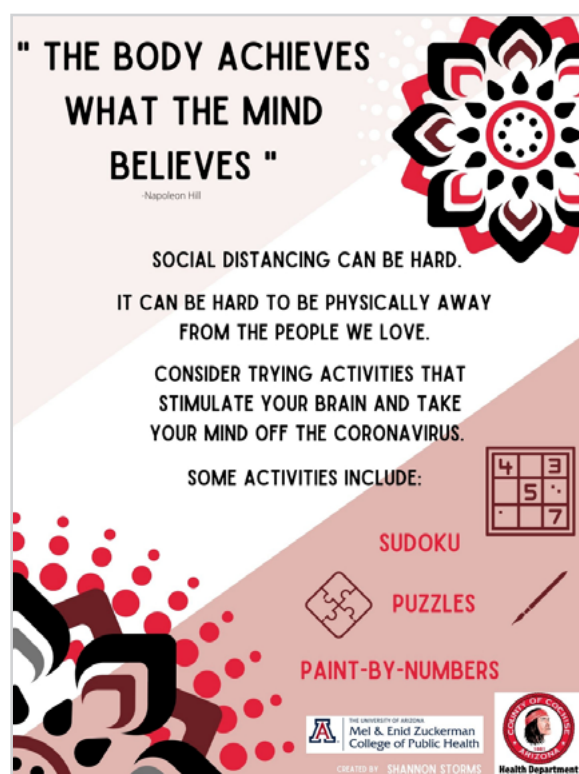
## Shannon Storms

**Hometown:** Tucson, AZ

During my internship, I collaborated with Cochise County Health and Social Services staff, developing graphics to address COVID-19 fatigue and stress. The project's purpose was to provide communities in Cochise County with easy to digest graphics with links for resources and/or tips for managing mental health wellbeing during the pandemic.

I served in the military, and because Cochise County has a high population of active and retired military, it made sense for me to develop messaging for the military community. I also collaborated with a MEZCOPH doctoral student studying suicide prevention. His expertise helped inform the messaging and graphics content. Cochise County Health Social Services shared the graphics I developed though their Facebook page and with organizations directly serving veterans in the community.

Additionally, I supported a graphic partnership with the University of Arizona Prevention Research Center (AzPRC) - a collaboration that strives to address chronic disease health disparities in underserved populations in Southern Arizona. I developed a graphic on the evaluation of AzPRC's Linking Individual Needs to Community and Clinical Service (LINKS) Program. LINKS is a community health worker model program designed to create a continuum of services between primary care and community services. Local health departments, MEZCOPH, and federally qualified health centers are part of the program, which serves as excellent example of blending public health research and practice to meet community needs.



*Cochise Health and Social Services AHD Mental Health Graphic*