Social Justice Internship Community Partner Opportunities, Summer 2022

The Carleton Social Justice Internships provides funding for the selected students to work with our Community Partners to explore different fields, learn related skills, and connect their academic studies with civic engagement. More Community Partner Opportunities will be added in the next few months. For more information, please contact Carolyn Fure-Slocum (cfureslo).

1. AMOS (A Mid-Iowa Organizing Strategy) in Central Iowa with Courtney Dufford ‘14

AMOS is a broad-based organization of faith congregations, neighborhood associations, and nonprofits working together to develop citizen leaders, strengthen community institutions, and advocate on the issues important to families. Together, AMOS leaders are working to build relationships across lines of race, income, citizenship status, geography, and religion in Des Moines and surrounding suburbs, Ames, and rural Polk, Story, and Warren counties.

AMOS has a 25 year track record of success in Central Iowa. Significant victories include a children's crisis mental health system, initiating Let’s Talk- a restorative justice mediation program in Des Moines Public Schools, leveraging funding for the Lauridsen Skatepark in Des Moines- the country’s largest open-air skatepark, and creating Project IOWA- a workforce intermediary that has trained and placed over 700 formerly impoverished central Iowa residents into career track, living wage jobs. AMOS is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the nation’s oldest and largest community organizing network.

This 8-10 week internship is an opportunity to learn and practice tools of social change such as 1-1 relational meetings, small group “house meetings”, research actions with power people and issue experts, and learning how to conduct a power analysis. The intern will work with experienced organizers and diverse community leaders on a variety of issue campaigns and strategies.

An ideal intern candidate is entrepreneurial, curious about diverse peoples and how community systems are organized, and willing to learn. Limited public transportation in Central Iowa makes access to a car a requirement. Amos Handshake Link


The James H. Binger Center for New Americans is a clinical program at the University of Minnesota Law School that works collaboratively with partner organizations to help expand representation to non-citizens facing removal proceedings and pursues strategic federal court litigation to improve laws and policy for immigrants and mitigate harsh potential policies. The Binger Center also engages in education and outreach to immigrant and refugee communities.

Interns will work with Binger Center faculty and staff including Ben Casper Sanchez ‘90, Linus Chan, Deepinder Singh Mayell, Nadia Anguiano-Wehde, Mahmoud Ahmed, Kathy Moccio and Lorena Anderson. Interns will be responsible for supporting legal and educational outreach to the immigrant community. This will include supporting our legal team with several types of intake and follow-up for those seeking assistance. Duties may include working with on-going cases, research, policy campaigns, and day-to-day support in all types of immigration cases. Policy work may focus on shaping new immigration-related laws or regulations at both the federal and state levels. Litigation support may
include interviewing clients and drafting declarations, researching state and federal statutes, and compiling materials on human rights practices or other matters for use in immigration cases.

To qualify for the internships, students should be able to speak Spanish or Somali and be interested in immigration law, education and policy. Flexibility and commitment to access and support for immigrants are also needed. The internships will be full time from June to August. Students will have an amazing opportunity to learn about cutting edge immigration work from individuals who are deeply committed to it, as well as the chance to contribute to implementing policies with the potential to change people’s lives.

3. **Immigrant Law Center of MN, with Jenny Stohl Powell ’89, Robyn Meyer-Thompson, and Tim Sanders Szabo**

There are exciting opportunities to build greater inclusion and equity in immigration law and policy in Minnesota, working both with individuals and organizations at local and national levels. The Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota is the State’s largest provider of free legal services for diverse immigrant and refugee communities.

Interns will report to Robyn Meyer-Thompson and Tim Sanders Szabo at the ILCM and will be responsible for supporting legal representation to detained immigrants, educational outreach to the immigrant community, and supporting ILCM’s pro bono work.

Each volunteer term will begin with an assessment of both the student’s individual goals and the areas of highest need in the immigrant and refugee communities. Often this will include supporting our legal team with several types of intake and follow-up for those seeking legal assistance. Duties may include working with on-going cases, research, and day-to-day support in pro bono immigration cases. Interns may also work on the Minnesota Detention Project, which provides free legal screenings to unrepresented detained immigrants in deportation proceedings. These screenings identify potential relief, and evaluate if there are free, full-representation legal services available for the respondent. Interns may also work on other legal projects depending on current office needs.

To qualify for the internship, students should ideally be able to speak Spanish, Somali or Hmong and be interested in immigration law, education and policy. Flexibility and commitment to fair treatment and support for immigrants are also needed. The internships will be full time from June to August. Students will have an amazing opportunity to learn about essential immigration legal work from professionals who are deeply committed to it and work directly with clients to improve their immigration status.

4. **ISAIAH Faith-based Community Organizing with Alexa Horwart, JaNaé Bates, Brian Fullman, Elliot Altbaum, and Kathryn Lozada ‘12**

ISAIAH is a political home for people of faith and good will to work collectively for racial, economic, and environmental justice in Minnesota. ISAIAH is grounded in using the principles and practices of community-based organizing to achieve its mission. The primary strategy of ISAIAH is to develop the capacity and leadership of people to be agents of change in their communities and in Minnesota. ISAIAH is statewide, connecting people of different faiths, races, and backgrounds through our congregational organizing, Muslim Coalition, the Black Barbershop and Church Cooperative, Kids Count on Us, and the Young Adult Coalition.

**Organizing Internship**
ISAIAH has been very involved in addressing climate change and public safety, raising the minimum wage, maintaining funding for public health care programs, and fighting for immigrants without documentation to be able to gain a driver's license. This internship would either work with the Southern MN congregational organizing team or with the Young Adult Coalition. The Young Adult Coalition of ISAIAH is a political home for students, renters, and anyone under the age of 40 who wants to organize together for climate, racial, and economic justice.

This work will likely include:

- Work with grassroots leaders in multiple congregations to hold 1-1 and/or small group meetings around people’s experiences of issues such as housing, climate, immigration, healthcare, etc.
- Work with the young adult coalition on climate change, rent stabilization, and public safety campaigns that can include research visits with local officials and partners, public actions, and shaping the narrative through social media.

The full-time organizing intern will work over an 8-10 week period. Depending on the intern’s interests and organizational priorities, the intern could be based in the Twin Cities, Northfield, St Cloud, or other Greater MN cities. They must have access to a car, if not in a location with adequate public transportation. Ability to speak Spanish is a plus but not required.

**Communications Internship**

The Communications Intern will work directly with ISAIAH’s Communications Director. The intern will be trained on executing strategic communications in social justice movement spaces by using narrative shifting language and storytelling across race, class, and religion.

The skills to be potentially exercised and developed include:

- Written and verbal communications
- Copy Editing
- Social Media Skills (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram)
- Traditional Media and Press Relations (Print, Radio and Television)
- Blogging
- Storytelling and Narrative Shifting
- Photography and Videography
- Digital Organizing

The full time communications intern will work over an 8-10 week period based in the Twin Cities.

Isaiah Handshake Link

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5. **The Pine Ridge Indian Reservation with Peter Hill ’00 and Matthew Rama**

The Pine Ridge Reservation is one of the largest reservations in North America. It encompasses 3,500 square miles of rolling prairie, pine hills, and badlands, and is larger than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. Oglala Lakota County, which makes up the majority of reservation land, is the poorest county in the United States, and there are many reservation-based advocacy organizations and non-profits making a positive difference in the communities.
Peter Hill ‘00 and Matthew Rama have been living and working on the reservation for decades. They work with the **Lakota Immersion Childcare Program**, founded by Peter in 2012. Interns with a diverse set of skills work on some of their many projects and initiatives, such as helping to design curriculum, writing grants, and doing program outreach and publicity. Technology skills and artistic abilities are also needed to help create Lakota online multimedia programs. An eagerness to pitch in and help where needed is the most important quality we seek in an intern. Obviously, Lakota language knowledge is not a prerequisite, although you will likely pick up a lot while you're here!

Housing is arranged by the program but access to a vehicle is important for at least one of the Carleton interns, given the distances there. **If you are interested in applying, please first contact Carolyn Fure-Slocum (cfureslo) for more information about this challenging and meaningful opportunity.** [Pine Ridge Handshake Link](#)

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