

# Yale University

## President's Public Service Fellowship

### Proposal for Fellowship Placement Summer 2023

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#### Organization information

<i>Name of organization</i>	Horizons at Foote
<i>Full street address</i>	50 Loomis Place, New Haven CT 06511
<i>Website or link to social media page</i>	<a href="https://www.horizonsatfoote.org">https://www.horizonsatfoote.org</a>

#### PPSF Fellow's direct supervisor

*The supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis.*

<i>Name</i>	Rashana Graham
<i>Title</i>	Executive Director
<i>Cell phone number</i>	203-443-1884
<i>E-mail address</i>	<a href="mailto:horizons@footeschool.org">horizons@footeschool.org</a>

**Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 30, 2023 through Friday, August 11, 2023)**

June 12 to August 11, 2022

**Are placement dates flexible? Are there any dates on which your Fellow must work?**

Placement dates are firm.

**Proposed work schedule (*work week should equal and not exceed 37.5 hours per week*)**

Monday 8am-3:30pm

Tuesday 8am-3:30pm

Wednesday 8am-3:30pm

Thursday 8am-3:30pm

Friday 8am-3:30pm

**Organization description (*mission statement, population served. 1,000 characters or less*)**

Horizons at Foote advances educational equity through a robust academic and enrichment program that builds on long-term partnerships with families and communities to provide a joyful, safe, and inspiring learning environment that empowers students from New Haven Public Schools to thrive in an ever-changing world.

Diversity, equity, belonging, and justice are central to our mission. Horizons at Foote engages in respectful partnerships with families to narrow education and opportunity gaps. Through our joint efforts, we nurture a sense of belonging in each member of our community. We embrace diversity in staffing, leadership, and governance so that students see themselves in the adults they interact with.

Our curriculum honors the communities from which our students are drawn, and our social-emotional learning celebrates the similarities we share in our emotional responses to the world around us.

**Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting (500 characters or less).**

Work with a Horizons at Foote head teacher in a classroom of 16 students during a six-week summer academic and enrichment program to help and lead small group activities, and work with students on skill development and additional classroom needs. As Needed: rotate/float in classrooms, and support administrative tasks of the Executive Director.

**Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.**

Position Summary: Horizons at Foote is looking for a dedicated, flexible, and enthusiastic Intern who loves working with children, works well in collaboration with others, and takes initiative. A strong commitment to the Horizons at Foote mission and an interest in being involved in our community during the six-week summer enrichment program is key, as well as an interest in social justice.

Our summer program runs from the last week of June through the first week of August, from Monday to Friday. As of summer 2021, we have reached full capacity for the program in grades K to 8. Our project-based model uses a blend of high-quality academics with cultural enrichment and confidence-building activities like swimming, arts, and sports. Programming includes intentional and targeted academic skill-building and opportunities for student choice. We partner

with other community organizations within the New Haven area to provide enriching experiences in coding, cooking, music, and more.

Students receive essential support at Horizons – for academic and social-emotional development. Working with students individually and in small groups, our full-time social worker helps students deal with some of the stresses and adverse experiences in their lives during the pandemic. The 4:1 student to teacher ratio at Horizons means students always receive individual support, with consistency from teachers they have known over multiple years. We will continue to use the RULER program to help students process the long-term effects of the pandemic on their social-emotional health; students and staff identify their feelings and moods each day and communicate them verbally, with teachers providing space and time to allow students to learn to regulate their emotions in productive and collegial ways.

Swimming, at the heart of Horizons at Foote, is not only a fun summer activity - it's a life-saving, confidence-building skill. Most students come to Horizons at Foote as non-swimmers who are afraid of the water. When their teachers and peers join them in the pool, they build trust and self-esteem, and those qualities carry over into the classroom. All our enrichment activities - sports, sewing, yoga, cooking, music, art and more - are designed with this goal in mind. When students have the opportunity to explore new subjects and discover talents, it empowers them in school and life.

#### Duties:

- Work with head teacher in a classroom of 16 students during a six-week summer enrichment program
- Develop and lead small group activities
- Help plan and present class lessons if applicable
- Work with individual students to support identified skill development
- Help prepare and gather materials for lessons and projects
- Assist monitoring students at recess and specials
- Attend field trips, participate daily in meals with students
- Swim with students
- Attend Family Night, faculty meetings and other duties as assigned
- Attend one week of orientation and set up prior to the start of the program

#### Outcomes:

We implement several tools to evaluate our success, which the Fellow's work will directly impact:

- STAR assessments of student math and reading levels pre- and post- summer

- Attendance data; we report attendance to Horizons National, and use it to ensure students receive the full benefit and resources of our program
- Surveys from, and personal feedback meetings with, students and families on program impact and quality
- Individual teacher reports on both students' educational and social-emotional progress

Fellows serving at Horizons at Foote will act as a teacher, mentor, and guide to the students in their classroom, and act as a resource to the head teacher.

Through flexibility and humility, they will enrich the program and help accomplish the goals outlined above. In addition, it is our goal to likewise enrich the Fellow's skills through participation in professional development and training, and increase their understanding of New Haven and the students and families who live here.

**List specific skills/experience required for the project**

- Experience working with elementary and/or middle school children
- A passion for learning and working with children
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Swimming skills a plus
- Able to accept accountability and give critical feedback
- Inclusive to the school community
- Show humility and positivity

**Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement.**

Having a car is useful to ensure arriving on time, but not required. In addition to the regular hours, attending the weekly staff meeting once a week until 4:30 pm is preferred.

**Briefly describe any work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.**

Since our first Yale Presidential Public Service Fellow in 1996, Fellows have worked intensively with a Head Teacher in a child-centered, activity-based classroom: planning lessons, developing curriculum according to interests, supervising small reading groups, working with individual students as needed. In

the two weeks before students arrive on campus for our summer program, Fellows have 1) participated in a week-long training for all staff prior to the start of the summer, and 2) had the opportunity to assist with pre-summer testing for Horizons students and support the Executive Director with planning.