

Yale University

President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement Summer 2024

Organization information

<i>Name of organization</i>	Calvin Hill Day Care Center
<i>Full street address</i>	150 Highland Street, New Haven, CT 06511
<i>Website or link to social media page</i>	www.calvinhilldaycare.org

PPSF Fellow's direct supervisor

<i>Name</i>	Susan Taddei
<i>Title</i>	Director
<i>Cell phone number</i>	(203) 530-6606
<i>E-mail address</i>	susan@calvinhilldaycare.org

What is the best way for prospective student applicants to contact you with questions about your proposal?

- Send an e-mail with questions

Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 28, 2024 through Friday, August 9, 2024)

We transition from our regular school year to our summer program on Monday, June 10th. The summer program ends on July 26th.

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

Flexible, but we close two weeks before your program ends so they would want to be here as much as possible from May 28th to July 26th.

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

Our regular teacher schedule is exactly 37.5 hours a week. Teachers work a 7.5 hour day but our program is open for children from 8:00 to 5:15. The fellow would likely work from 8:30-4:00 or 10:00-5:30 shift.

If a hybrid schedule is offered at your site, please describe:

We don't offer a hybrid schedule.

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

The mission of Calvin Hill Day Care Center and its Kitty Lustman-Findling Kindergarten is to provide high-quality, affordable, nurturing care and education to children between the ages of 2 years 8 months to 6 years old. We currently have 54 children enrolled. Families pay tuition based on their annual income. 75% of our families are Yale affiliated. We participate in the New Haven School Readiness Program. We serve as a support for families, working in partnership with parents to meet the emotional, social, physical, intellectual, and academic needs of their children. The Center values diversity in all forms and aspires to be a welcoming place for all people. The importance of childcare has become even more obvious since the COVID-19 pandemic. Childcare is essential for working families and the field deserves to be treated with respect. Our teachers are highly qualified, many with advanced degrees, and take the work very seriously. Calvin Hill is accredited through NAEYC.

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

The fellow will work directly with children and will support overall program quality and integrated play-based, emergent curriculum. They will be part of a team of caring and attentive teachers that strive to engage children in our program activities provide support for them as they navigate the social and emotional challenges of their day.

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

Initially, the fellow will observe in the classrooms to get to know the children and the teaching style of our staff. The fellow will always work under the

supervision of our experienced teachers and will not be solely responsible for the supervision of children or planning curriculum.

Depending on skill level and interest, our fellow will take on many helpful roles in the classroom over the weeks of their placement. They will work with children in small groups, read stories, observe children while they play, sit with them at meals and nap time, and help with the general maintenance of the classroom (setting up cots, helping with clean up time, etc.) Childcare is really an all hands on deck effort.

The fellow will work full-time in our classroom from May 28th to July 26th. Most of this time will be during our summer program when the children spend more time outside, playing in the sprinklers and helping in the garden. Full time is 7.5 hours per day. A typical shift is 8:30-4:00 or 10:00-5:30.

Several fellows have been particularly interested in the theory and practice of early childhood education. To that end, we have made available a highly experienced mentor teacher who can provide relevant readings and will meet with the fellow to discuss these readings and other aspects of the placement at Calvin Hill.

List any specific skills/experience required for the project

1. Experience working with young children is required, such as camp counseling or babysitting.
2. Ability to work on a team.
3. Interest in child development and early education.
4. Good interpersonal skills.
5. Able to relate to people from all different backgrounds.
6. Energy and stamina.
7. The ability to find joy in relationships with children and adults.

Additional requirements

A car is helpful but Calvin Hill can be reached by the Yale Shuttle. A physical within the last year and a TB test required, per licensing regulations. We initiate a background check through the Office of Early Childhood BCIS database. These steps should begin about a month before the first day of the placement.

Briefly describe any work that Yale PPSF Fellows and/or Yale students have done with your organization.

We have been fortunate to have had several Yale Presidential Fellows before the pandemic, most recently in 2019. Fellows left our program with heightened observation skills, a better understanding of the day-to-day preschool experience for children, families, and teachers, and an appreciation for the complexity of

running a high-quality, educationally sound childcare program. Two of our past fellows joined our Board of Directors as our Yale undergraduate representative for their senior year.

Calvin Hill also provides observation experiences for Yale undergraduates participating in three courses (Theory and Practice of Early Childhood Education, Child Development, and Language, Literacy, and Play) taught by Dr. Carla Horwitz, the Director Emerita of Calvin Hill Day Care Center. Dr. Horwitz is a member of the faculty at the Yale Child Study Center, the Department of Psychology, and the Education Studies Program. We also employ many dedicated Yale undergraduates and graduate students through the Yale work study program to help in our classrooms during the academic year.