

Yale University

President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement Summer 2024

Organization information

<i>Name of organization</i>	Christian Community Action
<i>Full street address</i>	168 Davenport Ave. New Haven, CT 06511
<i>Website or link to social media page</i>	www.ccahelping.org

PPSF Fellow's direct supervisor

<i>Name</i>	Hannah Croasmun
<i>Title</i>	ARISE Center Director
<i>Cell phone number</i>	203-640-7865
<i>E-mail address</i>	hcroasmun@ccahelping.org

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

- Send an e-mail to set up a 15-minute phone call to discuss

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

May 30 - Aug 9

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

We are flexible with placements dates anytime between May 30 - Aug 9. We'd prefer a longer placement if possible.

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

Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 5:00pm (including 30 minute lunch breaks)

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

In-person is preferred, but could do remote as needed in conversation with supervisor

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

Christian Community Action (CCA's) mission is to express faithful witness by providing help, housing and hope to families in need in New Haven. We serve families in New Haven experiencing homelessness by providing apartment style emergency shelter (Hillside Family Shelter/HFS). We also provide other emergency needs such as food, diapers and assistance with utilities to people in the community. With our ARISE (Accessing Resources for Independence, Skill-building and Employment) Center, we go beyond emergency help and incorporate a two generational approach with families to help them on their journey to independence. We also engage in advocacy through out Advocacy and Education Project, incorporating data and people's stories to change systems to perpetuate poverty and injustice.

Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting.

Assist our Hillside Family Shelter and ARISE Center staff with helping residents and community members access child care and employment. The fellow would offer support, do research and explore resources.

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

1. With the poverty in New Haven being 25% (US Census Bureau) and unemployment rate in the Hill area at 12% (Datahaven.org), it is imperative that we assist people receiving CCA services in increasing their economic security. The summer fellow would help people in the Hillside Family Shelter in their employment goals-- assisting with resume writing and job searches, regularly tracking employment progress, keeping notes, and reporting out to our agency staff.
2. CCA offers aftercare services--up to a year--after a family leaves shelter in order to help a family continue to be stable. The summer fellow can follow up

with some of CCA's aftercare families, administering check-in surveys and connecting to resources as directed by staff.

3. In our advocacy work, we are pursuing ways to preserve the stories of those facing the challenges in poverty to use for communications and advocacy. We have started a story lab, making videos of those in our shelter, aftercare and grassroots advocacy group. The summer fellow can help us expand this work.

4. Helping with our social media

5. Depending on the initiative and interest of the summer fellow, they can do research on the needs and assets of New Haven, especially in the Hill area.

List any specific skills/experience required for the project

- Ability to work with diverse people in different situations, including those experiencing homelessness
- Computer skills, including Microsoft Word, Google Suite/Workspace
- Interpersonal and time management skills
- Consistency
- Research experience
- Collaborate with staff
- Comfort with talking on the phone
- Speaking Spanish a plus
- Designing graphics a plus

Additional requirements

The job would be based at 158 Davenport Ave., but at times, might require going from 158 Davenport to 660 Winchester Ave (our other site). A car would be helpful to get between these two sites, although, other options include biking or use of public transportation. A DCF background check might be required if the fellow works with children, but that does not need to be done prior to the internship (we can do it as needed during the internship).

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

Yale PPSF Fellows have helped with summer programming for children in our shelters, planned a back-to-school event, design and co-facilitate a teen girls' empowerment group, helped with advocacy work through making displays and collecting stories. CCA regularly benefits from Yale students offering time to join in our efforts, like helping with our distribution of 1300 Thanksgiving baskets to the community, sorting, organizing food pantry, and helping with all sorts of events. THANK YOU!