If conditions allow, PPSF will offer in-person fellowships in the summer of 2022. In the event that in-person summer placements are not approved by Yale University, prospective sites will be notified and asked to modify proposals to reflect remote work.

- Organization: Friends Center for Children

- Organization’s street address: 227 East Grand Avenue, New Haven, CT 06513

- Website: www.friendscenterforchildren.org

- Name and title of person who will be the Fellow’s direct supervisor (the supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis): Allyx Schiavone, Executive Director

- Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor (please note: during the application process, we encourage prospective Fellows to contact organizations directly with any questions about organization placements or projects): aschiavone@friendscenterforchildren.org, 203-468-1966

- Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 31 and Friday, August 12, 2022): 11 week Fellowship period of May 31 - Friday August 12th, 2022.

- Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: Friends Center would like to take advantage of a full eleven week placement and would be flexible in ensuring to support the specific needs of the Fellow when identifying and confirming the final dates.

- Proposed work schedule (placements should be equivalent to full-time and not more than 37.5 hours/week): Friends Center would like to propose a suggested working schedule of Monday – Friday from 8.30am -5.00pm.

Placement Description

- Organization description (mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.):

  Friends Center for Children is an early childhood education center providing year-round, full-time care for children in New Haven ages 3 months to 5 years. We are a non-sectarian cooperative located in Fair Haven Heights and Beaver Hill/Westville areas and founded by members of New Haven Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Friends Center advances racial equity in New Haven by offering high-quality care to families that do not and would not otherwise have access through our Sliding Scale Tuition Program. Our program seeks to bridge racial, ethnic, and economic divide, and to create a community of families actively involved in the education of their children.
Our mission is: *educate children, empower families, inspire teachers, engage community, embrace diversity, embody equity*

Friends Center currently serves 122 children at two sites, in three Preschool classrooms and seven Infant Toddler Classrooms, and we serve their 350+ parents and caregivers.

- Write a 1-2 sentence **summary** of the proposed work for a summer 2022 Fellow:

  Friends Center for Children’s current plan for a Yale 2022 Fellow is two-fold:  
  (1) to consider the economic sustainability of the early childhood education (ECE) industry with specific attention to the cost of care vs market rate analysis and  
  (2) to create a shared service model for supporting the “back of house costs” of New Haven’s early care and education programs.

  OR, if the [Build Back Better Plan](https://buildbackbetter.org/) passes in the Senate, we would like a Yale 2022 Fellow  
  (1) to help Friends Center evaluate and formulate our financial projections with respect to the Act  
  (2) to identify how the Act will affect Friends Center’s economic model

- Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (*Suggested length: one to two pages.*)

  If the Build Back Better Act is undecided or in process in 2022:  
  Friends Center for Children would like a Yale 2022 Fellow  
  (1) to consider the economic sustainability of the ECE industry with specific attention to the actual cost of care vs market rate analysis and  
  (2) to create a shared service model that includes accounting, nursing, janitorial services, bulk purchasing and other ‘back of house’ costs for New Haven’s early care and education programs. This project would equip Friends Center, and the New Haven ECE industry, with the data and metrics needed to identify and reduce service duplication (and therefore costs) across New Haven’s early education sector.

  OR, if the Build Bank Better Plan passes through the Senate, it will set the stage for introducing “Child Social Security in America”, to paraphrase the words of Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro. The investments in Children, Families and Caregiving in this Plan are revolutionary in terms of elevating the child care and early childhood education industry to the level of critical, national economic infrastructure.

  Specifically, the Build Back Better Act will:

  - Provide universal preschool for all 3-4 year olds in America: this will expand access to free high-quality preschool for more than 6 million children.
• Provide affordable high quality child care by limiting the child care costs for American families to no more than 7% of income for families earning up to 250% of state median income: this will enable states to expand access to about 20 million children.

In practice, the Act will make financial assistance for child care near universal and pre-Kindergarten for all children ages 3 and 4 free. These plans would impact the child care and early childhood education sector beginning in FY2022.

The ECE industry has demonstrated that subsidized child care and high quality early education greatly benefit children from low income families. Multiple studies estimate that the long-term benefits of investing in such high quality child care and early education has a return which far outweighs the costs. For every $1 invested, the return is calculated at $8-13.

Friends Center for Children is therefore determined to ensure that our financial projections for the phasing in period of the Build Back Better Act are clear in terms of the Act’s impact on our overall program and in terms of our own financial projections over the next four years.

Friends Center for Children would therefore like a Yale 2022 Fellow to consider how the Build Back Better Act would influence our existing Sliding Scale Tuition Program and how the increased level of subsidized care will affect our projected income streams and our children and families in terms of demographics. Our goal with this Fellowship is to create updated budget models during the phase-in process of the Act, FY2022- FY2025, after which all families earning up to 250% of the state median income will become eligible to receive subsidized care.

Outcomes and duties:
Friends Center’s Yale 2022 Public Service Fellow project, in whichever manifestation, is very much one of Strategic Planning. The deliverables/outcomes/duties for the Strategic Project outlined for the Yale 2022 Fellow would include preparing the following for internal consideration:

• Financial Model (i.e Excel spreadsheet)
• Presentation (i.e Powerpoint, Board presentation)
• Planning Document (strategy recommendation)
• Report (i.e White paper)

• List specific skills/experience required for the project:

  budgeting & financial projections
  strategic thinking & implementation skills
  awareness of socio-economic landscapes and issues of access and equity
  appreciation for dynamic setting of a non-profit

• Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):
There are no other additional requirements, and if the Fellow does have a car there is parking available at both of Friends Center’s New Haven sites.

- Briefly describe the 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.

Friends Center collaborated with an SOM Consulting Club in 2020-2021 on a deep dive into our HR needs, which resulted in our Board of Directors approving the hire of Friends Center’s first Talent Associate, who joined our team in July 2021. We have also welcomed volunteers from SOM who most recently supported the work leading up to the launch of our Teacher Housing Program.