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: Greater Dwight Development Corporation and the Dwight Central Management Team
- Organization’s street address: 230 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT 06511
- Website: GDDCnh.org. DCMT has a Facebook/Meta page: https://www.facebook.com/DwightCentralManagementTeam
- 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): Andrei Harwell and Patricia Wallace, LMSW
- 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): Patricia Wallace, 203-285-5077
- Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 31 and Friday, August 12, 2022): Flexible
- Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: Flexible
- Proposed work schedule (placements should be equivalent to full-time and not more than 37.5 hours/week): flexible but with some weekend hours and late afternoon/early evening time to do outreach, working with a team.

Placement Description

- Organization description (mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.): The Greater Dwight Development Corporation (GDDC) is a tax-exempt social enterprise formed in 1994 that invests in the social and economic life of the Dwight community and as a result, in the City of New Haven. Mission: the Greater Dwight Development Corporation is engaged in a variety of community building activities in the New Haven, CT area. The Dwight Central Management Team (DCMT) is an organization that convenes a meeting ten months of the year to consider action on matters of importance to the community and to take follow up action as necessary. The organizations work in close coordination.
- Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the proposed work for a summer 2022 Fellow: The Fellow will conduct outreach to the Dwight neighborhood to engage neighbors in work to create a plan to address poor air quality in the neighborhood in order to improve human health.
• 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.)

Dwight has serious air quality issues that have an impact on human health. Go to 235 Edgewood Avenue on this website for details:  https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/. See also https://www.ctdatahaven.org/sites/ctdatahaven/files/new_haven_profile_v1.pdf. Dwight has high rates of asthma and chronic disease, and some of the worst air quality in CT, in New England and in the nation. At this time there is no organized effort to educate and engage the community to make changes that would improve air quality. Change will require education, action like planting trees and advocacy with entities that are the sources of air pollution. This project will have a steering committee of 8 residents named by GDDC and DCMT, and a 15-person advisory committee that will include youth, business and community organizations. The Fellow can take full advantage of these people that will be grounded in the neighborhood to figure out how best to connect with people in the neighborhood. The work will include creating a street team to engage with and survey the neighborhood door-to-door to find the people that have a concern about neighborhood health, including people that are concerned about asthma, COPD and other things related to air quality. However, listening to what else concerns people that has to do with health---what helps, what about the neighborhood gets in the way of health---it is important to listen to that and record it as well. To make positive changes it is important to see things through the neighborhood’s eyes, and also to find the neighborhood’s assets. In this case that would mean finding people that know about health, gardening (since tree planting will be one activity to improve air quality), and other things that can be part of the solutions. Outside resources must build from the base of the neighborhood’s own leadership and capacity. To accomplish these things, the Fellow will help to prepare a neighborhood team of residents to go door to door to talk to as many people as possible and report back. The street team will learn about the health challenges as the neighborhood itself sees them, and hear what the neighborhood thinks would make things better. Another goal is to find leaders---people with some passion to make the neighborhood a healthier place by taking practical action at a community level. People in the neighborhood will have important information to share that can’t be captured just by looking at data. Engaging and welcoming the people that care about health who want to the things that undermine it, is basic work. Those people are the ones that need to make and lead the action plan. Particularly during Covid, summer is the very best time to do this outreach. There are a handful of people that have been doing outreach for the past year. However more diversity is needed, including by age and race and ethnicity, including more capacity to speak Spanish and Urdu. That small existing outreach group has kept simple records in a Google Doc. Phone numbers have not always been included. Filling out the contact information and a leadership profile as appropriate would be useful. Coordinating with the team that will be creating the neighborhood planning process will be essential. The Fellow will be housed in the offices of the Yale Urban Design Workshop to make coordination easy. If Covid does not allow for onsite work, Zoom will be used as needed.

The neighborhood is most likely to show up for education about air quality if the education takes place in ways that are active, fun and include good food, music and give-aways. Working with Dr. Richard Crouse, a member of our neighborhood effort that specializes in hands-on science, and with Susan Quincy, a staff person with a State of CT science education program of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, one of our project partners, will be key in order to make this work. The Fellow can expect to play an active role in helping to plan an active citizen science event to kick off the community engagement process.
• List specific skills/experience required for the project:

*It would be ideal to speak and write a basic level of Spanish. Basic skills in working with Word, Excel and Google Docs and Sheets would be helpful. Experience creating flyers using Publisher or another program would be useful.*

• Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement): *not required.*

• 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.

*Yale Fellows assisted with a blight survey of residences and businesses, and with creation of print and video resources about how owners could find the resources to fix it.*