Academic Internship Opportunities

We are seeking applicants who desire to serve the nations in Memphis through participation in a semester long internship. Interns will commit to serve over the course of a portion of the academic year to fulfill requirements.

Who should apply? Flexible, emotionally intelligent go-getters! Previous experience in cross-cultural setting desired, but not required. Skills such as multiple language proficiency and photography are also advantageous. Students studying social work, intercultural/international studies, education, TEFL/TESOL, nonprofit management, anthropology/sociology, psychology, public health, family studies, communications, or international development should apply.

What should you expect?

Resettlement Agency Work

Interns will gain a comprehensive understanding of how refugees are resettled and the role voluntary agencies play as they aid caseworkers and other staff in completing social work and office tasks; every day is an adventure! This component of the internship will develop creative problem solving, cross cultural competence, and attention to detail. The duties interns could assume include:

- Transportation for Clients (medical appointments, social service enrollment, etc.)
- Apartment Setups for Newly Arriving Clients
- Donation Pickups and Warehouse Organization
- Employment Support and Cultural Orientation (help staff prepare clients for the workplace and life in the US)
- Connect Language Center intake, registration, or tutoring (if you are a Spanish speaker or seeking experience in speech pathology or TEFL/TESOL)
- Client Home Visits
- Administrative Office Work
Community or Education Initiatives

Interns will assist the Volunteer Coordinator and Mobilization Director in various initiatives to further support refugees beyond the core resettlement services. Interns will be given an opportunity to enhance planning/project management, teaching, and research skills by assisting with or taking on some of the following:

- Event Planning
- Media & Marketing (social media, writing for the blog, photography)
- Administrative Office Support

Relationship Building

During the internship, there will be much exposure to various cultures. Interns will grow in relational leadership and oral communication across cultural and generational divides through interactions with the people listed below:

- Clients from Venezuela, Iraq, Nepal, DR Congo and various other countries
- World Relief staff and other interns/volunteers

Interns in Memphis are greatly encouraged to have a reliable vehicle, valid driver’s license, and car insurance to serve as an intern. A willingness to learn to drive our 15 passenger vans. A minimum of basic medical coverage is required. Applicants must be rising college juniors, seniors, recent college graduates, or 21 years of age with a high school diploma. All interns must be able to clear a criminal background and motor vehicle check. Interns are expected to recognize and respect World Relief’s Mission, Vision, and Values.

To request more information about the process of becoming an intern, email cgross@wr.org or call 901-341-0225.