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The Center for Social Concern is the student life office dedicated to community service and civic engagement and is under the umbrella of Johns Hopkins University’s Homewood Student Affairs (HAS). Other HAS student life divisions include The Office of Student Activities, The Office of Multi-cultural Affairs, The Interfaith Center, The Office of Greek Life, and the Homewood Arts Program.

Our Mission: The Center for Social Concern emphasizes the value of service with others, rather than the commonly accepted concept of service to others. The volunteer and client enter into an education process where both benefit from the interaction and reciprocal learning is the common ground for all of our initiatives. Our programs and efforts are striving to create a “better community” in and around the Johns Hopkins Campus.

Contact: Johns Hopkins University Center for Social Concern
3103 North Charles Street Baltimore, MD 21218
P: 410.516.4777 – F: 410.516.5123 - volunteer@jhu.edu
www.jhu.edu/csc

The Community Impact Internships Program (CIIP) is a competitive, paid summer internship program housed within the Center for Social Concern at the Johns Hopkins University. The program pairs JHU undergraduate students with nonprofit organizations and government agencies to work on community-identified projects. The goal of this program is two-fold; to give JHU undergraduates an opportunity to be directly involved in a community in Baltimore City and to support the important work being done by nonprofits and government agencies. The cohort of the 2014 Community Impact Internships Program worked throughout Baltimore City in a variety of organizations focusing on nine interest areas: education, homelessness and poverty, criminal justice, healthcare and health policy, environment and sustainability, neighborhood and community improvement, arts, nonprofit management, and women, children and family issues. After this fourth year of the CIIP, 159 undergraduates have been able to participate in this program thanks to a $1.25 million gift made possible by an anonymous donor.

Coordinator of the CIIP Contact: Abby Neyenhouse, Assistant Director for Community and Nonprofit Internships, P: 410.516.4238 E: aneyenh1@jhu.edu W: http://www.jhu.edu/csc/ciip.shtml
Community Partner: 29th Street Community Center
Intern: Charlie Green
Site Supervisor: Hannah Gardi

What is the 29th Street Community Center?
The mission of the 29th Street Community Center is to offer a space for meaningful community building and high quality enrichment programming that adds value and vibrancy to surrounding neighborhoods and the Barclay Elementary/Middle School.

Before starting my internship I thought the majority of my work would be in the office. I did do office work, but most of my work was much more active and gave me more responsibility. I dealt with responsibilities such as event planning for the center, organizing and contributing to meetings, and making sure all the children who came to the center were safe. This at first was intimidating, but by the end of my internship I was grateful for the responsibility I was given. It allowed me to form relationships with different businesses, nonprofits and community members around the city. Having these people value my opinion and see me as a co-worker gave me a lot of confidence to speak up about my ideas and aided in a easy, productive transition into my workplace. I experienced this on my first work day when I came into the center and told my supervisor that I thought it would be beneficial to move all the documents on the center’s Dropbox to Google Documents, and he trusted me with this. - Charlie

Tasks:
• Organized meetings for different events and contributed to those meetings. These events were a fall fundraiser, a day to reconstruct the after school study space, and the beginnings of a half marathon fundraiser
• Dealt with all the programming for the center. This included advertising, obtaining and putting data in the database and making a fall program schedule. I also created partnerships with a few colleges and high schools so we have volunteers throughout next year
• Office work such as talking to parents of campers on the phone, creating signs to beautify the center, and filling out the paperwork for the five summer YouthWorks kids I was overseeing
• Moving all of the center’s files from Dropbox to Google Documents
**What is 901 Arts?**

901 Arts is a community-based youth arts center dedicated to providing art and music programs to the children and teens of the Better Waverly neighborhood. 901 Arts provides a safe, creative, and empowering space for Better Waverly Youth to express themselves and develop as artists and community leaders. The art center is an integral part of our community’s ongoing efforts to build a safer, stronger and more vibrant neighborhood.

I could boast about myriad skills I have developed at my CIIP placement, from making spreadsheets to writing lesson plans, but the most important thing I learned was how to present myself as an adult, even when I feel overwhelmed and underprepared. My internship threw me into situations where I had to be an authority figure, while inside I still felt like a kid. The oldest students in my theater class were six years younger than me, so I was too old to relate to them as a peer, but too young, I feared, for them to see me as an authority. I was pleased to find that when I speak clearly and with conviction, both kids and adults listen.

The most meaningful connections I made were with my theater students. Although many of them had never been on stage, I established an easygoing environment where every student felt comfortable performing in class. I routinely make a fool of myself onstage, encouraging a silly and safe atmosphere. My students immediately took to an acting game called "Expert", where they come up with out-of-the-box ways to talk about subjects such as "vacuums" and "World War 3". One day, the entire class elected to play "Expert" for their entire outdoor break time. I was absolutely giddy. The purpose of "Expert" is to make actors feel comfortable being creative and uninhibited; the success of this game set the tone of the class, as well as the rest of the summer.

It was both moving and humbling to watch my students discover validation through the performing arts the same way that I did at their age. In a brainstorming session to inspire scenes that we would later write and perform, my students made lists of situations where they felt "powerful" and "powerless". One student suggested that she felt powerful when she was on stage. I had to hold back tears.

**Tasks:**
- Taught theater class
- Assistant to director of 901 Arts
- Oversaw lunch and outdoor break time for summer camp
- Community outreach to promote summer camp and other 901 Arts events
Community Partner: Baltimore City Needle Exchange  
Peer Mentor: Ellie Bergren  
Site Supervisor: Jeffery Long

**What is the Baltimore City Needle Exchange?**

The Health Department Needle Exchange Program aims to lower incidences of HIV, hepatitis C, and other infections that are caused by use of unclean needles. The program provides clean syringes and allows disposal of used syringes to those who are drug-dependent. The Needle Exchange also refers clients to drug treatment centers and provides testing for syphilis, HIV, and hepatitis C.

Intravenous drug users, junkies, dope fiends – these are names I hear thrown around daily to describe the population of clients I serve who tell me they just like to get high. Reportedly, Baltimore’s own EMTs call this same population “POS”. Reading from an email detailing this information one day, the words of my boss emphatically rang out “pieces of shit” for clarification at the same moment one of our gentler regular clients stepped up onto the van. Looking at this smiling, round-faced man in his 60s who possessed such a genuine politeness was the sharpest contrast I could have come up with to what I had just heard. He is not a piece of shit, and neither are any of the thousands of clients we give needles to every year. Above anything, these people and this internship have taught me about courage. Courage to be comfortable with people I never would have thought I could relate to, courage to see the light at the end of the database tunnel when I can finally connect the names and numbers to real people, courage to listen even when the stories could wrench my heart out, courage to ask questions and not make assumptions, courage to be an advocate in the face of ignorance. More importantly, I am humbled by the courageousness of both clients and staff who choose to see past the destructive names and stereotypes and just see people.  

- Ellie

**Tasks:**
- Client outreach/facilitating needle exchanges  
- Coordination for city-wide Overdose Awareness Day  
- Data cleaning, specifically linking our HIV+ patients into systems of care  
- Harm reduction education  
- Neighborhood canvassing to monitor needle disposal
Community Partner: Baltimore City Public Schools  
Intern: Nancy Ochieng  
Site Supervisor: Lara Ohanian

**What is Baltimore City Public Schools?**

We aim to accelerate student progress through effective implementation of the Master Plan, focusing on quality instruction, managing systems efficiently and sustaining a culture of excellence.

One of my most memorable experiences came from interacting with a non-English speaking student who recently immigrated to the U.S. While I was able to act as a translator to the family by speaking Swahili, I knew that the family deserved a professional, certified translator—a service not readily available to many families and students. The experience highlighted the challenges the school district faces when dealing with underserved student populations. Despite that, I have also seen the staff work effortlessly in ensuring that all homeless/transitioning students have transportation on the first day of school. Even though I was once a student in Baltimore City Public Schools, CIIP has provided me with an incredible experience of knowing the school district in a way I never perceived before. I have seen the growth of the school district and understand some of the challenges it continues to face.  

- Nancy

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**Tasks:**

- Contacted homeless shelters and parents in order to organize transportation for homeless students on the first day of school
- Researched other school districts in order to evaluate how their education policies differed from Baltimore City’s
- Designed a survey that is now used by Elementary/Middle schools to provide information to the Office of Enrollment, Choice and Transfers
Community Partner: Baltimore Clayworks  
Intern: Flo Ma  
Site Supervisor: Laura Cohen

What is Baltimore Clayworks?  
Baltimore Clayworks is a non-profit ceramic art center that exists to develop, sustain, and promote an artist-centered community that provides outstanding artistic, educational, and collaborative programs in ceramic arts.

Tasks:  
- Assisted teaching community arts senior and family clay classes at Jubilee Arts.  
- Set up and planned for various fairs and events including the Art Walk in Old Goucher and Artscape  
- Wrote a preliminary proposal with other CA interns for a new community arts space in the city  
- Attended a weekly community arts seminar

Clayworks’ dedication to bringing affordable clay programming to the Baltimore community has impressed me since day one. Sharing the fun of working in clay with the families in the clay class at Jubilee Arts has been one of my favorite parts of my internship this summer. I’ve discovered that I really enjoy teaching and that the affordable arts programming that we offer is rare and greatly valued by all of our students. From gauging interest in clay programming by talking to members of the community, to writing a preliminary proposal for a new space in Old Goucher, I’ve learned ins and outs of sustaining and growing an arts based non-profit. My internship at Clayworks has introduced me to a community of people connected by a love for the arts and the city that I hope to stay a part of throughout my time in Baltimore.  

- Flo
Community Partner: Baltimore Green Space
Intern: Michelle Moon
Site Supervisor: Katie Lautar

What is Baltimore Green Space?
Baltimore Green Space is a land trust that partners with communities to preserve and support community gardens, pocket parks, and other community managed open spaces.

Through this internship I learned about environmental sustainability through protecting and promoting community gardens, forest patches, pocket parks, and other open spaces through various projects. I increased my connection to the Baltimore community by gardening every week and was surprised by how dedicated the residents of Baltimore are to beautifying and bettering their communities through these community gardens. The gardens bring so much value to the surrounding communities. I was able to feel like I was a part of something so much greater and important this summer and I see Baltimore in a completely different light now, one that is substantially more positive. I am proud to be a part of Baltimore city.
- Michelle

Tasks:
- Helping to prepare for major community gardening event, a bike/bus tour of the community gardens of Baltimore
- Creating designs for various items via Photoshop (i.e., mugs, postcards) to be sold in their online store as part of fundraising
- Working to help preserve the Duncan Street Miracle Garden, a community garden that has been around since 1988, through gardening every week
Community Partner: Baltimore Office of Sustainability
Peer Mentor: Jon Smeton
Site Supervisor: Abby Cocke

What is the Baltimore Office of Sustainability?
The Office of Sustainability develops and advocates for programs, policies, and actions by government, citizens, businesses, and institutions that improve the long-term environmental, social, and economic viability of Baltimore City. In addition to overseeing and tracking the implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan, the Office integrates sustainability into City government operations and develops partnerships with ground performing related work.

I've spent a good part of my college career advocating to governments for better environmental policy. Being part of local government from the inside, I've seen firsthand how easy it is to have good intentions to better the environment, without realizing the firsthand community impact that policy can have. I've had my mind simultaneously boggled and exhausted from considering the multidimensional issues (environmental, societal, economical, and other impacts) that go into creating meaningful sustainability-related legislation. While this has left me uncomfortably aware of the dark-side of some environmental advocates who ignore the social ramifications of their opinions, it has also trained my eye to understanding that a sustainable future requires some environmental sacrifices for the sake of human livelihood.

- Jon

Tasks:
- Developed a report on funding and policy options to incentivize rainwater harvesting practices on urban agriculture sites through in-person and phone interviews, background research, and survey creation and compilation.
- Compiled information on various environmental policies related to stormwater harvesting, soil and sediment erosion, and tree maintenance.
Between organizing and staffing dynamic community events and exploring the lively Central Baltimore neighborhoods on and off my job at the Central Baltimore Partnership, I have found an extended family and home at Homewood. Through meeting and collaborating with neighborhood residents, city officials, other non-profit workers and university officials, I have become a part of a network of people that share a passion and vision to make the Central Baltimore neighborhoods more livable for everyone: residents, workers, visitors and students alike. I am excited to continue to live, work, study and play in these neighborhoods, and I cannot thank CIIP enough for giving me the opportunity two years in a row to work and to grow with this community. - Molly

Community Partner: Central Baltimore Partnership
Peer Mentor: Molly McGlone
Site Supervisor: Ashley Wallace

What is the Central Baltimore Partnership (CBP)?
CBP is working across neighborhoods such as Barclay, Old Goucher, Greenmount West, Charles North, Remington, Charles Village, Harwood, Abell, Oakenshawe, and Wyman Park as a macro organization, bringing greater attention and resources to the focus area as a whole impact and community engagement, and creating a report to share with funders.

Tasks:
- Managed and edited two umbrella state grants totaling in $1.46 million on behalf of 14 community development projects in the 11 neighborhoods CBP serves
- Organized and staffed multiple community events for collaboration on community issues and celebrations of community assets: the inaugural Art Walk in Old Goucher and the Mayor and New Greenmount West Community Association’s Gateway to Gateway HCPI Spruce-Up Grant Dedication
- Researched best practices for community involvement in the processes of liquor licensing
- Managed the ongoing development and investment database for the CBP area – CBP’s major resource for grant writing, neighborhood marketing and evaluating revitalization impact in the area
What is Charm City Clinic?
Our goal is to reduce health inequities by helping Baltimore City residents to obtain and maintain access to high quality health care and other social services.

My experience at the Charm City Clinic this summer has been highly enlightening. When I first arrived at the clinic, my background in their work—primarily with public assistance programs and healthcare resources—was limited to say the least. However, throughout my time here I have learned to navigate the complicated healthcare landscape with fluency. I have had the opportunity to work with passionate and hard-working people, listen to the stories of our clients, and create a resource that will hopefully serve the clinic well, long after I am gone. I am glad to have had this opportunity and I hope to continue working with the clinic after this internship is over.
- Josh

Tasks:
• Learned the ins and outs of the various healthcare resources for low-income individuals in the Baltimore area
• Created a comprehensive reference tool for our Health Resource Center
• Shadowed case managers during clinic hours
On one occasion, I was able to tell a man clutching his mouth that we would be able to supply the financial assistance he needed for his tooth extraction; on another day, I got to inform a woman that we could sign her up for Medicaid and a transportation disability card on the same day – a huge financial savings for her; and in still other meetings, I saw clients leave with completed insurance recertifications, housing referrals, and the medications they initially thought they couldn’t afford. On other days, I found myself scrolling through a seemingly endless pit of patient charts, as I noted who had fallen out of care, and implemented the necessary outreach. In short, my few weeks at Chase Brexton have allowed me to not only witness firsthand, the daily struggles fellow community members go through in order to receive healthcare, but also learn what we can do to help alleviate those barriers. The Case Management Department is a true leader to that end. The case managers know how to navigate the tricky waters of the Affordable Care Act insurance era, and they are willing to sit with patients for over an hour, waiting for the Department of Social Services to answer the phone. They constantly work to provide support, or at the very least, a listening ear, to their patients. Though the work can be frustrating—there is only so much one can do—I admire how they each continue to push boundaries to make healthcare possible for all. A special thanks to all of Chase Brexton, the security guards, the medical providers, the patients, and the case managers, for creating such an open, caring, and cohesive environment, and for allowing me to become a part of it. - Saachi

Tasks:
- Assist Case Managers in providing the support necessary to overcome obstacles to healthcare
- Work on various projects for the Case Management Department, including outreach to patients and researching grants
- Promote awareness through events such as National HIV Testing Week

Community Partner: Chase Brexton Health Services
Intern: Saachi Nangia
Site Supervisor: Ken Ruby

What is Chase Brexton?
Our mission is to provide compassionate, quality health care that honors diversity, inspires wellness, and improves our communities.
Working at Chase Brexton Health Care was an incredible experience that far exceeded my expectations. I had the opportunity to assist Case Managers and to consult with clients one-on-one to provide medical case management services. I learned about the intricacies of our healthcare system, including how the Affordable Care Act is affecting our insurance protocols and our clients, the myriad of supplemental financial programs that qualified clients can enroll in, and the barriers of care that our clients are facing, such as income, transportation, housing, legal issues, untreated mental health and addiction issues, etc. These interactions helped me paint a much larger picture of what our healthcare system looks like, and each individual client I met showed me what healthcare means from their point of view. My time at Chase Brexton was truly an eye-opening experience, and I am so humbled to have the opportunity to glimpse at the ever-changing healthcare field from so many unique and novel perspectives. - Harry

Community Partner: Chase Brexton Health Services
Intern: Harry Ngai
Site Supervisor: Ken Ruby

What is Chase Brexton?
Our mission is to provide compassionate, quality health care that honors diversity, inspires wellness, and improves our communities.

Tasks:
• Consulted with clients one-on-one and assisted Case Managers to provide medical case management assistance, including insurance assessment, transportation, housing, health and medication adherence, and legal issues
• Staffed the Case Management front desk, providing assistance with scheduling, client and phone call referrals, and general inquiries
• Promoted HIV testing week, analyzed outreach intervention for HIV+ clients, and raised awareness of the health services available for clients
• Researched and compiled a list of pharmaceutical grants, and created various spreadsheets to analyze current spending, allocated budget for various grants, and quality feedback
What is Baltimore Food and Faith Project?
Since it began, the Baltimore Food and Faith Project has been engaging with congregations, religious schools, and faith-based and secular organizations on a variety of food system issues related to environmental stewardship, social and economic justice, health and nutrition, hunger and community food security, and farm animal welfare.

My passion for food justice started after my mom had her gallbladder removed in 2010. Afterwards, a simple switch to organic then led my mom and I on a quest to learn more about the industry. I didn’t really become that invested until last summer when I realized that I could work in a field heavily affected by politics, economics, and social issues—ideas prominent to my International Studies major. Through both CIIP and my job at the CLF, I was able to find my place within the expanding and broad work surrounding food. With the CLF acting as a ‘do-tank,’ I was exposed to the intersections between research and community work, two disciplines I was interested in pursuing. From brainstorming ideas to improve food access at a neighborhood meeting to spreading compost at the Real Food Farm, I found a stronger motivation to work in food justice by engaging directly with the community rather than focusing on academic research. Therefore, I will be forever grateful for my participation in CIIP, as well as my mom and her gallbladder in playing essential roles that led me to my new niche.

- Maria

Tasks:
- Developed a communications strategy specific to the project, detailing how to interact with social media and their established, quarterly newsletter.
- Produced the summer e-newsletter distributed to those following the project through the listserv.
- Assisted the Food Policy Network project in coding states and provinces of the United States and Canada that will serve to create a search engine on the CLF website.
- Assisted the program director during the summer’s Good Food Gathering events that served to engage different members of the food and faith movements to analyze the food situation in Baltimore.
Community Partner: Community Greening Resource Network
Intern: Maggie Weese
Site Supervisor: Anna Evans-Goldstein

**What is the Community Greening Resource Network?**
Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN) is an annual membership program assisting individuals, community gardens, schools and green spaces throughout the City of Baltimore. By coordinating the resources available in our city, CGRN provides a comprehensive and consistent support network making it easier to maintain the valuable green spaces in your community.

Before this summer I always wanted to be a part of Baltimore but never felt like I actually was, I always thought I explored the city a lot but truly never did, and I hoped I would able to understand where people here came from but knew I never really would. This summer has taught me that I am a part of Baltimore, that I have a lot more exploring to do, and that people are not expecting me to understand them, but they are asking me to listen. Interning with the Parks and People foundations Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN) this summer has given me a lot of exposure to greeners in Baltimore and the amazing work they do daily. I learned how to effectively fundraise and flyer, how to easily build almost anything in a garden, and most importantly, how to stay motivated. Sustainability can be such a serious and complex issue that it is easy to get lost in the facts, but this summer I had the opportunity to focus on the positive work that is being done and on the amazing people doing it. Getting to see children, teenagers, parents, elderly and everyone in between getting excited about greening has reminded me why I am excited about it myself. I am grateful for the lasting friendships I have made, the wonderful experience I have gained, and the amazing Baltimoreans I have had the opportunity to work with.

- Maggie

**Tasks:**
- Co-led gardening workshops on topics including integrated pest management, building raised beds, and land security
- Collected testimonials from member gardens describing how the Community Greening Resource Network (CGRN) has impacted them over the past four years
- Developed how-to pages for greening topics including, but not limited to, canning, building a rain barrel, and growing a herb garden
- Wrote articles and provided photos for the fall newsletter
What is Equality Maryland?
Developed by the state to create equal protection under the law for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Marylanders and their families, we also work to eliminate prejudice and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity through outreach, education, research, community organizing, training and coalition building. Finally there is an Equality Maryland PAC, which exists to influence elections.

This summer was enlightening for me. It's hard to believe that I've been at Hopkins for two years now and I've been blind to the issues that are occurring in Baltimore. Whether it be the blocks of abandoned houses or the very real threats that the transgender community faces daily, these issues do exist in our backyard. I feel more educated about them and more confident with how to rectify them because of CIIP. The program has also enlightened me to many positive aspects of Baltimore, such as the heartwarming sense of community seen in the streets of Pennsylvania Avenue, or the beautiful murals by Gaia at Station North, or the delicious chicken barbecue grilled cheeses at Light Street's Grilled Cheese & Company. Baltimore's a great place. It gets a tough rap because there are those issues which need to be fixed, but I have met so many people working so hard to do just that. We are a city bursting with culture and I think that should be celebrated more.  

- Matthew

Tasks:
• Spearheaded the organization of an event, a local showing of a new documentary called "The New Black" about intersectionality between being LGBT and African American in Maryland.
• Represented Equality Maryland at various fairs such as the Gay Pride parade in Baltimore & Frederick.
• Updated database information on universities and social groups.
Community Partner: ERICA
Intern: Ellie Hong
Site Supervisor: Betty Symington

What is ERICA?
ERICA provides immediate, practical, and material assistance to refugees, asylees, asylum seekers and other immigrants, regardless of race, religion, or language. ERICA partners with other civic, community, and religious groups to provide direct services such as casework, educational workshops, and referrals for legal assistance, healthcare, and housing.

Both the CIIP internship program and my specific placement at ERICA have given me invaluable experience and knowledge as I near the culmination of my college career. From CIIP, I learned much about Baltimore, including how the structural organization of the city came into existence, and the endeavors (or lack thereof) that have been carried out in order to improve and develop the city in regards to aesthetics, education, and other aspects. I would probably never have discovered some aspects of Baltimore's history, such as redlining and blockbusting, if it wasn't for this program.

My specific CIIP placement at ERICA also taught me how large and diverse Baltimore's refugee and asylee community is, and how few effective resources are truly available to them. Among the available resources for asylum seekers and refugees in Baltimore, ERICA may be a small organization, but has proven it's effectiveness and success by the number of families it has helped to reunite. These clients, many of which still remain close to the program, attending it's events and updating us on their progress even after they have settled in Baltimore and it's surrounding communities, speak volumes for what ERICA's mission and goals really are: helping people from all over the world to adjust to a new environment, and to eventually, make them feel like they're at home here in Baltimore.

- Ellie

Tasks:
• Helped to plan and coordinate events for fundraising and connecting refugees, including Stories of Home, the screening of "Le Havre", the upcoming Around the World in 5K Fun Run/Walk, and a networking event to recognize refugees for their past professions/careers
• Preformed client intake, preparing forms to add to the casework database, and maintained contact with various clients, with the occasional use of Spanish language to communicate with non-English speaking Latin American clients
• Attended fundraising committee and ERICA board meetings
Community Partner: Esperanza Center
Peer Mentor: Frank Molina
Site Supervisor: Bibi Hackshaw

What is Esperanza Center?
Our bilingual staff works with Hispanic and other immigrants to provide healthcare, social services, referrals, employment counseling, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, and Immigration Legal Service (ILS).

Returning to the CIIP for my second term, this time as a Peer Mentor, I believed that I was prepared for anything that my placement was able to toss my way; thankfully there were still many surprises in store for me this summer! My experience in the Health Services Clinic at Esperanza Center was everything I could have asked for and more; on any given day I went from acting as an interpreter for our patients, to translating medical documents, to linking patients to medical services. My largest task for the internship was to plan and coordinate their 5th Annual Latino Health Fair, which provided medical services over 130 community members in just one day! Yet, the most rewarding part of my time with Esperanza Center was simply talking with the patients; listening to their stories, troubles, and successes have left an impression on my heart and I will take them with me for the rest of my life. My time working with the Esperanza Center has reinforced my will to deliver care to and advocate for the underserved. I am extremely lucky and grateful to the CIIP and the Esperanza Center for providing me with this opportunity. - Frank

Tasks:
• Planned and coordinated Esperanza Center’s 5th Annual Latino Health Fair
• Coordinated health related activities for the Latino immigrant community, recruited participants for health related activities
• Offered in-depth coordination and referral services to individuals who called or came to the Esperanza Center requesting assistance and provided case management for patients
Tasks:

• Conducted research for and wrote a policy brief outlining Maryland State standards in COMAR 13A.16 for quality child care centers, and a portion of a literature review detailing the importance of summer learning in Pre-K through Grade Three students.

• Created an assessment tool to measure the quality of a Baltimore summer program literacy activity, that was used by myself and my supervisor when we visited many of these programs that Family League partially funds.

• Developed an script and survey for interviewing coordinators of summer literacy programs in Baltimore at these site visits, so that Family League can better understand the difficulties these programs face when looking for funding, and have data on how that funding is used.

My summer as an intern at Family League took me back to school, literally and figuratively. Family League serves as the management board for Baltimore, and by conducting research, compiling data and leveraging funds from various sources, they support various initiatives that seek to improve the lives of Baltimore families, and particularly children. The highlight of my experience with their Education Initiatives Department was visiting several Baltimore public schools to observe and evaluate their summer literacy activities. Along the way to most of these visits, I drove through neighborhoods most Hopkins students probably never see, or at least avoid encountering for the most part. But when you look beyond the boarded up homes and the heat rising in waves off the street, as I did when I visited these once under-performing and now thriving schools, you see the Baltimore people don’t talk about enough. Small victories are happening every day in our city, and they may be as quietly powerful as a child coming home and telling his/her parents he/she wants to read, instead of having to be told to read, but they are happening. As I look forward to two more years as an undergraduate in Baltimore, my time at Family League will serve as a reminder to get out of the office, or out the library now and then, and to seek and be knowledgeable of initiatives working to make Baltimore thrive, instead of blindly thinking of it as a city of failures.

- Juliana
Community Partner: FORCE  
Intern: Eliza Schultz  
Site Supervisor: Hannah Brancato and Rebecca Nagle

What is FORCE?
FORCE: Upsetting Rape Culture is a creative activist collaboration to upset the culture of rape and promote a culture of consent. We believe that a more difficult and honest conversation needs to happen in America to face the realities of sexual violence, and we envision a world where sex is empowering and pleasurable rather than coercive and violent. To promote this needed conversation, we create art actions to generate media attention and get millions of people talking.

There was never a dull moment at Force. On some days, I assisted with press releases and conducted research on legislators who have supported legislation to protect survivors of sexual violence. And on others, I found myself atop a ladder, hammer in hand, hanging up quilt squares made by and for survivors of rape and abuse. My work on the Monument Quilt taught me that there is no single way to be an activist, and that survivorship is experienced in profoundly unique ways across individuals. I learned how to support survivors in emotionally intense moments and, importantly, how to support myself afterward. Force got me in touch with the activist scene in Baltimore, which has changed my experience in and with the city. I do not understand it not simply as the place in which I attend college, but as a city filled with resilience and agents of change, which, because of Force, I have started to become.  

- Eliza

Tasks:
- Organized and coordinated the Pittsburgh stop of the 2014 Monument Quilt Tour
- Researched and contacted national and local politicians who have supported legislation related to sexual violence
- Researched local issues related to sexual violence in each of the cities and towns to be visited on the 2014 Monument Quilt Tour
- Created templates for promotional emails and updated the website
- Assisted with and facilitated workshops for the Monument Quilt
Community Partner: Franciscan Center  
Intern: Cara Scharf  
Site Supervisor: Meg Ducey

What is The Franciscan Center?
The Franciscan Center offers continuum of care, including emergency services, health services, counseling and technology training to help clients become as self-sufficient as possible.

The Franciscan Center has provided me with the unique opportunity to learn about all aspects of a service providing nonprofit. From assisting in development projects and grant applications, to working with clients directly in the Responsive Services department, my experience here has been truly comprehensive. Every day, I have the chance to work directly with our homeless or other at-risk clients and help connect them to our variety of services. Working with our clients has forced me to reconsider preconceived notions about poverty and homelessness in Baltimore, and opened my eyes to different sides of this issue that I otherwise never would have considered. Through the CIIP program in general, I have had the wonderful opportunity to learn so much about work being done in Baltimore. CIIP brings together community members, non-profit employees, and Hopkins students in way that allows us all to benefit and learn from each other, and I am truly grateful to have had the chance to participate in such a unique and special program.

- Cara

Tasks:
- Managed incoming clients at the reception desk of Responsive Services, and assisted clients in obtaining services such as food, clothing, eviction prevention, etc.
- Supported the director of development by conducting research on potential donors
- Assisted in the completion of grants by retrieving and compiling all of the supporting documents
Community Partner: Fusion Partnerships
Intern: Sakura Miyazaki
Site Supervisor: Keith Gavazzi

What is Fusion Partnerships?
Through collaborative action, including fiscal sponsorship, Fusion Partnerships, Inc. works to be a catalyst for justice and peace. Our vision for Baltimore is thriving communities with equitable resources, modeling collaborative processes and organizational structures which foster social justice, peace and love.

Tasks:
• Research to improve the policies and procedures of Fusion Partnerships
• Interview every project/program leaders about the policies and procedures
• Organize data of semi-annual report from all Fusion project/programs into one large database

At Fusion Partnerships, I learned the logistical details of what it takes to be a non-profit and a non-profit management organization. I had a hands-on experience of the difficulty of starting a non-profit project/program and operating a 501(c)(3) through masses of paperwork and communication with dozens of organizations simultaneously; I realized the true effort it takes to improve a community and it made me appreciate non-profits on a higher level. Fusion not only taught me the bureaucratic aspect of non-profit management but also exposed me to the Baltimore community beyond Hopkins and the people who are involved in working for the greater good of the city. Going to things like press conferences for large grants and interviewing organizations with a variety of goals, I was constantly inspired by the powerful grassroots organizers who are dedicated to spending their time fighting for justice. No matter his or her background, I saw how everyone had a similar vision of Baltimore to remove its negative stigma. Fusion Partnerships was a life-changing experience for me because it showed me the passionate people in Baltimore in action. - Sakura
Community Partner: Greater Baltimore Urban League  
Intern: Ope Olukorede  
Site Supervisor: Estelle Young

What is the Greater Baltimore Urban League?  
Since 1924, we have been helping disadvantaged Marylanders gain access to equal opportunity in employment, education, health care, housing and the civic arena. Through direct service delivery, advocacy, referrals, community capacity building, information dissemination and technical assistance, the League accomplishes its mission to improve social and economic conditions and opportunities for African-Americans and other people who face barriers to full participation in American society.

"Ms. Ope, can I get some water?" "Yes, Madisen." "Ms. Ope! Ms. Ope! Can I hold your hand when we walk to the library today?" "Yes, Jayon." "Ms. Ope, can I play a game on your phone??" "Not now but maybe during lunch. Okay, Kimora?" These are the daily conversations that I will miss the most as my internship at the Urban League comes to an end this summer. The bustling of students ages five through ten in a classroom, yearning for attention, asking the same questions multiple times, but ultimately getting attached to me along the way. I do not think there are enough words to accurately describe how amazing my summer was. Who knew that because of my internship with CIIP, I would be able to design a summer program and follow through with it? I also had no idea that I would grow to develop some very important skills such as asking for help, knowing my limitations and exhibiting unconditional patience while working at my site. I learned so much by doing not only because there were only two full time staff members at my site but also because I was also so eager to help. There is still so much that can be done in our community and I am so grateful for the time I have spent in Baltimore. My hope is that the Young Leaders Initiative program will continue to be a resource for the kids around the Urban League for many summers to come. I can finally say that I have taken a huge step towards my ultimate goal of planting a seed in Baltimore and I cannot wait to see the fruits it brings forth.  

- Ope

Tasks:  
• Improved the use of social media in order to enhance communication between the organization, students and parents  
• Acted as a college and career coach for middle and high school students in the Saturday Leadership Program  
• Designed and implemented a new summer program for elementary school students in the neighborhood
What is "community organizing"? It's hard to capture the work I've done these past weeks with such a broad phrase. If I had to summarize what a community organizer was and did I would say he or she is a shrewd individual, equal parts crazy and equal parts passionate, devoted to engaging in the impactful work of investing in the wellbeing of a person at the neighborhood level. Though my time at Greater Homewood seems like a pebble thrown into the expansive sea of community organizing effort in Homewood, I know the projects I've been involved in and the connections I've made will continue to have rippling effects throughout the community for years to come. Whether designing flyers for an upcoming block meeting or knocking on a stranger's door to hear their thoughts about their neighborhood, it was never hard to see how far reaching my work as a community organizer at Greater Homewood was. The dividends and rewards of my efforts, some concrete and some relational, have made me an advocate for Baltimore and citizenship in general. Call it empowering, life-altering, or eye-opening, my experience at Greater Homewood has begun to pave the way for a life-long pursuit of involvement and investment in which ever place I happen to call my home. To invest in a life is a worthwhile cause. My time at Greater Homewood was spent devoting myself to that bigger picture and, as my internship comes to an end, I can confidently say that my internship has given me abundantly more than I honestly expected. I am presently thankful for the work that I was able to complete these past weeks but truthfully, I am even more thankful for their longitudinal impact in shaping my future.  

- Suleiman

Tasks:

• Engaged residents in targeted neighborhoods through grassroots community organizing to identify neighborhood assets and encourage collaboration with local community associations block leaders, and other residents.
• Marketed and coordinated the outreach for Healthy Neighborhoods block project and home improvement program which both aim to invest in strong but undervalued neighborhoods in Baltimore.
• Collaborated with community association leaders, through door knocking and flyering, to encourage involvement in community building events, increase the awareness of local issues, and promote utilization of home and block improvement resources.
Community Partner: Greater Homewood Community Corporation (GHCC)
Intern: Miriam Million
Site Supervisor: Lottie Sneed

What is GHCC?
Established in 1969, Greater Homewood Community Corporation is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to build and strengthen vibrant urban communities in north central Baltimore City. Our work centers on the pillars of vibrant urban living: safe streets, good and diverse quality housing stock, quality schools, and livability. Much like the neighborhoods we serve, our programs are interconnected and bolster our holistic approach to fulfilling our mission.

My experience through the CIIP internship has exposed me to the field of community organizing, of which I previously knew little to nothing about. For 8 weeks I shadowed the Greater Homewood Community Corporation's Community Builder for the Barclay neighborhood and assisted in community outreach efforts with residents to support issues of importance to them and organize programs and events that spoke to these interests. A highlight of this summer was having the opportunity to work on the planning committee for the neighborhood's first Women's Empowerment Conference. I assisted with putting on the event which hosted 30 young women from the community for a free all-day conference that featured motivational speakers and small group workshops focusing on topics such as financial literacy, entrepreneurship, domestic violence, co-parenting, leadership, and self-esteem. As a Public Health Studies major at Hopkins, I tend to think in terms of large population based interventions to improve health and quality of life, but this summer I was fortunate enough to do community based work and develop individual relationships with Baltimore city residents who are passionate about improving their neighborhoods. Looking at my CIIP experience through a Public Health lens, I have learned that community-based approaches to Public Health interventions can be highly effective in improving the health of populations, especially when these approaches are connected to other community-based activities for social and economic improvement. - Miriam

Tasks:
• Assist the planning committee for the Barclay neighborhood's first annual Women's Empowerment Conference
• Assist in organizing the BMOG Annual Cookout and Outdoor Movie Night for 100+ community members.
• Coordinate donations for community events including writing request for donation letters and making calls to local businesses
• Assist in preparing for community social events such as: Barclay Talent Group and Community Gardening Event
• Door-knocking and flyering to distribute literature about upcoming community events and campaigns
Community Partner: Historical East Baltimore Community Action Coalition Youth Opportunities
Intern: Faith Owhonda
Site Supervisor: Jamille Pitts

What is HEBCAC YO!?
In 1999, the HEBCAC Youth Opportunity Center was founded to address the education, counseling, and career development and training needs of out of school youth in East Baltimore. The HEBCAC YO staff also connects youth in need of other services such as housing, family support, and health care with partnering public and community-based agencies.

Working at my site, the YO! Center, has been eye-opening. From visiting a barbershop on my first day for free haircuts for the youth, to a graduation ceremony for our GED recipients on my second day, each day has been different. I learned how to always be flexible and brace for the unexpected. From spending half a day searching for business casual clothes in the clothing closet for a youth, or even sitting in on a nutrition class, I was constantly learning and challenging my worldview about Baltimore. I have learned that the needs of the Baltimore community are vast, but I leave CIIP hopeful that they will continue to aid inner-city youth in not only acquiring their GED, but assisting them in getting a job as well.

I loved Bites of Baltimore. Every week I would look forward to tasting another delicious and savory meal from a local restaurant. I left mind-blown each week about how close these restaurants had been yet why I had never tried them before CIIP. The art walk and the homeless/injustice walk were my favorites because it painted Baltimore exactly the way I had always viewed her: a tough as nails city who had fallen many times but was determined to revive itself. The art was inspirational and the injustice walk was the perfect catalyst to energize us for the first week at our sites. Leaving CIIP is a sad moment for me, but I know that I leave empowered with so much more to fight for, and so many more reasons to stay in Baltimore, even after I graduate.

- Faith

Tasks:
- Supervise the Summer Food Program and Food Pantry Resource
- Assist teachers in GED classrooms
- Support youth and Coordinators in extracurricular activities, (i.e., Life skills, Nutrition, Women/Men’s Group, Financial Literacy)
- Assist supervisor in Youthworks Program through planning, scheduling and payroll documents
What is the International Rescue Committee?
The International Rescue Committee responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster.

I have been working at the Baltimore Resettlement Center with the IRC through the New Roots program for a couple months now. I have gotten the chance to work with such amazing refugees from all different walks of life, and it has been nothing short of incredible to be able to help them as they transition to a new life here in the US. The New Roots division that I work with is concerned with food security, nutrition and, my personal favorite, gardening. My first thought was that “Yeah, of course gardens are great. It’s access to healthy food for people who are making the shift to life right smack dab in a food desert”, but this program means so much more than supplemental food. This program connects each and every one of our clients to their home. Their real home. Back in Burma where a refugee remembers his father teaching him to care for a tomato plant. Back in Bhutan where growing cucumbers with the family was tradition. Back in Iraq where growing beautiful flowers alongside vegetables was the exact image of home. Gardening is comfort for so many of our refugees, and this connection is what has had the greatest impact on me throughout my journey. I have had the opportunity to see so much progress and success with the New Roots program this summer: being a part of World Refugee Day, having one of our gardens be a finalist in the Charm City Garden tour, and even just seeing the crops in each garden grow over the summer. This internship has been very personally rewarding, from learning hands-on the ins and outs of healthy vegetable gardening to helping refugees get the means to do what they love, eat healthy, and create a closer knit community as a result.

- Tianna

Tasks:
- Interview refugee gardeners and set them up with community garden spaces
- Help facilitate the mobile farmer’s market at the Goodnow Community Center at the check in table
- Hold a gardening workshop for refugees about strategies for successful gardening in the US
- Organize the New Roots Database and update information as more intakes, house visits, and interviews are conducted
Community Partner: Joy Wellness Center
Peer Mentor: Enya Baez-Ferreras
Site Supervisor: Kerry Martinez

What is the Joy Wellness Center?
At the Joy Wellness Center we offer programming in four areas: Movement Education, Healing Arts, Stress Reduction, and Nutrition Education. Classes include yoga, mindfulness-based stress reduction, breathing, nutrition, walking, smoking cessation, massage, meditation, acupuncture, and reflexology. All programs and therapies are designed specifically to create transformative, healthy, life-affirming changes in the lives of our patients.

This is my second year in CIIP and it was just as valuable and self-gratifying as the last. Working at the Joy Wellness Center in Shepherd’s Clinic this summer I got to see a different side of medicine that, as someone who is planning to go into medicine, I probably wouldn’t have gotten to see otherwise. In a clinic, patients learn about their disease and how it can be treated; at Joy Wellness, patients learn how to live with their disease and cope with the day to day stress that it can cause. Yoga classes, gardening, meditation, and community talks about diabetes and heart health are among the many programs that I and other interns at the center helped to facilitate that aspire to achieve this. With these programs getting on such a personal level with patients, I wasn't sure at first what the patient-provider relationship on this side of medicine would look like. However, after taking classes alongside the same patients who would come back week after week, getting to know them more and more, making appointments for them, working in the garden with them, sharing the harvest with them, I believe I found the right balance. I know that I’ll carry that knowledge not only in my day to day but in my future career in medicine as well, and I have CIIP and Joy Wellness to thank for that.  - Enya

Tasks:
- Help facilitate classes
- Administrative work
- Tend the garden
This summer I had the honor of working with the Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle. We are a political organization, and use debate as a model for political education and youth leadership. Working with LBS allowed me to give back to my community because I was able to use my debate knowledge to educate students from Baltimore, and I think this is important because we have an excess of intelligent students within our school system, yet there is no platform where students can voice their concern. I believe that the work we do at LBS creates an alternative platform where students can use their voice in a productive manner. Working with LBS has really inspired because it made me realize that I need to find purpose in my work so I can be truly dedicated with my work. For this, I am forever grateful to the LBS and CIIP team, but especially thank you to Abby for making everything possible! Now I can't wait to use these lessons and apply them to my work at Homewood next year!

- Dikshant

Tasks:
• Taught policy debate to 40 urban high school students from all across America at Morgan State University for three weeks.
• Researched organizations and wrote grants to fund and form collaborations for our debate camp.
• Collaborated in writing theories on critical race theory with a specific focus on white supremacy and anti-blackness.

What is Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle?
Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle is a for-profit, youth led think-tank and political action committee (PAC) which works toward transformative change on behalf of marginalized people Baltimore City. We seek to radically change the discourse around local and regional politics by injecting community voices into political conversations through policy research, advocacy, and community organizing from a grassroots perspective.
Working at Liberty Rec and Tech has been one bewildering experience. Day One, I walked into the school knowing it's a good school. But how good could it really be if it's still just a city school? Apparently, extremely so. From my first tour to the last, I have been continuously amazed by the opportunities available at Liberty. Near 1-1 iPad-kid ratio, swimming pool, horseback riding, food pantry, community center, visiting politicians, teachers that will not let you leave the classroom until you get the lesson. Seriously?! I never had that at my school in the county. So, I remember thinking, "What could I possibly contribute to an already outstanding organization?" I didn't get my answer until the summer camp started...when I saw what not going to Liberty means for kids in the city. It means having juniors and seniors in high school who can't even spell resume, much less write it. These are our Youthworkers and these are the people I worked the closest with over the summer. I held group and individual sessions with each one of them at Liberty to develop essential professional skills. Especially for the oldest kids, I made it my mission to make sure that when they leave school, whether it is for college or for the workplace, that they have a usable resume to showcase their talent and skills. They gave me a hard time at first, griping about having to do something that was never asked of them before. But, much like the teachers at Liberty, I forced them to stay and work with me because if they didn't do this now, they never would. I know my work paid off when I heard my toughest Youthworker say that she actually needed to know these things for an upcoming interview. Thank you CIIP for allowing me to get to know her and to serve all the Youthworkers at Liberty Rec and Tech. Thank you for introducing me to another community. And thank you, this time especially, for highlighting the potential, as opposed to problems, of Baltimore by placing me at Liberty.

- Muska
Community Partner: Martha's Place  
Intern: Jenn Roche  
Site Supervisor: Amelia Harris

**What is Martha’s Place?**  
Martha's Place is a program of the nonprofit Newborn Holistic Ministries which was founded in 1996 by life-long community resident Elder C.W. Harris. Newborn follows a mission to preserve and enrich life in its communities by providing services that will enable residents to meet their material, social, and spiritual needs. In 2000, Newborn began to address the overwhelming epidemic of drug abuse in our communities and created Martha's Place in direct response to the unmet need for long-term recovery services for women.

My internship at Martha's Place taught me many things that I could have never learned in the classroom, not just about drug addiction and homelessness but also about the strong network of people that serve the high risk population. I saw a different side of Baltimore that really opened my eyes. This city means so much more to me now because it is full of hope and because it is full of challenges. I developed strong and meaningful relationships with the staff and the residents. My supervisor became my mentor and Baltimore became my home.  

- Jenn

**Tasks:**  
- Developed the volunteer and intern program  
- Acted as House Manager several days a week  
- Made a resource list for the residents  
- Assisted with resume building with staff and residents
What is the Mayor’s Office of Human Services?
Each year, the program, through a network of partner providers, delivers housing and supportive services to over 25,000 individuals and families. The Homeless Services Program administers approximately $40 million for homeless services which includes street outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, shelter plus care housing, permanent supportive housing, Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA), meal programs and eviction prevention.

Tasks:
- Help plan and organize the first annual OHEP Energy Assistance Expo for Baltimore City
- Participate in community outreach events to network and build relationships with other nonprofits as well as to let Baltimore City residents know of our services.
- Create a resource guide for the community action centers to use to help residents

I am confident to say this summer in Baltimore participating in CIIP was the best decision I could have made thus far in college. Through the CIIP program and my placement at the Mayor’s Office I have learned how to appreciate Baltimore for its beauty, troubles, and the people that work tirelessly to bring out the potential in the city. I am so appreciative of the opportunity I had to work for the city and serve hundreds of Baltimore City residents this summer help to get their social needs met as well as build relationships with other nonprofits all while representing Johns Hopkins. - Maria

Community Partner: Mayor's Office of Human Services
Intern: Maria Diaz
Site Supervisor: Lori Cunningham
Community Partner: New Lens
Intern: Julianne Wilson
Site Supervisor: Zoe Reznick Gewanter

What is New Lens?
New Lens is a youth driven social justice organization that makes art and media about issues where a youth perspective can inspire change. We work on a variety of social issues including employment, justice, health and education issues. We produce art and media on commission, teach youth in schools and communities and advocate for issues that impact young peoples lives. We employ youth as leaders and through their efforts we impact over 200 youth throughout the year.

As someone from a homogeneous, small town in Connecticut, working in and around the Reservoir Hill area at New Lens Productions was an eye opening, grounding experience, challenging my preconceived assumptions about Baltimore city and its residents. I worked with kids in my own age group who have had experiences with Hopkins police, and the cityscape that diametrical oppose my own. My coworkers’ vibrant senses of humor and outgoing personalities brought light and fun into a project that dealt with some serious and heavy issues. This summer, we worked on a documentary series called Blackonomics, which confronted issues such as systemic racism, the post-slavery psychological trauma of the black community, and gentrification in East Baltimore. This endeavor allowed me to engage with local artists, business owners, and Baltimoreans relaxing on their stoop—each of their unique perspectives fitting into my understanding of Baltimore like puzzle pieces. As my experience with CIIP comes to an end, I realize that we at Hopkins are not just students, but members of the larger Baltimore community. It was great to get to know my neighbors this summer. - Julianne

Tasks:
- Created promotional videos for clients using both Final Cut and Premiere
- Organized, promoted, and performed in a free Open Mic event to help build community in Baltimore’s Reservoir Hill area
- Assisted in shooting and editing, and producing a short documentary series called "Blackonomics," with episodes centered around gentrification/housing, black owned businesses, and black identity and unity
- Created New Lens Instagram page, and managed multiple social media platforms including Facebook and Tumblr
What is the Office of the Public Defender Juvenile Division?
We are a group of lawyers, social workers, and staff members from the Juvenile Division of the Maryland Office of the Public Defender who have chosen to dedicate our careers to working with children in the Juvenile Court System. We believe that every child is deserving of zealous advocacy, and we fight each day to protect and defend our clients and their due process rights. Our representation continues even when the court case ends. We encourage our clients to stay in touch with us.

My experience this summer working in the Juvenile Division of the Baltimore Office of the Public Defender has been incredible. The work I have done has given me insight into countless aspects of a Baltimore City child’s life. To be honest, I started my internship with a narrow view of what causes a child to end up in a courtroom. Upon leaving, however, I have discovered that juvenile delinquency stems from family issues, poor schooling options, financial problems, peer pressure, and mental and physical disabilities, as well as many other factors. The clients I work with on a daily basis are not cold-blooded criminals, but rather children who lack a basic support system necessary to avoid falling victim to drug culture and violence common to the city. I spent a large part of my time at the OPD working to enroll clients in summer camps across Baltimore. Whether it was fashion design program at MICA or a digital media and gaming camp, each child I contacted could not have been happier to be a part of these experiences. The OPD fervently advocates for its clients, but also goes above and beyond to find resources like these camps to help prevent children from having slipping back into delinquency. The last 8 weeks have truly altered my perspective on the criminal justice system, and I feel lucky to have had to spend my summer with such a wonderful office. - Elizabeth

Tasks:
- I compiled an extensive list of summer programs for delinquent children being reintegrated into the Baltimore City community. I also worked to enroll these children in such programs with scholarships or financial assistance.
- I created a Microsoft Excel database of spreadsheets and charts documenting school-based arrests in the Baltimore City Public School System.
- I was part of a team of interns assigned to interview juvenile assistance programs around Baltimore City about their programs and resources, in the hopes that improvements will be made in the future.
- I observed hearings and trials on a daily basis.
My internship in the juvenile division of the Office of the Public Defender was an extremely exciting placement for me; I anticipated a great deal of responsibility and opportunity to not only learn about the Baltimore Criminal Justice system, but to directly intervene in young lives marked by ludicrous inequity as compared to my Hopkins peers or myself. While by the end of the summer my experience feels as fulfilling and meaningful as I could have imagined, there were certainly some frustrating experiences with boring office work or what I deemed to be under-estimation of my abilities that made me question whether I was doing everything I could to help clients. Yet, through this frustration over the first couple weeks, I developed a desperation for more meaningful work that drove me to be more forceful with some of the public defenders who didn’t understand some aspects of Baltimore as well as I did (having gone to a Baltimore City public high school). While this may come across as arrogant, it is important to allow yourself a full picture of your capabilities and not allow yourself to settle for tasks below your ability level. If I finished my internship after two weeks, the bullet points above would have read: scanning papers, making binders, stapling papers, delivering papers. However, after a few experiences where I took it upon myself to do meaningful investigative work and present it to my supervisors, other attorneys in the office no longer bothered me as often with menial tasks that did not develop my understanding of the Baltimore Criminal Justice system. So, to prospective CIIPers next year, realize that you are going out into the adult world so act like an adult, not an intern. That is not to say be overbearing, but realize that a couple half-hearted lectures by a supervisor are absolutely worth helping a client (or however this idea might be applied to the placement you receive).

- Will

Tasks:
- Transcribing video interviews with victims and respondents in an attempt to separate fact from fiction in an alleged crime
- Going to crime scenes and taking photographs to canvas the area and ensure that police are telling the truth in their reports
- Watching trials and helping the public defenders with whatever they need mid-trial (printing maps, for example).

Community Partner: Office of Public Defender
Intern: Will Wisner-Carlson
Site Supervisor: Mark Friedenthal

What is the OPD- Juvenile Division?
We are a group of lawyers, social workers, and staff members from the Juvenile Division of the Maryland Office of the Public Defender who have chosen to dedicate our careers to working with children in the Juvenile Court System. We believe that every child is deserving of zealous advocacy, and we fight each day to protect and defend our clients and their due process rights. Our representation continues even when the court case ends. We encourage our clients to stay in touch with us.
Community Partner: Urban Resource Initiative  
- Outdoor Activities  
Intern: John Janezich  
Site Supervisor: Ed Orser and Molly Gallant

**What is the Urban Resources Initiative?**  
The Urban Resources Initiative is an applied research collaboration that has worked since 1989 to improve the quality of life for Baltimore City residents. Using innovative research, community building projects, and education and training programs, URI endeavors to strengthen the ties between residents and their recreation and parks system and the natural environment.

This Summer I worked with Baltimore City Recreation and Parks' Urban Recreation Department. While interning, I was able to experience whole new parts of Baltimore. I went Sea Kayaking on the Middle Branch River and the Inner Harbor and came to see Baltimore in a completely different perspective. I never would have believed that the city had so much to offer in the way of outdoor recreation until this summer. That being said, I experienced a parallel change in my personal life. Throughout the summer, whether it be waking up for a 9 am Sea Kayaking trip on Sunday morning, or dealing with car troubles, I developed a sense of understanding of what I need to do. Before this experience, I felt lost and without direction. Now, I have established a positive direction and prepared myself for my final year at Hopkins.  

- John

**Tasks:**
- Lead Outdoor Recreation trips  
- Conducted a survey of Baltimore Greenplay providers  
- Planned a Sea Kayaking Training course for the fall
Tasks:
- Designed and compiled a program guide including all of the outdoor recreation opportunities available throughout Baltimore City
- Created a complementary, interactive Google Map of city parks and active, outdoor recreation opportunities for those park users with internet access
- Assisted with assorted volunteer activities: guided hikes around Druid Hill Park, gardening service projects at the Rec and Parks Headquarters
- Attended Docs in the Park events, encouraging children and their parents to spend more time outside and in nature for increased physical, social, and mental wellness

Though the two main projects I worked on this summer required that I spend a large portion of my time at a computer, I learned a great deal about the parks that Baltimore City has to offer to its residents. Spending my summer working at Baltimore City Recreation and Parks reaffirmed my interest in working with children in environmental and nature education. The highlight of my summer involved the instance when I guided a nature walk with 7-8 year olds. The children started off preoccupied with their smart phones, but quickly their attention turned to fun things they could climb on. They became animated when trying to guess the name of the tree whose leaf I was holding and when realizing that if you hold a buttercup underneath someone's chin it turns their chin yellow. Their excitement and wonder fueled my excitement towards teaching children. It was such a positive experience to work on the Docs in the Park program, which supports the national Children in Nature movement, with other individuals who hold the same ideals as I do and I'm glad that I had a chance to connect with these people through CIIP. - Jillian

Community Partner: Urban Resource Initiative
- Docs in the Park
Intern: Jillian Tse
Site Supervisor: Ed Orser and Mary Hardcastle

What is the Urban Resources Initiative?
The Urban Resources Initiative is an applied research collaboration that has worked since 1989 to improve the quality of life for Baltimore City residents. Using innovative research, community building projects, and education and training programs, URI endeavors to strengthen the ties between residents and their recreation and parks system and the natural environment.
What is United Way of Central Maryland’s Project Homeless Connect?
Project Homeless Connect is a national model for delivering services to the homeless community by bringing together services to meet every need into one place at one time.

Working on Project Homeless Connect, a one-day resource fair for homeless individuals and families, gave me greater insight into the needs and challenges of the homeless community in Baltimore. As I was recruiting medical professionals, I not only learned why podiatric and dental care are such highly demanded services within the homeless community, but I also discovered what barriers prevent homeless individuals from receiving these services (i.e., lack of health insurance). Moreover, I also learned how heavily stigmatized homeless individuals are while soliciting donations of goods, as some businesses did not want homeless individuals to wear or use their products. Though I often heard "no," I learned to celebrate every time a medical professional agreed to volunteer, or a business decided to donate. Planning Project Homeless Connect taught me not only how to effectively solicit donations of services and goods, but also how to address underlying issues and attitudes that keep people in our community homeless. - Becky

Tasks:
- Recruited podiatrists and dentists to provide free medical services at Project Homeless Connect
- Solicited donations of toiletries from local hotels to create hygiene kits for homeless participants
- Collected donations of children's coats to give to homeless children at Project Homeless Connect
- Acted as a point of contact for professors, student groups and Greek Life organizations at universities in the greater Baltimore area in an effort to recruit 1,800 volunteers for the event
As an intern, my job has been to spearhead many aspects of the annual event known as Project Homeless Connect. My responsibilities as an intern include contacting service providers to ask them to volunteer their time on the day of this event. My focus has been to solicit ophthalmologists in the city and encourage them to volunteer at our event. Subsequent duties include recruiting other professionals in health care, business, clothing, and housing. This day’s goal is to provide services that will not only ease the struggles of the homeless, but also enable them to better their situations and gain stability. This internship has opened my eyes to the issues and dire situations that the homeless face and the dire situations that they find themselves in. I also have learned ways in which each of us can help rectify the issue. There is strength in numbers and none of us should be innocent bystanders. - Bridget

Tasks:
• Soliciting medical professionals such as dentists, ophthalmologists, and podiatrists and encouraging them to attend the event
• Contacting all 14 Baltimore Collegetown Schools to inform them of Project Homeless Connect in order to get student volunteers
• Traveling to different sites around Baltimore to pick up donations

Community Partner: Project Homeless Connect
Intern: Bridget Hampton
Site Supervisors: Chuck Tildon

What is United Way of Central Maryland’s Project Homeless Connect?
Project Homeless Connect is a national model for delivering services to the homeless community by bringing together services to meet every need into one place at one time.
What is Reservoir Hill Improvement Council (RHIC)?
RHIC’s goal is to revitalize the physical and human infrastructure of Reservoir Hill without resulting in full-scale gentrification and significant displacement, including rehabilitation of deteriorating buildings; alleviating poverty and its attendant problems, including poor sanitation, crime, education, low homeownership, and unemployment; and making the organized, informed voice of residents influential and effective.

Tasks:
- Used GIS software as well as on-the-ground evaluation of trees to update and verify various characteristics of trees (species, condition, location, etc.) of the community, which totals nearly 500 trees planted since 2009
- Helped with general maintenance of community green-space and equipment alongside community members of all ages
- Planned, organized, and executed an art event that allowed community members to paint sections of bamboo to be hung as a chime in the community park or farm
- Attended various neighborhood block club meetings

I thoroughly enjoyed my summer in the Community Impact Internships Program, specifically working at the Reservoir Hill Improvement Council. Each day at work was a new adventure, whether I was fixing wheelbarrows or delivering congratulatory materials to our new tree stewards. I was amazed at the different players involved in producing a finished product, such as the tree menus that residents are given to choose the species of tree they want planted, where artist, graphic designers, community organizers, and interns came together. I learned that patience and thoroughness are essential to being successful, especially in the non-profit world when things may be out of your control. Overall, this summer has opened up a brand new Baltimore to me that I am excited to continue exploring and learning about!   - Noah
Community Partner: Right to Housing Alliance
Intern: Jules Vigorito
Site Supervisors: Kori Jobes

What is Right to Housing Alliance?
The Right to Housing Alliance is a human rights organization led by low-income residents. We’re a partnership of community members, organizers, and attorneys working to elevate housing to the level of a human right and secure community control over land. Through direct action, coalition building, education, and advocacy, we’re empowering new community leaders and building a movement to transform the housing system in Baltimore to value the principles of human rights.

Tasks:
• Coordinate volunteers for Rent Court Reform Initiative
• Solicit survey respondents and survey them at Baltimore City Rent Court
• Organize contact info and communicate with RTHA members

My eight weeks of CIIP were a crash course in the major housing issues troubling Baltimore City right now. During my first few weeks with RTHA, I got to partake in the buzz around HABC's aggressive efforts to sell off public housing stock by prepping for and participating in a protest rally, reading and annotating HUD's federal notice on the plan, and attending meetings between residents and city officials. The second leg of my work centered on Baltimore City Rent Court, where I helped organize volunteers for a pilot phase of the Rent Court Reform Initiative, a survey-based research effort to study problematic court practices. Attending Rent Court daily and hearing from tenants who are often subjected to poor housing conditions and unaffordable rent allowed me a look into the structural challenges of urban housing and has inspired a strong belief in the importance of prioritizing safe, affordable housing for all. - Jules
Community Partner: Shepherd's Clinic  
Peer Mentor: Shannon Herndon  
Site Supervisor: Glenda Skuletich  

What is Shepherd’s Clinic?
A unique non-profit organization providing quality, comprehensive health care to Baltimore’s uninsured, helping people who are unable to afford commercial health insurance, yet do not qualify for government assistance.

When I first found out that I would be working at Shepherd’s Clinic, a comprehensive health care clinic for the uninsured, I was thrilled. However, instead of numerous patient interactions filling my days as I initially expected, I was spending the majority of my time answering phone calls, sorting charts, and making screening manuals for future volunteers. As the summer progressed, though, I came to understand just how important this “office” work was to the function and efficiency of the clinic. A tag I created, S4, to identify patients that had successfully provided all updated information the clinic needed, was becoming more and more prevalent on patient charts. Additionally, spending countless hours with my coworkers and office manager helped me develop great interpersonal skills. Now, as I am about to leave Shepherd’s Clinic for the summer, I leave with more knowledge and confidence about the health care system and a great appreciation for the often unnoticed work that allows a clinic to operate efficiently and with care and convenience for the patient. But I also know that, as much as I have been changed, I have helped to change Shepherd’s Clinic for the better as well, and this is a great feeling. - Shannon

Tasks:
- Screening patients to make sure the clinic has updated demographic, income and ID information
- Becoming knowledgeable about the Affordable Care Act and using that knowledge to survey patients about their success/difficulties with the last enrollment period
- Acting as a front desk volunteer, which includes tasks such as answering the phone, scheduling appointments, and checking patients out
- Being innovative with new ideas - for example, I helped create “Medicaid application packets” for patients that were unable to come to the clinic during hours when our health care navigator was there
Attending a school like Johns Hopkins University, I think we can often times build up a mindset that by framing a piece of paper on our wall, respect will become a given. My job this summer served as a reminder that no matter what your background is, respect is often something that needs to be earned, through patience, listening, and following through with your word. Throughout the summer I was able to connect with the kids at SquashWise and work towards my non-profit’s ultimate goal of developing academic success through involvement with sports, a theme that I have learned well with my experience in baseball at Hopkins. Due to CIIP and Squashwise, I had a summer to remember. I was able to explore the city in a way I never had during the school year, finding myself at many new neighborhoods, restaurants, and city events. Fortunately, my fellow CIIP interns and Squashwise co-workers turned out to be great friends along the way, helping me to learn about and develop a relationship with the city I now consider home. - David

Tasks:
• Designed and implemented a summer fitness program
• Supervised trips such as the Kenyon College Squash Tournament
• Provided support in classroom and tutoring sessions

Community Partner: Squash Wise
Intern: David Mampre
Site Supervisor: Matt Skarzynski

What is SquashWise?
SquashWise is a unique youth development program providing long-term academic and social support to public school students in Baltimore City, combining intensive academic tutoring with instruction in the sport of squash. We are a college access program which uses squash opportunities to motivate students and open doors for their future, both academically and athletically. Our short-term goals include improved grades, academic effort, fitness and nutrition. Our long-term goals are to ensure 100% high school graduation and to support college completion and life planning.
Community Partner: St. Francis Neighborhood Center
Intern: Ramy Chin
Site Supervisor: Torbin Green

What is the St. Francis Neighborhood Center?
St. Francis Neighborhood Center is committed to breaking the cycles of poverty through education, inspiring self-esteem, self-improvement, and strengthening connections to the community.

CIIP and St. Francis really taught and challenged me to serve. From strapping countless harnesses amidst the boiling Baltimore summer heat for students to participate in Genesee Valley's outdoor activities to picking up milk carton trash mountains after lunches, SFNC nudged my comfort zone every day. I learned to become a better listener through my students' multifarious personalities, a more patient person stemming from roller coaster-esque days of classroom behavior, and a more independent individual as I eagerly searched for tasks every day to help even just one more staff member or student. In addition, through CIIP, I discovered cultural, historical, delicious, and artistic hidden gems that "Charm City" has to offer. I am grateful to have built such close, personal relationships with everyone involved at St. Francis, and I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to represent Hopkins while serving a local community.

- Ramy

Tasks:
• Create lesson plans and curriculum for 8-week Summer of Service program
• Serve as a co-instructor for 3rd-5th graders
• Assist supervisors and fellow instructors with office or instructional tasks
Community Partner: STAR TRACK
Intern: Kate Hein
Site Supervisor: Kate Bishop

What is STAR TRACK?
The STAR TRACK Program's mission is to provide leadership in Maryland on adolescent HIV health issues by:
- Providing comprehensive, interdisciplinary, individualized, and confidential health care to HIV infected and at risk adolescents and young adults
- Providing youth-friendly health education, prevention, and early identification services to HIV infected and at risk adolescents, young adults, and their communities
- Advocating on behalf of HIV infected and at risk adolescents and their families

My eight weeks with STAR TRACK this summer have an incredibly fun and eye-opening experience. Through going to outreach events like HIV testing at Walgreen’s or helping run the Youth Zone at Pride as well as planning meetings like weekly STAR TRACK prevention team meeting or going to a meeting of the Transgender Response Team I have learned about the strengths and also the current issues in the young Black LGBTQ community. I am leaving the internship with a concrete understanding of the current health and social justice issues this community is currently facing, like a high rate of individuals unaware of their HIV status and recent increase in violence against Trans* women, and what is being done to remedy these issues. A long-term project over the summer was planning an upcoming street fair where many organizations that focus on health and services for youth will be there to connect with young people there. While this event will take place a few week after my internship has ended, I feel good about the planning and organization I put into making the event happen. - Kate

Tasks:
- Recruiting people to get tested and helping patients/people fill out consent paperwork at community testing events
- Planning a Youth Street Fair which will have many youth focused health and services organizations present as well as activities and testing
- Provided health education at various community events, most notably Pride where STAR TRACK ran the youth zone
Community Partner: Station North Arts and Entertainment District
Intern: Nava Rastegar
Site Supervisors: Rebecca Chan and Ben Stone

What is Station North?
By promoting and supporting artists and cultural organizations in the District, Station North Arts & Entertainment, Inc. seeks to create a vibrant neighborhood where arts, artists and entertainment venues flourish in the midst an economically diverse community with an abundance of healthy residential, retail and commercial offerings.

Being in Station North every day was incredible. Weekly, I walk through areas I had never been through on foot before, despite being born and raised in Baltimore, like Greenmount West. I attended shows that I never would have known about were it not for my coworkers, the venues we frequented during business hours and the posters plastered everywhere. I learned about creating artistic opportunities for entire neighborhoods on a limited budget. However, the work itself was shockingly normal. The tasks I was assigned—sending out emails, organizing events, canvassing and promoting the work of my organizations—were the tasks I did while working at a theatre, or at a political organization. I don’t mean to imply that it was boring or a waste of time—on the contrary. Canvassing, dealing with disparate personalities and histories while working towards a common goal, are all skills I can take with me into any job. It was a continuation of my previous training, but in one of the best settings imaginable. -Nava

Tasks:
• Organizing events associated with Station North
• Publicity and communications for both Station North and BA+JP
• Surveying Station North residents on their feelings about OWB2
• Finding individuals and organizations for the Baltimore Art + Justice Map
Community Partner: Thread
Intern: Sophia Ottleben
Site Supervisor: Sean Foley

What is Thread?
Thread uses a “family-style” approach to foster the transformation of both underperforming high school students and university-based Volunteers into self-motivated, resourceful, and socially aware leaders committed to a higher purpose of their own.

Through my volunteer experiences, I have become passionate about empowering youth with positive opportunities, whether it be mentoring or building a role-model relationship with the students. Because of this passion, I decided to take the next step by working for Thread through the CIIP internship in order to learn how to run a summer program. Through this internship, I discovered the importance of relationships, communication, and feedback built with staff members and employers who employed our students over the summer. I have always been the type to rely on myself to carry the entire burden, but I was able to lighten my load by focusing on strengthening connections with staff and volunteers. I achieved this by keeping them notified about student situations at their workplace and by keeping an open communication through email and phone with employers. Sharing the highs and lows with the students who had summer jobs through our program was a roller coaster of excitement and I am grateful that I was given the opportunity to be a CIIP intern!

- Sophia

Tasks:
• Preparing orientation sessions for the students and employers participating in our DAASI Summer Internship Program.
• Managing student credit recovery courses through APEX by enrolling the students and monitoring their progress.
• Serving as a liaison between the students, their internship employers, and their Thread family to ensure that everyone is kept in the loop about their student’s progress.
• Preparing and presenting Professional Development sessions that taught students about crime prevention, healthy eating, and financial awareness.
Community Partner: Thread
Intern: Albert Chavesta
Site Supervisor: Sean Foley

What is Thread?
Thread uses a “family-style” approach to foster the transformation of both underperforming high school students and university-based Volunteers into self-motivated, resourceful, and socially aware leaders committed to a higher purpose of their own.

I joined the Community Impact Internship Program to learn more about the Baltimore community outside of Hopkins and to widen my breadth of knowledge in the field of education. Having previous experience working with children through Tutorial Project, I came into this internship with the hopes of learning how to interact with high school students placed in internships around the community. The goals of our student’s internships are to develop professional skills and to participate in unique experiences to add to their resumes. I was given the opportunity to interact with the students by working with them on research projects and helping them pass summer courses through APEX. As my relationship with the students developed, I came to see them as young adults with potential to succeed in both an academic and professional setting. In at least a small way, I leave Thread knowing that I was able to provide these students with some form of direction: whether it was motivating them to work harder in school, understanding and listening to their problems to offer them guidance, or providing them with structure emphasizing the importance of their education and experiences. Thread has been helpful in not only pushing their students to succeed, but also in teaching their employees how to make use of their natural talents in a constructive way in which we can help others improve. As a result, I realize that regardless of wherever my future career path leads me, my job and mission is to help others reach their full potential.

- Albert

Tasks:
• Preparing orientation seminars for the students and employers participating in our DAASI Summer Internship Program.
• Managing student credit recovery courses through APEX by enrolling the students and monitoring their progress.
• Serving as a liaison between the students, their internship employers, and their Thread family to ensure that everyone is aware of their student’s status.
• Organizing the DAASI Summer Research Symposium by explaining to the students the importance of displaying the work at their internships, helping them coordinate their projects, and assisting them in presenting their projects in front of their peers and medical professionals at Johns Hopkins.
What is the Waverly Main Street?
Waverly Main Street is the local, historic shopping district located in the center of Waverly Village. Visit the Waverly Historic Marker located on the green median along 33rd St. west of Greenmount. Stop by the Waverly Branch of the Library to pick up a copy of the self-guided historic walking tour of the commercial corridor, "Village life goes on along the Old York Road".

In my internship at Waverly Main Street, I embraced a community that was unfamiliar to me in order to try to help the neighborhood succeed. I learned that persistence and great communication skills are necessary to put on a community event, through working with community members, business owners, and local stakeholders. By doing a variety of tasks—everything from writing a grant to improve streetscapes and greenery on Greenmount Avenue, to interviewing local business owners—I sought to help my organization run more smoothly and to publicize what makes Waverly such a unique and vibrant place.

- Camilla

Tasks:
• Assisted the Executive director to develop strategy for improvement in the Waverly business district of Baltimore
• Helped write a grant for funds to improve streetscapes and facades on Greenmount Avenue
• Planned a Ribbon cutting which brought the Waverly community together to celebrate the history of the district, assisted with general event planning
• Assisted with publicity, including social media, website, press releases, newsletters, and promotional material
What is Wide Angle Youth Media?
Wide Angle Youth Media is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides Baltimore youth with media education to tell their own stories and become engaged with their communities. Through quality after-school programming, in-school opportunities, summer workshops, community events, and an annual Youth Media Festival, Wide Angle supports young people making a difference through media.

Relevant, Impactful, Door-Opening.
Entering WAYM with production experience allowed me to jump right into the field on my very first day. Being able to bypass the initial few weeks of training was beneficial because I was able to contribute immediately.

I worked on producing several media projects for clients such as CSX, Green Street Academy, and the Anne Arundel Youth Works Program. Although, I won’t be here when the projects are completed, I significantly assisted in both the Pre-Production (planning) stages and the Production (filming) stage as a director.

The impact of these projects are more long term than immediate. CSX’s fatality rate can be lowered by informing the youth of the dangers of large freight trains, the Youth Works program will find more organizations to partner with allowing more youth job opportunities, more funders can support GSA’s education in a green and sustainable economy, and WAYM earned funds to expand programs for our youth!

At WAYM, I developed strong relationships with my students and staff. My experiences have opened future opportunities for me as I’ll be able to continue similar work in Boston. - Malcolm

Tasks:
- Provide media education to our students
- Assist in Media Pre, Production, and Post-Production phases
- Design Production Proposals
What is Word on The Street?
Word on the Street is an independent, non-profit, grassroots newspaper led by those experiencing homelessness and by their allies that aims to educate the community and expose the underlying causes of homelessness by highlighting the contributions of homeless and formerly homeless individuals while providing vendors with a source of income.

Community Partner: Word on the Street
Intern: Richard Gholston
Site Supervisor: Damien Haussling

Tasks:
- Redesigning the Word on the Street website
- Drafting a proposal for a subscription program
- Creating a database for resource centers in Baltimore
- Assisting in amending Word on the Street’s mission statement.

My time at Word on the Street started with the goal of developing a website and a feasible subscription program that would help sustain the paper for years to come. Naturally I held reservations. I had one year of programming experience and had never drafted a proposal before. I later learned that the website had been a touchy issue in the past filled with heated discussion about which platform to use and who possessed control. Despite what seemed to be an impossible task, I managed to make the website within eight weeks with the guidance of the staff’s feedback, such as the addition of a page containing resources throughout Baltimore City. I worked closely with two interns from Health Care for the Homeless and one of my supervisors at Word on the Street, Tony. Using their suggestions, I crafted the page with a Google map and a filtering system to make finding resource centers that offer shelter, food, and clothing much easier. My second goal with the subscription program taught me how much went into drafting a proposal considering multiple opinions. I surveyed people who were deeply involved in the paper. Some of my questions involved asking how much they were willing to pay for a subscription and whether they preferred digital or hard copies. Near the end of my internship, I presented my work and my findings. I feel that this newspaper will soon implement a more effective subscription program. I love the direction the newspaper is heading. Armed with a new mission statement that we drafted on a company retreat, I am certain that Word on the Street will impact many lives in Baltimore City. Overall I feel great pride in the work I did this summer and am humbled by those who work for non-profit organizations to benefit the community. I feel that I will stay in touch and work with Word on the Street outside of the CIIP program.

- Richard
Community Partner: Youth Empowered Society  
Peer Mentor: Charlotte James  
Site Supervisor: Lara Law  

**What is Youth Empowered Society?**

Drop-In Center is a safe space for youth, who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness and between ages 14-25, to get basic needs met and establish supportive relationships with peer counselors and allies that help them make and sustain connections to long-term resources and opportunities.

In my last week of work at the Youth Empowered Society (YES) homeless youth drop-in center, one of the center's long time youth clients signed the lease for her first apartment. For many people, signing a first lease is an exciting moment filled with feelings of independence and responsibility. For this youth, it meant all of that and so much more. She will no longer be forced to spend restless nights in the Inner Harbor; she now holds the key to a home she can call her own, where she knows she will be safe and secure.

My co-workers often share their dreams for a bigger and better YES, where no one is turned away and not a single client is literally homeless in a city with such impressive, untouched housing stock. Unfortunately, as many of us learn while interning, funding and other bureaucratic loopholes often limit an organizations' capacity. Despite these struggles, I have faith that YES will continue to provide comprehensive, personalized case management and support services for this drastically underserved and unrecognized population. - Charlotte

Tasks:
- Open house event co-coordinator
- Drop-in supervision team member
- Administrative assistance
Thank you to all of our community partners for giving our CIIP interns an amazing experience.