Community Impact Internships Program

2023 Internship Profiles
The Community Impact Internships Program is a competitive, paid summer internship, that pairs JHU undergraduate students with nonprofit organizations and government agencies, and offers an intensive, cohort-based learning environment. Internships focus on community-identified projects in Baltimore and run from June to August. This program is made possible by gifts totaling over $3 million from a private donor.

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 our partners.

This Summer 2023, 41 interns and 8 peer mentors worked at 49 different community partners in eight different impact areas, including Community Arts, Neighborhood Organizing, Nonprofit Management, Family Wellness, Youth Education and Advocacy, Food Access and Environment, Healthcare, and Government and Policy. Through hybrid and in-person working models, interns worked with their supervisors on projects ranging from organizing community events, assisting with youth summer camps, researching local policies, to harvesting fresh produce for community programs. Take a look inside this booklet to read more about the transformative experiences from this summer!

The Center for Social Concern (CSC) fosters a lifelong commitment to active citizenship among JHU undergraduates by integrating education, action, and reflection into community-focused programming for Hopkins’ students within Baltimore City. Reflected in our approach, we envision a world in which Hopkins students are active citizens within their current and future communities.
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What is Art with a Heart?

Art with a Heart’s mission is to enhance the lives of people in need through visual art. Art with a Heart brings visual art classes to vulnerable youth and adults in schools, shelters, group homes, community centers, hospitals and senior facilities.

Community Partner: Art with a Heart
Intern: Jacqueline Frank
Site Supervisor: Christina Ralls

For several weeks, I have traveled to Enoch Pratt’s Central Branch daily in order to assist the teachers teaching a class for youth who are part of a specific program. My placement provides a variety of art projects for these youth workers that are part of a specific program. I have the opportunity to work with a variety of people, and am able to support the teachers and the teens.

Art with a Heart is a non profit organization that does community service through art of several forms. They create art projects for other non profit organizations who may request their own specific events, and for the city including the sculpture project called “The Heart of Baltimore”. I would go to Enoch Pratt’s Free Library central branch to work with teens that are a part of the youth workers program that teens learn and create art projects in order for them to sell through the Art with a Heart stores and to have them develop art skills. They are given specific tasks based on the lesson plan and then we have a day during the week dedicated to teaching the youth workers workforce skills. I would then travel back to the main office of Art with a Heart to see what kind of assistance would then travel back to the main office of Art with a Heart to see what kind of assistance would

Once a week, I assist the teacher in doing professional development work, which is a day dedicated to teaching the youth workers skills that could be implemented and applied when they are entering the workforce. This includes learning how to do restoration, tile sculptures, geometric designs, and digital art.

This summer was an unprecedented time for the BHRC. BHRC was in the process of becoming its own nonprofit, which came with it with lots of paperwork, administration, and tasks that required staff to step up into new positions and roles to ensure the organization could keep functioning and be prepared for the future. Being a part of this transition allowed me to contribute to projects and see how that work would normally not have had the opportunity to help out with. During this period, I learned to be adaptable and patient and plugged myself into different committees where I could contribute and learn.

Every day, I got to see the nitty-gritty details of how BHRC functions and how connected are all the different teams, services, education, operations, and mobilization are. It was fulfilling to see full circle the kind of work we do. I also developed a greater understanding of how funding is distributed to nonprofits and what is necessary to maintain that funding, which includes diligent data collection, reporting, and analysis. The summer project site also highlighted the intersections between issues including food insecurity, housing, police, and drug users. Learning about history and ongoing advocacy efforts changed the way I think about nonprofits, government, and policy, and reinforced my interest in and support of harm reduction methods. Fundamentally changing the way culture and society sees drug use is necessary for creating any long-term change, but it is also important to continue to take small steps each day to help community members now.

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Every staff member I worked with brought a fresh perspective and unique passion and dedication to their work. I came in wanting to learn more about how a harm reduction organization conducts its operations and every day I got to work on furthering BHRC’s goals of social justice through a harm reduction lens.

What is the Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition?

Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition (BHRC) is a community-based organization that mobilizes community members for the health, dignity, and safety of people targeted by the war on drugs and anti-sex worker policies, we advocate for harm reduction as a part of a broader movement for social justice.

Community Partner: Baltimore Harm Reduction Coalition
Intern: Atri Surapaneni
Site Supervisor: Harriet Smith

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Just like the name alludes to it, SquashWise is a two-part program which combines the incredibly fun sport of Squash with a dedication to support motivated students in their education journey. Squash has historically been an exclusive and male dominated sport played mostly by the upper-middle and upper-class population on the higher end of the socioeconomic status. The equipment, courts, and school locations all contribute to the limited access that most people have to the sport of squash, which creates a huge disparity and inequality within the larger scope of sports and physical activity.

When I first matched with SquashWise, I was excited to have the opportunity to be back on the courts; but what I was looking forward to the most was the experience I would have with all the kids who would participate in the program. For almost a whole month my team and I spent the days planning and structuring the activity of camp. After creating a new and fun plan for engaging the most students possible during camp, I also began to think about how we could foster long-term involvement in the program and engagement in the program through leadership positions.

Days at camp always began with the opening activity I lead with both the rookies of the program and the returning students who have already had exposure to SquashWise. These two groups take turns completing three lessons which include a Health and Wellness session that I contributed to periodically. I am completely stunned at how much Squash progress our rookies have made in the span of two weeks. Yet, what I’ve loved the most is the community that has been formed with all the campers and staff throughout this month. Every day, I learn a lot about how these kids want, and what make the program alive, is inspired by how each kid breaks down barriers to become players that have skill and tons of energy to give.

One big highlight from this summer has also been the opportunity to teach and bring the fun of SquashWise to the CIIP intern cohort by leading and hosting a Squash Night at SquashWise’s courts. This was an amazing time to show the fellow interns about my placement and its mission while allowing them to try out the game for themselves. In the future, I hope this initiative could grow to a place where students reach their academic, athletic, and life goals and where the squash community becomes more accessible and welcoming for all.

My favorite aspect of interning at BUBA is the fact that every day has something different in store. Whether that be the bus ride over to the facility, the tasks I complete in the day, or what I order for lunch, I can say with confidence that I have really enjoyed the work that I have done so far.

Before my internship had started, I was not sure if my work would involve playing baseball or having a role behind the scenes in supporting BUBA. Upon my first conversation with Andy, my supervisor, it was clear to me that this summer would require an all-hands-on-deck approach from both of us to guarantee the sustainability of the program. Within the first couple of weeks of working at BUBA, I quickly became acclimated to various platforms that we use, including Virtuagym, Shopify, and Printful. Along with streamlining the attendance and registration process, I created a new merchandise design for the season which I pitched and coordinated all the steps to boost our sales. Andy and I were also able to get in contact with a good friend of BUBA, Dom Freeberger, who was kind enough to host a camp for our youth athletes. Freeberger, who won the Big East Player of the Year, was able to teach our youth valuable skills that went beyond baseball.

My favorite memory at BUBA was without a doubt meeting Reds’ Left Fielder Will Benson and Assistant Coach Jeff Pickler. It was rewarding to see our youth athletes become inspired by the wisdom the pair shared with us. On a more personal note, it has always been a childhood dream of mine to meet a professional baseball player. Thanks to this program and BUBA, I was able to fulfill that dream, and it is a memory that I will hold onto forever.

To me, being a part of BUBA has been about making a difference in the lives of Baltimore youth. Whether that be the bus ride over to the facility, the tasks I complete in the day, or what I order for lunch, I can say with confidence that I have really enjoyed the work that I have done so far. Whether that be the bus ride over to the facility, the tasks I complete in the day, or what I order for lunch, I can say with confidence that I have really enjoyed the work that I have done so far.
What is Baltimore Youth Arts?

Baltimore Youth Arts is a creative entrepreneurship and job training program that provides artistic and professional opportunities to youth who are involved in the justice system, its complexities, and the challenges they face. At Baltimore Youth Arts, the work is interactive, explores self-empowerment, and works deeply to build connections between the youth, staff, and their communities. Everyone at BYA takes the time to listen, thoroughly understand and look out for each other, and allow the youth to be the main characters of their own stories. BYA provides the space for youth apprentices to be themselves at their own accord. It is so heartening to watch as individuals find their voice and begin to bloom into their full potential as they explore their interests and curiosities. I’ve myself done some exploring and work to build stronger connections with my community and Baltimore city with the help of BYA. BYA has helped me foster connections in the city and has given me the time, tools, and resources to learn the community environment and navigate and make connections and relationships in Baltimore especially when you witness the magic and endless possibilities that these connections can make. My internship with BYA has also shifted my perspective on career fields, workplace, but still makes a great impact on its communities and puts their mission and community involvement at the forefront of their work.

When I first got my placement, I was a little (a lot) hesitant about it. I admired the organization’s mission, but I was not sure the placement was right for me. But after talking to previous interns and the staff member about challenges I might face and support that was available, I knew this was an opportunity to give back to youth and make a difference in my community. With food justice being an issue that matters to me, I wanted to learn about it, understand its historical and local impact in Baltimore, and work towards sustainable solutions. Looking back, my experience at Black Church Food Security Network has been a rollercoaster - I have laughed, cried, reflected, learned, and, most importantly, experienced personal growth in unexpected areas.

I went into my placement hesitant and unsure how and where I would fit in. But soon, I learned that regardless of our diverse backgrounds, everyone shared the commitment to fighting for food justice and equitable food access for our communities. I witnessed firsthand how much goes into making a change, from collaborating with local farmers, to inspiring event attendees to learn about the organization and engage in conversations with a state senator to advocate for policy reform. However, there is the most important personal lesson I learned this summer: how we address these challenges will determine the magnitude of our success. And while we might not be able to change the world overnight, the impact of our collaborative efforts will contribute towards lasting solutions. I will forever be grateful for what I learned this summer and carry away contently knowing that I have contributed, in maybe little ways, to an important cause. I look forward to hearing from future interns and hope their experience surpasses mine in many ways, as well as continue witnessing the impact that Black Church Food Security Network has in creating an alternative food system in the Baltimore metropolitan area.
What is the Black Yield Institute?  

Black Yield Institute is a Pan-African power institution based in Baltimore, Maryland, serving as a think tank and collective action network that addresses food apartheid.

What is Baltimore Underground Science Space?  

BUGSS is a non-profit public laboratory offering classes, seminars, and lab access so that anyone can safely and affordably investigate the living world. By democratizing these technologies we hope to facilitate more nuanced dialogue and exploration of the incredible potential, as well as limitations and ethical issues.

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Community Partner: Black Yield Institute & Baltimore Underground Science Space

Intern: Ibrahim Rashadon
Site Supervisor: Eric Jackson & Lisa Scheifle

Work with Black Yield Institute (BYI) and Baltimore Underground Science Space (BUGSS) this summer has been a wonderful experience. At first I felt somewhat apprehensive at BYI, because my assigned projects were very new to me; however, I was also excited to follow up on my interest to be a part of a more black-centered spaces and meeting more black folks, and to expand on and apply the knowledge I gained working with the Black Church Food Security Network last summer. Over the course of the internship I became more and more comfortable and was able to let go of a lot of my initial worries about how I would fit into the mold. I really enjoyed BYI’s orientation, as it helped me connect personally with their ethos. One of the most impactful ideas I held onto that came from Baltimore’s Strange Fruit, a film produced by BYI, is the value of the people who hold that history. The knowledge that long-term community members have through their experiences and the history they can relate to are priceless. I also learned how important owning land is, for it hosts political, economic, and communal power as a form of wealth. Both of these ideas were very well connected to my projects focused on land policy research and reformation legislation & policy conducted research on land policies for insulin regulation. Specifically, my wonder on how things function in the world was enriched within this experience with BUGSS. Helping simulate this with the project. These ideas and techniques can be so simple in my head or on paper, but actually making connections with black food justice organizations of the African diaspora worldwide.

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Community Partner: Calvin M Rodwell Elementary/Middle School
Intern: Clayton Turner
Site Supervisor: Amanda Richardson & Natasha Brannum

What is Calvin M Rodwell Elementary/Middle School?
Calvin M. Rodwell Elementary/Middle is located in Northwest Baltimore. Each school day begins with recitation of the motto, “We’re on our way to college!” — a commitment backed by outstanding instruction from a highly qualified staff. Elementary students receive comprehensive training in core subject areas and are also provided with music, technological awareness and unique culinary arts programming.

During my internship with the Central Baltimore Partnership (CBP), I not only gained first-hand experience working for a non-profit, but also had countless meaningful interactions with local residents and community partners. By splitting my time evenly between office work and community engagement, I could both plan interventions and see their impact on the ground.

CBP is an umbrella organization dedicated to the revitalizing Central Baltimore for the benefit of its current residents, including supporting small businesses, promoting local artists and events, and improving residents’ well-being through the Greenmount Lifts Opportunity and Wellness (GLOW) initiative. CBP funds partner organizations’ programs that work towards these goals. Given that I am majoring in Public Health, my shifts at the office were primarily spent planning, supporting, and evaluating public health initiatives. I am not yet qualified to create and implement programs independently. However, my research provided valuable insights about the prevalence of unhealthy food in corner stores: my work will be used to inform CBP’s future interventions in this area. I supported ongoing programs by following up with community partners and checking that they are receiving enough support. I also determined evaluation metrics to ensure the efficacy of these programs.

On the other hand, I also learned about the neighborhoods and interacted with the residents that CBP supports. My supervisor took me on myriad walking tours, educating me about the area’s history and visiting ongoing program sites. Baltimore’s well-documented history of racist public policy and disinvestment provides valuable context for current disparities. I could see my work in action when visiting community partners and observing their programming. For example, I sat in on several of DENT’s educational programs for local youth. By working directly with the community, I could see that the support I provided, even if relatively minimal, has made a positive impact on Central Baltimore and its residents.

• Assisted in preparing and organizing school supplies for the summer camp program.
• Performed a large role in instructing, mentoring and coaching the students within the “Mustangs Rise” summer camp.
• Supported community liaison work through the school, such as providing school or office tours.
• Helped the school transition to remote learning during the current school year.
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Working with Child First Authority at Calvin Rodwell this summer has been a fruitful experience. I am thankful to be able to work outside of Hopkins in the community as this learning goes into running and working in a school this summer and it is interesting to see how everything comes together at the end. Ultimately, my experience at Calvin Rodwell has been very beneficial and I am glad to have worked with everyone involved within the school and the Child First Authority program.

Community Partner: Central Baltimore Partnership
Intern: Carlos Gamboa
Site Supervisor: Aaron Kaufman

What is the Central Baltimore Partnership?
Formed in 2006, the Central Baltimore Partnership’s mission is to galvanize the renaissance of Central Baltimore. We pursue our mission by partnering with neighborhood organizations, non-profits, educational institutions, businesses and government agencies.

• Research factors contributing to the prevalence of unhealthy foods in corner stores, as well as effective interventions to address these challenges.
• Assist CBP’s partners with their current work, including supporting ongoing programs, evaluating past interventions, and planning events.
• Engage with community partners and residents through site visits and check-ins.

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At my placement at the Chase-Brexton clinic, I primarily served as a patient advocate I work with walk-up, information-seeking patients who are looking for transitional resources (information on gender affirming surgeries or legal-name changes for instance). I also refer patients and community members to active community and social services for access to computer classes, housing, food, and legal resources for instance. I often coordinate with patients so that they can meet with specialty physicians outside of the clinic, oftentimes for gender affirming surgeries that the clinic does not perform. On the internal side, I prepared LGBTQ+ resource toolkits centered on improving sexual and gender minority (SGM) patient care for providers and for clinic-led organization to live the healthiest life possible.

Community Partner: Chase Brexton Health Care - Center for LGBTQ Health Equity
Intern: Aamilah Chowdhury
Site Supervisor: Kate Bishop

What is Chase Brexton Health Care?
This primary care clinic services, education, training, research, and advocacy. The Center for LGBTQ Health Equity at Chase Brexton Health Care is working to end the health disparities that exist with in LGBTQ communities and give patients worldwide—regardless of how they identify—the opportunity to live the healthiest life possible.

What is Code in the Schools?
We empower Baltimore youth to thrive in the 21st century economy by expanding access to equity computer science education and building pathways from school to jobs and higher education. By focusing on youth traditionally underrepresented in technology fields, this organization works to eliminate structural barriers and inequities in education and industry. CodeWorks is a summer program offered by CITS for Baltimore youth aged 14-21. Youth are compensated for their participation in learning game development, data science, Python skills, website development, and more from various qualified instructors.

When I first learned about my placement, I assumed I would be spending a majority of my summer working with code and technology; however, I was delighted to learn that my supervisors, Dianne and Trish, were interested in improving youth engagement in the CodeWorks program. The goal was to ensure that CodeWorks felt like a nurturing, positive, fun, and co-created work experience to learn, build community, and belonging for all its participants. We wanted youth to feel at home at CodeWorks and to build strong, meaningful connections with our participants.

This summer I worked with the nonprofit organization, Code in the Schools. Code in the Schools' or CITS' mission is to empower Baltimore youth to thrive in the 21st century economy by expanding access to equity computer science education and building pathways from school to jobs and higher education. When I first learned about my placement, I assumed I would be spending a majority of my summer working with code and technology; however, I was delighted to learn that my supervisors, Dianne and Trish, were interested in improving youth engagement in the CodeWorks program. The goal was to ensure that CodeWorks felt like a nurturing, positive, fun, and co-created work experience to learn, build community, and belonging for all its participants. We wanted youth to feel at home at CodeWorks and to build strong, meaningful connections with our participants.

So instead of spending my days with computers, keyboards, and coding as I had anticipated, I spent most of my time greeting and chatting with the CodeWorkers, working closely with members of the CITS organization. So instead of spending my days with computers, keyboards, and coding as I had anticipated, I spent most of my time greeting and chatting with the CodeWorkers, working closely with members of the CITS organization. And just getting to know people. I felt inspired by the enthusiasm of the CodeWorkers. Worker youth, each of them are so passionate about learning and all extremely talented; but, I also felt proud to work with the members of my nonprofit. Their incredible work ethic and dedication to our cause was contagious and inspiring, and I am so grateful to have been a part of this amazing organization.
My internship at Corner Team has been a really fun and interesting experience, to say the least! I work with the Youth Works kids every Monday through Friday from 9 am to 3:30 pm and each kid has a unique personality that brings life to the boxing club. Every day I would like to work for about 10 minutes, but other forms of transportation like the bus is pretty reliable whenever I don’t feel like biking. We would then start our day with a mental health activity, and we focus on improving our kids’ mindfulness during this time. We would also talk about the theme that we are discussing for that week. For example, we are currently in Week 2 right now, and our theme for the week is RESPECT. So for the beginning of the session, we would do an activity about respect and explain why it is important. Moving on, we would work out and train some of the basic boxing skills like jabs, crosses, and footwork. After that, we would either transition into my STEM classes that I lead on Tuesdays and Thursdays, or we will do a class about leadership and literacy on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On Saturdays, we would work on our vacant lot which is supposed to become a public and clean space for the people of Baltimore. This is probably the hardest part of the internship, and working out there is a borderline workout! Nevertheless, the work that we do is important and I know that the kids feel fulfilled in helping others. Corner Team also has some activities planned for the kids to do in the upcoming weeks, like rowing, sailing, cooking, and camping! I am excited to see what the future has in store for that lot, and I appreciate all the people who have been working to make it happen.

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What is Corner Team?
Corner Team uses Olympic-style boxing to strengthen core competencies that improve academic performance, encourage healthy and active lifestyles, and build strong communities of engaged citizens.

What is CASA of Baltimore?
CASA of Baltimore’s mission is to provide court appointed special advocates to speak for the best interests of abused and neglected children involved in Baltimore’s juvenile court system to encourage reunification, help them find a permanent family, and reach their full potential.
I was given the amazing opportunity to intern at Dent Education, a non-profit organization that is committed to serving and empowering Baltimore City youth through their own creative ventures. By utilizing Design Thinking models and connecting students to experts around the city that specialize in areas such as product design, business ventures, and social innovation, “Dentents” come out from the summer Bet on Baltimore program with their businesses and initiatives more supported than before. When I first found out that I was paired with Dent, I was overcome with excitement and nervousness at the same time. Although I was happy to find out that I would be working with youth, I had no background in anything related to working in the business industry. However, through my onboarding process with my fellow college-aged “Fellows”, site supporters, and the coaches for the program, I was provided a space to ask as many questions (regardless of how “obvious” I felt the answer might be) and learn alongside others who had been a part of Dent since its conception. My role as a Fellow was described to be the “glue” to the sites that we supported; in this role, I coordinate meals for the students at my two sites, mark and enter their timesheets through Youthworks for their payroll periods, and support my coaches in any way I can. In trying to find ways that I can bring my previous experiences working with high schools, I proposed an education program where I would present weekly sessions about Design Thinking models and connecting students to experts around the city that specialize in areas such as product design, business ventures, and social innovation, “Denterns” come out from the summer Bet on Baltimore program with their businesses and initiatives more supported than before. After reflecting on the experiences that I have had this summer, I feel so blessed to have had the chance to work with such incredible youth and staff members. I am not only taking lessons that I’ve learned from my time during onboarding and Bet on Baltimore, but connections and friendships that I will carry well into my time at Hopkins and beyond. I think it would be fair to say that this organization has definitely made a positive “dent” in my college experience thus far!

What is Dent Education?
Dent Education promotes equity by empowering under-resourced youth to discover and develop their innate creative potential to shape the world around them.

My internship at the Enoch Pratt Free Library has been immensely fulfilling. I previously had no experience with nonprofit management and am thankful I got the chance to learn about how library systems operate from the inside out. A significant accomplishment I got to be a part of was Summer Break Baltimore, the free reading program for all ages. We had over 17,000 registrations for the program for which we had to pack books and shirts to deliver across the library branches. Getting to see the excitement on people’s faces when we dropped off brand-new books, and witnessing the fruits of our hard work was incredibly rewarding. Through this process, I learned a lot more about Baltimore, and how its history informs even what events or books will be more successful in different locations.

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What is ERICA?
The Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance (ERICA) welcomes those fleeing injustice, poverty, and persecution in countries of origin. Through one-on-one problem solving, emergency assistance, and educational workshops, ERICA helps refugees, asylum seekers, and other vulnerable immigrants in Greater Baltimore rebuild their lives through one-on-one problem solving, emergency assistance, and educational workshops.

Two weeks into my internship at the Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance (ERICA), I scrapped the entire introduction chapter of my thesis due to the transformative experiences I had while working with Betty, my extraordinary supervisor, refugees, and asylum seekers. As an aspiring sociologist focused on immigration, I had always considered academic research and the classes I took on policy and theory as crucial to understanding and solving the complex issues immigrants and refugees face. However, I came to realize that we often overlook people’s lived experiences, which precisely reveal the mechanisms of inequality within our exclusionary immigration system. Unfortunately, I can’t share many details of my work due to the nature of dealing with refugees and undocumented immigrants. Nevertheless, hearing refugees and bearing witness to their struggles and resilience in the face of adversity has become a crucible of self-introspection. It has compelled me to confront the privileges that cloak my own existence, uncovering layers of unexamined assumptions that have guided my scholarly and personal journey. Whether one has a visa, was born here, or can speak English, these are privileges that we often overlook and take for granted.

What is the Esperanza Center?
What is ERICA?

"Offering hope," this motto has surrounded me for the past two months during my internship at the Esperanza Center, a clinic that offers free healthcare for uninsured Latino immigrants. Community members and patients alike see the clinic as a safe space where together we work relentlessly to get patients affordable healthcare. This is course comes with many obstacles. Between language and economic barriers, immigrant communities are often silenced or forgotten. In the clinic, we try to break down these barriers by helping patients schedule appointments, apply for financial aid, and find Spanish-speaking providers. In the process, I’ve gotten to know many patients, each with a unique and touching story to tell. Many are heartbreakingly, others inspiring. I am incredibly grateful for the patients who opened their hearts to me. As one of our doctors at the clinic says, “Patients are our greatest teachers.”

All these stories have one thing in common: they show the strength of the Latino community. These people remain hopeful and motivated despite how hard it is to access healthcare while undocumented. With my supervisor, Yaneldis, we often had conversations to reflect on these challenges. For example, we identified that communicating without an interpreter is impossible, but using an interpreter is also uncomfortable and can often lead to misunderstandings. This showed me firsthand the importance of advocating for accessibility in healthcare. This is part of why I found my work at Esperanza so inspiring, it was work done by Latinos for Latinos.

From my summer at Esperanza, I take away countless skills and lessons (among them, the importance of Latinos speaking to their own peers.) I also take away a different outlook on life. This experience has instilled in me the concept of cultivating hope in my personal life and serving others to spread that hope. Esperanza Center uses hope as a beautiful tool to empower immigrants and give them a voice in healthcare.

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The Eubie Blake Cultural Center is a historic center in the Mt. Vernon neighborhood that has become a fixture in the area dedicated to supporting and cultivating Art education in underserved communities. The Culture Center houses many programs such as Ballet After Dark, RISE Arts, and Keur Khaleyi. Through these programs, Eubie Blake has created a safe space for youth in Baltimore to actively participate in the growth of their individual creativity. As an intern at the Arts, and Keur Khaleyi. Through these programs, Eubie Blake has created a safe space for youth in Baltimore to actively participate in the growth of their individual creativity. As an intern at the Eubie Blake National Jazz Institute and Cultural Center, I have had the pleasure of interviewing event curators who are, oftentimes, art artists themselves. They were individuals who sought to pour their energy back into the community that grew them. Starting the summer, I didn’t know a thing about the Art community or how it could be important and impactful on my own journey. Within the first few weeks at Eubie that all have changed. It has been amazing to talk to so many people about their passions, be it dancing or visual arts, or something altogether different. Through this internship, I was able to learn more about art education from a social aspect in terms of how it is often underfunded in underserved communities and not advocated for as much as STEM career paths. I also had a chance to experience firsthand how art and other performative activities can be used to reach neurodiverse children, an experience that piqued my interest due to my neuroscience background. My main role was cultivating articles to be used for the newsletter to spread awareness about the cultural center’s existence in the Mt. Vernon area, however, I’ve done so many other things. From watching a live band and tap dance performance to seeing an African dance showcase to learning the ins and outs of exhibit curation and setup, the list goes on. All in all, this placement has been a great learning experience.

When I was paired with Farm Alliance of Baltimore, I was really excited to see what the placement would have in store for me over the next couple of months. I came in with strong interests in sustainability and environmental justice, but didn’t have any experience with farming, and I was a bit intimidated to be entering a field (literally and metaphorally) where I had pretty much no idea what to expect. However, the people at FAB are so welcoming, and it didn’t take long for me to feel like a part of the team. My supervisor, Alison, was abroad for the first few weeks of the summer, but Myaasha stepped in as an incredible teacher and mentor, especially on the Black Butterfly Teaching Farm, where I worked twice a week. She always made me feel like my questions were welcome and appreciated, and I was constantly being given new jobs to learn and experience. On the office side of things, Murya was there to help me familiarize myself with FAB’s existing systems and current projects and figure out how I could help with them, with both of their help, I was able to get into a routine that balanced farm work, office work, and independent study of resources surrounding issues like food sovereignty. On her last day back from working in Indonesia, Alison sat down with me to discuss any goals I had or particular interests I wanted to focus on for the rest of my time with the Farm Alliance. Since returning, she has been an incredible supervisor and has helped me gain direction and get a better feel for how things work at FAB.

Over these last months, I’ve grown a lot more familiar with issues surrounding food apartheid and inequality in Baltimore and gained a much greater appreciation for what goes into taking produce from a sapling to a meal. I’ve also gotten to see just a few of the close-knit communities that make up this city firsthand. It has been a privilege to contribute something valuable to a place I’ve come to love, and after this summer I can easily see myself continuing with this kind of work.
Working at the Franciscan Center has been an incredibly transformative experience for me. My role has been diverse, from completing intakes for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to serving on the Shadowed social workers and data collection of clients. Bystander education and ensuring efficient processes team and ensure efficient communication with clients and staff. This opportunity to engage in every section of the center has made me feel like an integral part of the Franciscan family, and the genuine care and appreciation from my colleagues, especially Sabrina and Rosslyn, have made each day fulfilling. One of the most significant aspects of my work is directly interacting with our clients. These conversations have provided me with invaluable insights into the lives of those experiencing homelessness, allowing me to learn about their experiences and share information with individuals who may not always have a platform to voice their stories. Many clients are eager to share their experiences, vent about their situations, and offer advice about the world of homelessness. Through these exchanges, I have found myself learning from and being inspired by their resilience and strength. Their stories have taught me about the importance of addressing systemic barriers faced by homeless individuals, such as the lack of identification or a permanent address. Through this partnership, I have witnessed firsthand how the center assists clients in overcoming these obstacles by providing support with identification applications and fees. These experiences have underscored the importance of addressing systemic issues alongside providing immediate assistance. Overall, my time at the Franciscan Center has been an enriching journey of learning, empathy, and personal growth. I have to give an additional thanks to everyone at the center that inspires me to live and serve with the Franciscan values of compassion, respect, and empowerment.
• Collaborated with co-workers to set up the infusion Film Festival Art Exhibition at McGlasson, as well as attended and (at times) helped facilitate both Fusion or inFusion grantees’ events.
• Scheduled meetings with and interviewed about 15 inFusion grantees to understand their programs better, their community impact, and stories to eventually create "one-sheeters" for each program as a part of what infusions calls "storytelling for sustainability," this included sitting in on cooking classes and saving classes!
• Responsibly transcribed, summarized, and interpreted interview content and assembled pictures (taken by myself and/or grantees) to adequately capture grantee’s stories.
• Utilized Canva to design "one-sheeters" geared to help inFusion grantees promote their program, find volunteers, and seek funds beyond infusions grants if desired.
• My project this summer was a long term one. I was assigned to create one sheeters for infusions grant recipients and their programs. This meant that I had to schedule interviews, conduct them, and turn them into beautiful one-sheeters (including pictures!!) while developing connections and trust with the grantees. I felt grateful that my supervisor and coworker have assisted me in connecting with all the grantees, including the infusion grantee committee. It took a lot of introducing me and reintroducing me considering that all of the grantees are very busy people and most of them were meeting me for the first time in person when their interviews occurred. That being said, through the Fusion events and art exhibitions that happen in between interviews, I eventually became a familiar face and I’m happy to know I’ve made connections through my "storytelling" work. I’d also like to mention that Fusion events were a highlight of my experience, especially the infusions Film Fest and Art Exhibition, where I learned a lot about Baltimore, behind the scenes of non-event planning, and even how to install art in a gallery in addition to meeting a lot of cool people and talented local artists.
• Interviews for one-sheeters mostly took place in the Fusion office but a good portion of them took place at McElderry Park Community Association Center, the heart and soul of a lot of the programs inFusion sponsor.
• McElderry Park Community Center is always bustling. Even when it was somewhat empty, I could count on seeing at least one or two friends that I’ve gotten to know through my visits there. I feel grateful that grantees at McElderry Park Community Center and others have trusted me enough with their stories and have in some cases, invited me into their spaces. For example, one of my favorite interviews to conduct was at Amazing Grace Church, where I sat in on a cooking class. As I reflected in a blog post, I was worried about how to ethically approach my task, as I was entering a new space and looking over people’s shoulders while they cooked to ask questions about the program they participate in. It turned out to be a great (and delicious) experience, where I was lucky enough to take part in a space full of good food and good people and to everyone’s surprise everyone was eager for me to taste test their food!

What is Fusion Partnerships?
Through collaborative action, including fiscal sponsorship, Fusion Partnerships works to be a catalyst for social justice and peace.

Community Partner: Fusion Partnerships Inc.
Intern: Nicole Rivas
Site Supervisor: Allison Duggan

What is Fusion Partnerships?
Fusion Partnerships is a nonprofit organization that provides a variety of programs throughout the year for youth and their families. Fusion Partnerships is an arm of Fusion Partnerships Inc., a center for the development of community-led, youth-focused organizations. Fusion Partnerships Inc. is a community partners that provides a variety of programs throughout the year for youth and their families. Fusion Partnerships Inc. is a community partners that provides a variety of programs throughout the year for youth and their families. The organization aims to support youth and families by providing resources, education, and opportunities for growth and development. The organization is dedicated to creating a safe and supportive environment that empowers youth to reach their full potential.

In the first half of my internship, I spent my days planning out each aspect of the 5-week summer program. I reached out to individuals from various career areas to come speak about their careers and experiences. I also planned trips to the National Mall in DC and local college campus tours, designed promotional materials for the organization’s survey programs and events, and wrote letters for multiple grants.

This summer, I was placed as an intern with Greenmount East Leadership Project (GELP), a nonprofit grassroots organization that provides a variety of programs throughout the year for youth and their families. My main project was the development of the Summer Youth Empowerment Academy, a newer program that aims to support at-risk students aged 14-19 through experiences that would take them outside the classroom, introduce them to a variety of career paths and teach essential life skills in a safe and positive environment. In the first half of my internship, I spent my days planning out each aspect of the 5-week summer program. I reached out to individuals from various career areas to come speak about their careers and experiences. I also planned trips to the National Mall in DC and local college campus tours, designed promotional materials for the organization’s survey programs and events, and wrote letters for multiple grants. My biggest task was to create the summer program’s first youth workbook, which would contain summaries on each speaker and a notebook designed to help the youth engage with the program.

When the summer program started in July, I was finally able to see our work pay off as the youth arrived and engaged with the program. As a result of our planning, GELP made dozens of connections with local communities and got our youth to think about themselves, their views on the world and their plans for life in ways they hadn’t before. Before the scenes, I continued to communicate with speakers and locate other sources of support. I also worked on for their continued development. I also learned about everything that goes into designing a youth program while developing various professional skills through my assignments. Working with my supervisor, Coach Zelle, has been a blessing, and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to help make an impact in Baltimore through CIP.

Community Partner: Greenmount East Leadership Project
Intern: Joshua McGrew
Site Supervisor: Isaiah Johnson

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- Designed the curriculum for a 5-week youth summer program
- Planned the curriculum for a 5-week youth summer program
- Designed a 70+ page workbooks and other supplemental materials
- Created and distributed surveys to collect data on the summer program

The Greenmount East Leadership Project is an nonprofit committed to inspiring the youth of Greenmount East, Baltimore to reach their fullest potential by providing them with the skills and knowledge necessary for their journey to adulthood and success.


The vibrant orange walls of the Hampden Family Center seem to reflect the radiant energy of the children; Crafty art pieces line the bookshelves abundant with stories depicting sports, fantasy, or even Siamese cats. After pool time, the children laugh contagiously as they wield their red and blue ice pops like swords... until I introduce our next activity. Instant groans fill the quiet room, a separate space perfect for a mind reset and away from the cacophony of noise and chatter in the classroom. With dread, the girls join me and ultimately choose a book from the series, “I Survived,” which portrays the story of a young boy and shark attacks. As I start to read, the girls soon become distracted by the lights in the room, stuffed animals, or floor mats in a nearby pile. In my head, I think about some advice I heard on my first day at HFC: kids are excited by changing my voice for different dialogue. I tell them of my love for reading, of all the amazing adventures and new worlds waiting to be explored. From the first day of my internship, I was fully immersed in Impact Hub’s mission to further civic wealth and professional support, and to encourage individual growth and community fellowship.
Community Partner: Jubilee Arts
Intern: Dua Hussain
Site Supervisor: Ashley “Ms. Black” Yates

What is Jubilee Arts?
Jubilee is a community program providing arts classes to the residents of the Sandtown-Winchester, Upton, and surrounding neighborhoods in Baltimore, Maryland. We offer programming in dance, visual arts, creative writing and ceramics in partnership with the Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore Clayworks, area artists and writers, and dancers.

My internship at Jubilee Arts has been one of my best experiences in Baltimore thus far. My work at Jubilee allows me to connect with the communities around it and truly feel like a part of Baltimore. However, it’s not just connecting through my work, Jubilee and Intersection of Change, the organization that Jubilee is a part of, give me plenty of ways to get involved with the community outside of work. This includes going to volunteer at the farm, going to see the neighborhoods around us, and just visiting the nearby market. The best part, though, is my coworkers and the general staff at Intersection of Change. I have met some of the most amazing people that have taught me so much.

My supervisor, for example, is always trying to maximize my experience at Jubilee. She brings me to meetings where I can see the inner workings of a non-profit, even though there is nothing I can do to help her in those spaces. She simply wants me to learn. Not only that, but having to work in an area that is so different from Hopkins Homewood has opened my eyes to things that Baltimore citizens face on the daily basis. I complain about the fact that getting to work requires two busses and still an extra ten minute walk, but this is a problem people in these neighborhoods constantly deal with.

When I first came into Jubilee, I was really nervous about getting to work. I wasn’t sure what would be expected of me. I wasn’t sure what the vibe of the space would be. I didn’t know if I would fit in or even add anything to the space. But, now, I can say that I’m profoundly satisfied that I will ever have to leave this phenomenal environment. I truly feel like I have grown more as a person, and so much growth happened in the past few months. My friends at Jubilee not only support my growth as a person, but also the path I will take as a professional.

Community Partner: Keswick Multi-Care Center
Intern: Natalie Wang
Site Supervisor: Rosalyn Stewart

What is Keswick Multi-Care Center?
Keswick Multi-Care Center is a locally owned, not-for-profit organization to those who haven’t yet seen our work. Along with this, I coordinate the pictures and videos that are taken of the classes and Youth-in-Business program.

I am a teaching assistant for any and all classes that need me. If there is anything that the teachers need, I will do it for them or help them with it. I interact with the students and help them with their work.

Administrative tasks. I am also involved in setting up the spaces for classes that are coming in throughout the day. Along with that, when I am there, I help take attendance for classes.

Outreach. One of the other things I do on a daily basis is make calls to people in the community to both remind them of classes they’re signed up for, as well as classes they could sign up for.

I am the social media manager of Keswick Arts. A large part of my job is making sure that I am posting on all of the social media. Especially Instagram. I market the organization to those who haven’t seen our work.

Along with this, I coordinate the pictures and videos that are taken of the classes and Youth-in-Business program.

I am teaching assistant for any and all classes that need me. If there is anything that the teachers need, I will do it for them or help them with it. I interact with the students and help them with their work.

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Jubilee Multi-Care Center offers a variety of levels of care for older adults, for both residents and those living in the community. As a facility with the opportunity to engage with wellness activities. They also have a strong mission towards community health, which is where my role with Community for Life (CfL) comes in. I manage a case load of clients who receive government funding to support their aging in place needs. To ensure that older adults can stay safe living in their homes, we connect them with vetted vendors to help with transportation, repairs, decluttering, lawn care, and other needs. I have also learned to navigate situations where there are clients’ needs exceed our ability to help. While there are external programs that we can refer them to, the uncertainty of whether they can get the help they need fuels me to serve the clients as best as I can. I’m grateful to be working at Keswick in collaboration with the community health team to help support older adults in Baltimore City.

Managed caseload of clients referred to Keswick Community for Life by the Maryland Department of Aging, providing access to services to improve older adults’ age in their homes.

Followed up on low-income technology grant recipients who received free tablets and homes WiFi from Keswick grant funding.

Assisted in resident and Wise & Well activities, such as: art classes, garden club, and brain teas.

Shadowed and assisted in weekend shifts with physicians.
During my time as a Made in Baltimore intern this summer, I’ve had diverse experiences and worked on various projects. From my initial one-on-one meeting with my supervisor, Andy, it became evident that this internship was ideal for gaining real-life experience in the Entrepreneurship and Management field. Made in Baltimore, a nonprofit organization operating under the Baltimore Development Corporation, is dedicated to supporting small businesses in Baltimore, along with various local economic development programs.

My first week provided a comprehensive overview of the internship, exposing me to the ongoing projects, particularly as they approached their busiest season. Made in Baltimore was actively wrapping up several programs and planning numerous conferences and events. Additionally, they were relocating their store for the upcoming holiday season. Being involved in these endeavors was truly eye-opening.

As an intern, I performed typical tasks like scheduling meetings, sending emails, and attending business meetings. However, I also had unexpected opportunities that enriched my experience. For instance, I took part in tours for the Baltimore Swarm Tours Program at Open Works and visited Made in Baltimore members. In these visits, I provided insights into their businesses, goals, and accomplishments, and offered valuable feedback to improve Made in Baltimore’s support in the future. Exploring these spaces opened my eyes to a different side of Baltimore, discovering many intriguing places I would have otherwise missed.

One memorable experience was our team retreat at an inspiring site, where we engaged in networking activities. This helped me forge new connections and expand my network within the local entrepreneurship community.

In addition to my professional work, I felt enriched by the personal and cultural experiences I had during my internship. As an intern, I developed a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship and the social process that played a role in creating and maintaining their experience of the disease. Many of the residents experienced addiction and trauma and lacked the social support needed to live healthy lives, allowing them to turn to drugs and alcohol as an escape. While in active addiction, many lost jobs, had relationships deteriorated with loved ones, contracted infectious diseases, and lost housing. The aftermath of losing so much to addiction required them to need social services in order to piece their lives together. Furthermore, through working with residents, I developed my practice of addiction work. Often times, what the residents shared with me was emotionally impactful, and I worked to strike a balance of providing thoughtful responses and being empathetic and sympathetic. This was initially hard as when I was confronted with stories of trauma and hardship, I often felt overwhelmed and unsure how to respond. But throughout my tenure, I became knowledgeable of when to just listen, provide support, to probe, and when to offer services. Prior to my internship, I was aware of the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on Black communities and the need for harm reduction policies to reduce consequences for people who use drugs. This experience expanded my limited knowledge of the opioid epidemic by allowing me to have hands-on experience and to develop relationships with the people who are most impacted by it, and to develop a harm reduction practice of my own.

Martha’s Place is a residential program providing recovery services to women who struggle with addiction. At the beginning of my internship, I established goals of building relationships with the residents of Martha’s Place, becoming familiar with the social life of addiction, and learning the ethics of addiction work. I connected best with the residents by asking if they would like my help applying for jobs, disability services, or through what emotions came up for them when I facilitated our group reflection sessions. It was in this way too that I became familiar with the lived reality of those in addiction and the social process that played a role in creating and maintaining their experience of the disease. Many of the residents experienced addiction and trauma and lacked the social support needed to live healthy lives, allowing them to turn to drugs and alcohol as an escape. While in active addiction, many lost jobs, had relationships deteriorated with loved ones, contracted infectious diseases, and lost housing. The aftermath of losing so much to addiction required them to need social services in order to piece their lives together. Furthermore, through working with residents, I developed my practice of addiction work. Often times, what the residents shared with me was emotionally impactful, and I worked to strike a balance of providing thoughtful responses and being empathetic and sympathetic. This was initially hard as when I was confronted with stories of trauma and hardship, I often felt overwhelmed and unsure how to respond. But throughout my tenure, I became knowledgeable of when to just listen, provide support, to probe, and when to offer services. Prior to my internship, I was aware of the disproportionate impact of the opioid epidemic on Black communities and the need for harm reduction policies to reduce consequences for people who use drugs. This experience expanded my limited knowledge of the opioid epidemic by allowing me to have hands-on experience and to develop relationships with the people who are most impacted by it, and to develop a harm reduction practice of my own.
The photo shows me and Deborah, my supervisor, next to Kermit, one of Jim Henson’s most famous and beloved creations. As an education intern for MCHC, I mainly worked with the new Henson exhibition. In addition to training to give tours and lead school projects for the exhibition, my main project was to create an outreach program for groups that could not come to the museum in person. After some initial brainstorming, we decided on a lesson plan that could be accessible for teachers on the website for the fall. Finally, I worked on a personal project to increase language accessibility within existing educational programs for various exhibits.

To sum my CIIP experience in two words, it is perspective change. At Hopkins, we are constantly surrounded by the most ambitious, driven, and incredibly successful peers that most times serve as inspiration, but sometimes evoked in me the illusion that I wasn’t as good as the rest. I am good, but not great. I fit in, but I am not extraordinary. Coupled with the career anxiety that had been growing two summers since, my headspace entering CIIP was…not so great.

As the internship progressed, I also had opportunities to speak with staff members from different departments such as marketing, finance, grants, and human resources. MCHC encouraged me to schedule meetings with anyone I wanted and chat about anything I wanted. These conversations, as well as the immense autonomy and creative freedom I was extended for my projects, were the reason for my perspective change. I was able to speak with various people involved at the museum and found that the environment was not so different from what I had expected. I enjoyed my work and found that I was able to make a difference in the museum.

Through this summer at the Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA), I have been able to work on a variety of projects. My main focus this summer was on managing the volunteer program and reassessing our volunteer policies. MIMA is a significant resource for the city, especially for immigrant communities. One of the major challenges I faced was managing the volunteer program and dealing with a high turnover rate. I worked on developing a more structured volunteer program and implemented new policies to ensure consistency and efficiency.

During my time at MIMA, I have learned so much about language access, partnership with city agencies and nonprofits, and conducting outreach with community members. This summer has been a wonderful learning experience. Conducting outreach at community resource fairs and events has allowed me to meet more connected to Baltimore City. I have learned more about the demographics of each neighborhood. Speaking with community leaders and immigrant families in person has been a great way to learn firsthand about issues immigrants face in Baltimore City.

MIMA has a unique position within government because the Mayor’s office has high visibility, enabling MIMA to play a capacity-building role among organizations serving immigrants. MIMA is not a direct service provider, so most of our work is externally-facing. This includes collaborating with nonprofits serving immigrants like Esperanza Center and CASA de Maryland. Another example of our role as a capacity builder is our ability to aggregate resources to serve immigrants, especially through BNAAC, the Baltimore New American Access Coalition. This is a free benefit navigation program for immigrant families in Baltimore City to assist them in accessing public benefits. A significant portion of my work this summer has been managing the volunteer program and rethinking our volunteer translation needs. Our volunteer network is a resource that smaller nonprofits also utilize, as MIMA receives requests for translations with limited resources. MIMA essentially serves as a bridge, connecting government with nonprofits serving immigrants.

This summer at the Baltimore City Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA) has been such a wonderful learning experience. Conducting outreach at community resource fairs and events has allowed me to meet more connected to Baltimore City. I have learned more about the demographics of each neighborhood. Speaking with community leaders and immigrant families in person has been a great way to learn firsthand about issues immigrants face in Baltimore City.

The Maryland Center for History and Culture collects, preserves, and interprets the history, art, and culture of Maryland. By exploring multiple perspectives and sharing national stories through the lens of Maryland, MCHC inspires critical thinking, creativity, and community.
Going into this summer, I was very excited to expand my experiences and relationships in Baltimore outside of Hopkins since I felt that I hadn’t made the most of my time during my freshman year. As soon as I started working with my supervi- sor, I was immediately welcomed into a space that made me increasingly comfortable as the summer progressed. Wes, my supervisor, walked me through what my role in the Strength Ambassador program would be; I would do the two coached and the uncoached sessions and participate in the workshops and labs as if I myself was a Strength Am- bassador. In essence, I’ll be learning how to become a better coach by working as a student and as a support system simultaneously.

For the first few weeks of my internship, I was remote as I was tasked with preparing binders for the start of the Strength Ambassadors program as well as designing sponsorship decks for MissionFit’s main fundraising event. These assign- ments were definitely challenging at first since I had never needed to think about reformatting manuals or decks for marketing purposes; the added visual aspect meant that I had to take time focusing on the cohesiveness of the design as well as ensuring that I communicate the message in a concise manner.

The Strength Ambassadors program officially started on July 10, so I was able to learn more about the dynamics of that program and the Rise Up Riders Out program and how they would overlap. Essentially, I/RURO would bring teams to Mission- Fit twice a week and the Strength Ambassadors would gradually take on more of a coaching role.

I found myself wanting to watch as the Strength Ambassadors grew as leaders, and I was surprised to find that I was also becoming more comfortable using my own voice. I realized that I was just as much a student as they were as I learned various skills like how to manage my stress with breathwork, how to fuel myself as an athlete, how to effectively educate others, and so much more. Not only did I feel that I had made meaningful contributions throughout my internship, but I believe that I have created lasting relationships with people I respect and view as mentors. At MissionFit, we all had a great working relationship; I felt very comfortable expressing my own gratitude towards all of the amazing people I’ve worked with this summer, from Wes and Ross to the Strength Ambassadors and everyone involved with I/RURO. Thank you for giving me a space to discover my own goals and purpose, and I’m excited to stay involved with MissionFit in any way I can.

MOMCares is a nonprofit that serves Black mothers and families by offering support services, such as prenatal and postpartum doula care to the pregnant mama’s and especially those with high-risk pregnancies and/or NICU experience. MOMCares empowers these mothers or mothers-to-be through Healing Circles, Donation Days, Mommy Wine Downs, the Young Mothers Program, and so much more. Ultimately, MOMCares provides a safe, compassionate environment for Black and Brown moms to be feel advocated for, respected, and heard.

MOMCares has been an organization I genuinely have valued and aspired to be a part of as soon as I arrived at Hopkins in 2021. Now, as an incoming Junior that has spent the past 2 years in a time of healing and growth, interning with MOMCares has been the most rewarding experience. Being involved with the team and these mothers has placed me in the exact work I want to pursue in the future, and I am forever grateful for that. The team, especially my supervisor, Keiona Gorham, has shown me how invaluable it is to be human and to have compassion and love that runs so deep.

I serve as the co-program manager of the Young Mothers Program, which is an opportunity for a small group of young mama’s in Baltimore to join the MOMCares team 4 days a week for a few months as we open a space of support and a sense of family through discussion and reflection on pregnancy, parenting, lactation, financing, mental health, and more, along with monetary and physical benefits for the mothers and their babies. After a few weeks, the mother’s have trusted one another and us to share their vulnerability. The team and I have been able to learn the mamas individually and cater sessions that best serve them. It is beautiful to witness these ladies join us in celebrating their pregnancy, yet simultaneously recognizing the hardship and dynamic experiences of motherhood.

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Community Partner: The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum & Womb Work Productions, Inc.

What is Womb Work?
WombWork Productions, Inc. brings together art and spirit through traditional art forms and showcases socially relevant productions that empower performers and youth in social change issues. What is The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum?
The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum is a wax museum in Baltimore, Maryland featuring prominent African-American and other black historical figures. The Museum houses approximately 150 figures of people from the past, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, and from the present, like President Barack Obama.

During this transformative summer internship, the experience I had with the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum has been nothing short of inspiring. As I have been provided with a profound sense of purpose and fulfillment, this opportunity has immensely contributed to fostering my personal and professional development.

Throughout these eight weeks, my responsibilities encompassed a diverse array of projects and activities spanning social media management, website updates, blog posts, newsletters, emails, and printed materials. The opportunity to contribute to such varied and essential aspects of the museum’s communication strategy allowed me to apply my creative abilities, hone the skills I have acquired through continued understanding of effective communication in the nonprofit sector. The highlight of this internship has undoubtedly been my introduction to all the people who have made the museum what it is today.

Alongside meeting incredible individuals who have contributed to the proliferation of this organization, Dr. Joanne Martin has played a vital role in my connection to our partnership. Partnering with the museum and her husband has brought into reality many ideas that I had realized the importance of permanency in Black history that continues to be erased. Witnessing the culmination of efforts from my team to create an impactful and memorable space for the Baltimore community has been a deeply rewarding experience—I am incredibly proud to have witnessed the museum’s continued success.

Beyond professional growth, this internship has been a personal journey of discovery. By immersing myself in an environment that values and cherishes its history, it has left a lasting impression on me. I have come to appreciate the importance of social impact and community engagement. Moreover, seeing the impact of our outreach through continuous interactions has reinforced the power of unity when sharing similar identities within the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum in various regions. I have learned so much about fields that I had never interacted with before: from the intense process of grant writing to how to navigate the procurement and need for an infrastructure project, and how to manage a community-based design project. I have learned so much about Baltimore City, and how these visited communities I’ve never been to believe, like Greenwood West and Sharp-Leaden- hall in central and South Baltimore, or even heard of, like Ingleside in West Baltimore.

Since most of NDC’s work is helping projects with other community organizations throughout the city, projects vary across different, different people, different types of projects, and volunteers with different skill sets. In my work with my supervisor, Julia, I’ve helped present a banner design will eventually be mounted at the Historic Sharp-Leadenhall neighborhood (right next to the Ravens stadium), organized a community engagement event to get feedback for a playground Greenmount West is building, and helped with the creation of a new community space in Ivanhoe. With NDC’s executive director, Jen, I’ve worked closely with the Urban Planning Committee on helping to facilitate three major architectural projects. Every project is different, and every project provides new and ample opportunities to learn and grow. Every project is different, and every project provides new and ample opportunities to learn and grow.

What is The Neighborhood Design Center?
The Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) is a community engagement and design firm who supports the growth of healthy, equitable neighborhoods through community-engaged design and planning services. By providing the tools, expertise, and broad participation in the evolution of the built environment.

The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum is a wax museum in Baltimore, Maryland featuring prominent African-American and other black historical figures. The Museum houses approximately 150 figures of people from the past, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks, and from the present, like President Barack Obama.

I started my summer at the Neighborhood Design Center unsure of what to expect, both from the work itself and from how that experience would affect me. My experience here has been transformational. I’ve learned so much about fields that I had never interacted with before: from the intense process of grant writing to how to navigate the procurement and need for an infrastructure project, and how to manage a community-based design project. I have learned so much about Baltimore City, and how these visited communities I’ve never been to believe, like Greenwood West and Sharp-Leadenhall in central and South Baltimore, or even heard of, like Ingleside in West Baltimore.

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But what continues to amaze me about NDC are the people involved. I participated in dozens of meetings with other co-workers, with community partners, and with volunteers and across the board, the NDC staff went out of their way to form positive close relationships with everyone they worked with. I must say that, in my time at NDC, I was able to experience the passion the volunteers had to donate their expertise for projects. And I was fortunate enough to meet community partners who not only worked with us, but also invested so much energy advocating for their neighborhood. Baltimore, I feel, is defined by its people and I am so blessed to have been able to experience all these perspectives and help improve these people’s built environments.

We support the growth of healthy, equitable neighborhoods through community-engaged design and planning services. By providing the tools, expertise, and broad participation in the evolution of the built environment.
This summer, I am interning with the office of Councilman Mark Conway, who assists Baltimore’s 4th district. My duties include directly engaging with the community by responding to emails and phone calls from people in need, contributing to research, and discussing bills with Councilman Conway’s team. One of my major projects was researching the environmental impact of crematoriums in residential areas. I found that crematoriums have a negative impact on air quality, and that this issue disproportionately affects low-income communities. I also found that in similar cities, densely populated cities, they use crematoriums in suburban areas and found it to be more safe for residents. I presented my findings to Councilman Conway’s team, who will use my research to inform policy decisions.

Another project I worked on was researching Baltimore’s recreation centers. I found that these centers are underutilized and that there is a lack of resources available for the city’s youth. I proposed several ways to make the centers more efficient, such as offering more programs and activities that appeal to young people. I also engaged with the community on a daily basis. I respond to emails and phone calls from people in need, and I work with Councilman Conway’s team to address their concerns.

I completed research on Baltimore’s Youth Recreation Centers and the environmental impacts of crematoriums in residential areas. I found that crematoriums have a negative impact on air quality, and that this issue disproportionately affects low-income communities. I also found that in similar cities, densely populated cities, they use crematoriums in suburban areas and found it to be more safe for residents. I presented my findings to Councilman Conway’s team, who will use my research to inform policy decisions.

I also communicate daily with different agencies throughout Baltimore City to help the residents. I have learned so much about local government and the work that goes into maintaining a community with such diverse needs. What is the Office of Councilmember Mark Conway?

The Office of Councilmember Mark Conway serves the Fourth District of Baltimore City. Mark Conway is an experienced public servant and community leader. He is working in City Hall to make the district and Baltimore a safer and more prosperous place for every family.

What is the Office of Councilmember Zeke Cohen?

The Office of Councilmember Zeke Cohen works to lift up and work hand-in-hand with the community we serve. We are committed to executing a world-class constituent service operation for all residents of the First District. Our team continuously strives for excellence. We care about being responsive to the needs of our constituents.

My internship has taught me so much about Baltimore and working in government and policy and given me so many skills that I know will be invaluable for my future. I am so grateful to the office of Councilmember Zeke Cohen for everything they have taught me and for giving me a truly amazing summer.

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This summer, I went into my internship with Baltimore City Councilmember Zeke Cohen feeling cautiously optimistic. As someone who dreams of working in public policy, I was excited to get experience in government. But at the same time, I worried city government would be too small-scale to really address my areas of interest. I also was a bit worried about being over my head on a city level. I found so many opportunities to explore these issues and what Councilmember Cohen is doing about them as well as contribute to policy around them myself, which just confirmed for me that public policy is exactly what I want to do with my life.

Beyond this, I was surprised by how much I enjoyed other aspects of my job. I knew going in that constituent services were going to be an important part of my job, but I viewed them more as a necessary rite of passage for anyone working in government than something I was excited for. But as I quickly discovered, constituent services can be incredibly fulfilling, I like the feeling of helping people, even if it is on a small scale. I find it comforting to know that even if I can’t change the world, I can fix someone’s sidewalk, and that still means something to someone. As someone who dreams of working in public policy, I was excited to get experience in government and policy and given me so many skills that I know will be invaluable for my future. I am so grateful to the office of Councilmember Zeke Cohen for everything they have taught me and for giving me a truly amazing summer.
Community Partner: Out for Justice
Intern: Maria Harar
Site Supervisor: Dawn Burton

What is Out for Justice?
Out for Justice, Inc. (OFJ) is an organization comprised of individuals who are both directly and indirectly impacted by the criminal justice system advocating for the reform of policies and practices that adversely affect successful reintegration into society.

This summer, I learned about how the criminal justice system does not adequately address the needs of formerly and currently incarcerated individuals. As a state, rather than focusing on reformation, Maryland tends to strictly punish individuals and provide little or no training for successful reentry into society. Rather, many formerly incarcerated individuals exit the system and are met with a highly stressful situation that often leads to recidivism. As an organization, Out for Justice has successfully and currently created policies that address this issue. In my opinion, one of the most notable aspects of this program is the active involvement of currently incarcerated individuals. Whether it be advocating for their own case or advocating for all incarcerated people, they play an integral role in the program and advocacy work.

My role in the organization has been in our Bail and Legal program. My most meaningful legal involvement is being a team member in the Participatory Defense program. Participatory Defense is a weekly support program where incarcerated individuals in pre-trial stages are assisted in preparing for upcoming court dates. I work as a team member in a weekly Participatory Defense Meeting, and a biweekly Expungement Clinic by offering in-office support to new and returning members.

I am leading the annual All Night Resource Clinic aimed to provide resources and services that reduce stress for the Baltimore community. This consists of things like expungements, hair stylists, deportment, resume building, etc. The event is expected to consist of a team of 50 people who will serve 300 members of our community.

If I had to describe my time at the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC) in one word, I would describe it as dynamic. At PBRC, I was constantly learning, engaging, and practicing immigration law. I would describe it as a two size fits all approach. Each case that is presented to our team of paralegals brings its unique challenges and quirks, making this such an educational experience. I am so fortunate to have been able to gain a first-hand experience in interacting with clients, most who are Hispanic are immigrants to the United States. Just as the advice from case to case varies significantly, so do the type of individual interactions. This is such a beneficial skill to have learned during my time at PBRC and one I hope to carry with me in the future. Finally, this opportunity has led me to realize that setting boundaries in any position is essential for success. This is something I grasped with towards the beginning of my internship. I was so eager to help and learn with leaders but hesitated rather quickly. As time passed on, however, I learned that my efforts and interpretation skills are enough. Although there are many things about the legal system that I have experienced this past summer, policies, postcards, and precedents must start small. I am so grateful to have been a part of PBRC this summer and to continue to keep in contact with such an essential nonprofit to the immigration system of Baltimore.

Community Partner: Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland
Intern: Michelle Sicard
Site Supervisor: Cate Scenna

What is the Pro Bono Resource Center?
PBRC engages and supports the legal community in meaningful and impactful volunteer service to ensure equal access to justice for those in need.

If I had to describe my time at the Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland (PBRC) in one word, I would describe it as dynamic. At PBRC, I was constantly learning, engaging, and practicing immigration law. I would describe it as a two size fits all approach. Each case that is presented to our team of paralegals brings its unique challenges and quirks, making this such an educational experience. I am so fortunate to have been able to gain a first-hand experience in interacting with clients, most who are Hispanic are immigrants to the United States. Just as the advice from case to case varies significantly, so do the type of individual interactions. This is such a beneficial skill to have learned during my time at PBRC and one I hope to carry with me in the future.

Finally, this opportunity has led me to realize that setting boundaries in any position is essential for success. This is something I grasped with towards the beginning of my internship. I was so eager to help and learn with leaders but hesitated rather quickly. As time passed on, however, I learned that my efforts and interpretation skills are enough. Although there are many things about the legal system that I have experienced this past summer, policies, postcards, and precedents must start small. I am so grateful to have been a part of PBRC this summer and to continue to keep in contact with such an essential nonprofit to the immigration system of Baltimore.

I work as a team member in weekly Participatory Defense meetings where the love of others comes into play. We face active criminal cases against them come to get support on their behalf. Through my participation, we have been able to get individuals released from prison while awaiting trial.

I have helped lead Get Connect-ed Tuesday: Help with courtship Meetings, and a biweekly expungement clinic by offering in-office support to new and returning members.

I am leading the annual All Night Resource Clinic aimed to provide resources and services that reduce stress for the Baltimore community. This consists of things like expungements, hair stylists, deportment, resume building, etc. The event is expected to consist of a team of 50 people who will serve 300 members of our community.
What is Real Food Farm?
Civic Works’ Real Food Farm works toward a just and sustainable food system by improving neighborhood access to healthy food, providing experience-based education, and developing an economically viable, environmentally responsible local agriculture sector.

To sum up my internship experience, it was filled with unexpected challenges and valuable lessons. While I had anticipated plenty of farm work, there was much to learn about urban farming, despite my gardening experience since childhood.

At Civic Works’ Real Food Farm, I had the pleasure of working with a fantastic team that made me feel welcomed and appreciated from the start. Kevin, my supervisor, along with Grace and Bryan, the Americorps interns, worked closely together, supporting one another through physically demanding tasks like clearing weeds and preparing rows for crops. Our camaraderie grew as we spent the entire day together, allowing us to form strong bonds and become close friends in a surprisingly short time. I feel incredibly fortunate to have found such genuine and kind-hearted coworkers, especially during my time at Hopkins. It’s saddening to think that I won’t have the chance to see them on campus or around anymore since we attend different schools.

Working in enclosed hoop houses on an urban farm posed a challenge, as we lacked sufficient pollinators. Consequently, I learned the art of self-pollination and participated in asexual reproduction to ensure successful crops. Along the way, I also learned the importance of not giving people the benefit of the doubt excessively and the significance of addressing concerns promptly. I realized that I couldn’t fully develop my professional skills as intended with the established weekly schedule. Unfortunately, my hesitation to address these concerns promptly only delayed any potential improvements. However, progress was made and I am happily managing the farm’s marketing efforts and social media.

Overall, this internship was a valuable experience that taught me greatly about urban farming, teamwork, and communication. Despite the challenges, I am grateful for the friendships formed and the knowledge gained, which will undoubtedly shape my future endeavors.

Community Partner: Real Food Farm - Civic Works
Intern: Eden Teodorovici
Site Supervisor: Kevin Miller

What is Rec2Tech?
Rec2Tech, a grant funded Baltimore City Recreation & Parks initiative, aims to engage participants ages 5-17 in no-tech, low-tech, and high-tech activities that encourage creativity, innovation, and design thinking. Rec2Tech programs, led by designated Rec2Tech Program Staff and/or community partners, provide participants the opportunity to use tools, design products, build prototypes, and solve problems, while exploring careers in computer science, robotics, electronics, engineering, and maker education.

Working with Rec2Tech has been both rewarding and challenging. In the first weeks, I was free to do as I liked with the summer camp space and begin designing programs or helping set up decorations in any way I wanted- this type of open creativity helped me develop artistic skills and learn technology (3D printing, vinyl cutting, laser cutting, etc.) that honestly will stick with me for life.

In the later weeks, we began working with the children at the camp and while I won’t say it was an easy task, it made me realize just how much I enjoy working with kids and helping make sure they have a memorable summer. I was personally very nervous on our first summer camp day but my boss, Barnard, was amazing in helping make sure I was comfortable and prepared enough to help make sure everything went smoothly.

Honestly, I felt like I made friends and tons of connections with different organizations and people throughout Baltimore that I never would have known about if I hadn’t worked here!

Community Partner: Rec2Tech - Baltimore City Recreation & Parks
Intern: Nathan Dozier
Site Supervisor: Barnard Smit

• Design and help prepare summer camp programs
• Work with children and ensure the camp goes well
• Help maintain the summer camp building and make sure the space is enjoyable for kids!

• Maintaining efficient Community Supported Agriculture box packaging to distribute in communities and reduce food apartheid in Baltimore
• Managing 20,000+ pounds of produce
• Manage social media and marketing initiatives broad demographics reached

Harvest
During my summer internship, my main focus revolved around creating and implementing engaging lesson plans and call-to-action projects catered to various age groups within K-8th grade, all aimed at addressing different aspects of climate change. These plans were carefully crafted to educate the students about the issues contributing to the climate crisis and empower them to take action. I was able to collaborate with another intern and talk through my ideas with her, which was very helpful. As we initiated the call-to-action projects, I witnessed how my efforts were making a tangible impact, which added a sense of reality and purpose to my work. Seeing the end products take shape and understanding their potential to inspire change fueled my satisfaction and motivation. It also made me reflect on my approach to work, leading me to recognize my inclination towards being a “product person.” Though I value the process, I find greater fulfillment in the final outcomes and continuously seek to enhance my work through the results achieved.

The internship not only bolstered my professional skills but also enriched my personal growth. It highlighted the importance of taking initiative and fostering relationships with coworkers. Beyond work-related discussions, spending time outside the office strengthened our bond and brought a sense of camaraderie that transformed the work environment into a space of shared growth and enjoyment. With each passing day, I eagerly looked forward to going to work, knowing I had someone by my side. The internship not only bolstered my professional skills but also enriched my personal growth. It highlighted the importance of taking initiative and fostering relationships with coworkers. Beyond work-related discussions, spending time outside the office strengthened our bond and brought a sense of camaraderie that transformed the work environment into a space of shared growth and enjoyment. With each passing day, I eagerly looked forward to going to work, knowing I had someone by my side. As we initiated the call-to-action projects, I witnessed how my efforts were making a tangible impact, which added a sense of reality and purpose to my work. Seeing the end products take shape and understanding their potential to inspire change fueled my satisfaction and motivation. It also made me reflect on my approach to work, leading me to recognize my inclination towards being a “product person.” Though I value the process, I find greater fulfillment in the final outcomes and continuously seek to enhance my work through the results achieved.

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Community Partner: Station North Arts District
Intern: Jayla Butler
Site Supervisor: Abby Becker

What is Station North Arts District?
Station North Arts & Entertainment, Inc supports and advocates for a thriving and diverse arts community by promoting civic and cultural engagement, harnessing and directing resources, and preserving and enhancing the creative vibrancy of the district.

As the sun-soaked days of summer beckoned, I embarked on a journey of creativity, growth, and community engagement through my internship with the Station North Arts District. Little did I know that this experience would become a transformative chapter in both my personal and professional life.

From the moment I stepped into the vibrant heart of Baltimore’s arts scene, I felt a palpable energy coursing through the streets. The Station North Arts District, renowned for its diverse cultural landscape and flourishing artistic endeavors, was a fitting stage for my summer internship. Under the guidance of my supervisor, I was afforded the opportunity to witness firsthand the interplay of arts, culture, and community development.

My responsibilities were multi-faceted, allowing me to explore various aspects of the arts district’s operations. From assisting in organizing community art programs to promoting local events and initiatives, each day brought new challenges that ignited my passion for the arts.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my internship was witnessing the impact of our efforts on the local community. The Station North Arts District, renowned for its diverse cultural landscape and flourishing artistic endeavors, was a fitting stage for my summer internship.

Looking back on my internship with the Station North Arts District, I am filled with gratitude for the experiences and lessons learned. From the moment I stepped into the vibrant heart of Baltimore’s arts scene, I felt a palpable energy coursing through the streets. The Station North Arts District, renowned for its diverse cultural landscape and flourishing artistic endeavors, was a fitting stage for my summer internship.

As I step into the world equipped with newfound confidence, I carry with me the belief in the endless possibilities that arise when passion and purpose intertwine. The invaluable lessons learned and the sense of purpose instilled in me will undoubtedly shape my future endeavors. As I look forward to the_transformative chapter in both my personal and professional life.

Throughout the internship, I’ve been able to take advantage of the classes the library offers and have learned how to use lots of woodworking tools. Another thing I’ve really loved about working at the Tool Library is getting to meet all of the community members involved with the library, whether on a library shift or meeting volunteers at an event. The library community is very tight-knit and everyone is very supportive and willing to help one another.

One thing I love about the way the library is run is how big of an emphasis is placed on trust. When we loan out a tool we trust members to bring the tool back and most of our payments are set up to be sliding scale, so we trust members to pay a reasonable amount for their current financial situations. I think trust really makes the community stronger and I think it’s great that the library promotes this. The library is also very anti-consumer culture, as we focus on reusing and fixing things instead of buying new things. By empowering people to do their own projects and only borrow tools when they need them, the library helps people take more control over their lives, save money, and live more sustainably.

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My supervisor and coworkers have created a really supportive and mental health-focused working environment, which is really awesome as it has allowed me to get a better understanding of what I need to do for self-care. I’ve also learned how much I enjoy a job that allows me to move around a lot and have a mix of independent, team-based, and community-facing work. Overall, I’ve had an amazing internship experience. I’ve learned a lot of awesome classes and could be a strategy for social justice and I look forward to maintaining the connections at the library I have built this summer!
What is Thread?
Thread harnesses the power of relationships to create a new social fabric of diverse individuals deeply engaged with young people facing the most significant opportunity and achievement gaps. Our community is committed to ending social isolation and building a more equitable culture in which everyone thrives.

Council, in order to have a conversation on civic engagement during Youthworks, I was able to bring them in, in order to be a guest speaker for the young people in order to talk about their specialism. I have also connected and networked with other partnerships within Thread and I have been able to help others in the community.

My internship at Thread has been a whirlwind of a journey, and I have learned so much about the community as well as myself. At first I had a really difficult time adjusting to my new work environment, because of a multitude of factors, but I also personally had my own barriers that I needed to conquer. I was not used to asking for support, but I realized that I needed the support in order to have my voice be heard. I was also adjusting to a new workplace environment, even though I had a lot of experience working at different places, this place was definitely different from what I was used to, because I was expected to help other young people, and I was slowly able to feel like I was a part of Thread.

As we went through the weeks of Youthworks with the Thread Ambassadors, my two supervisors who were technically overseeing the Ambassadors were not always present during the day. However, I came in everyday to just hang out with the Ambassadors, and they felt more comfortable with me because they saw me everyday. We would eat lunch together and talk about issues that they might have been experiencing, and so I can relay the information to my supervisors because I am comfortable with them.

Once I developed some more connections, I was able to feel more acclimated to the work environment, and also the people at Thread. I was also put onto more projects, and staff members would recommend me to help other young people, and I was slowly able to feel like I was a part of Thread.

What is the Village Learning Place?
The mission of the Village Learning Place is to promote literacy, cultural awareness, and lifelong learning through access for all ages to information, resources, and educational programs.

Working at Village Learning Place has been such a life-impacting experience. Everyday is something new, from assisting in the classroom lessons, to making and trying sushi for the first time, to going to the beach with my colleagues. It really did feel like a bit of a whirlwind, which everyone thrives.

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What is Wide Angle Youth Media?

Through media arts education, Wide Angle Youth Media cultivates and amplifies the voices of Baltimore youth to engage audiences across generational, cultural, and social divides. Our programs inspire creativity and instill confidence in young people, empowering them with skills to navigate school, career, and life.

Coming into CIIP, my main goal was to explore areas outside of the traditional public health scene, specifically requesting not to be placed in a typical healthcare workplace. Initially, I desired to branch out to see if I could be interested in a field that was different from public health as well as develop skills that could lead into other new interests. As such, I was placed at Wide Angle Youth Media, and while at first I thought of this as an opportunity to branch out and continue exploring my interest in media, I have since come to find myself exploring the different aspects of public health and how a nonprofit like Wide Angle could play a crucial role in a community’s public health.

This summer I have been incredibly lucky to work with such a welcoming and passionate team dedicated to passing on their knowledge and love for creativity to Baltimore youth. I have gotten the opportunity to go into different Community Voice placements, such as the YMCA and Deep Creek middle school, and seen firsthand how supportive each instructor is of the youth at such vulnerable times – when every teenager or young adult is just trying to make sense of things and find their way through growing pains. Some of my favorite moments this summer have been watching as students become invested in their art, an occurrence that is quite difficult to bring out of initially disengaged middle schoolers, but even more so rewarding. The care each instructor takes in creating a safe space for students is astounding and the commitment every Wide Angle employee has to showcasing the talent within the Baltimore community is admirable.

Apart from seeing how wonderful my coworkers are, I guarantee they have made my summer a thousand times brighter. There isn’t a day that goes by at the office without a heartfelt laugh, a spontaneous coffee run, or some form of silliness to get us through the day. There is no such thing as a typical work day at Wide Angle and for that I am quite thankful. Additionally, I have had an incredibly supportive supervisor, Peymaan, who has encouraged me to explore my interests while actively taking an interest in my own development and ensuring I make the most out of my time with Wide Angle. (He even helped me change my tire when I got a flat and was stranded on North Ave... #PeymanSavedTheDay)

Throughout the summer, I have gotten glimpses of how loving and full of life my coworkers are, both in and outside of work and I truly hope to stay in touch and continue supporting the organization in whatever way I can.

Here’s to amplifying youth voices.

Community Partner: Wide Angle Youth Media
Intern: Vivian Paguada
Site Supervisor: Peymaan Motevali-Alabadi

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Thank you to our CIIP Team for your energy & leadership this summer!

A big thank you to CSC staff for their constant support of CIIP!

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