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Integration and Belonging Hub

Fall 2022

Notice for Guided Internship and Professional Development program

Integration and Belonging Hub

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Integration and Belonging Hub, Clark University IDCE Internship and Professional Development Program

The Integration and Belonging Hub (IBH) is offering a Guided Internships and Professional Development Program for undergraduate and graduate students interested in working with refugees and other forced migration populations in Worcester and in other parts of the country. Students accepted to the program may either a) receive assistance in finding an internship placement through the IBH or b) find their own internship. As part of the program, interns will participate in an Orientation session, regular group workshops led by practitioners in the field of refugee resettlement on refugee policy in United States and elsewhere, the ethics of care in the refugee service profession, cultural humility, and other relevant topics in social justice, forced migration and integration.

We anticipate this experience will empower students to identify contributions within forced migrant communities, and to address the issues that impact receiving communities. Students will learn the multifaceted realities of working within the social justice and forced migration field of interest. This immersive experience will offer essential experiential learning and preparation for careers in humanitarian aid and refugee assistance.

What we offer:

- Assistance with placements with the organizations accredited for refugee work
- Professional development and orientation in the field of refugee work
- Engagement between academic and community partners
- Continuing support during the internship with regular (or as needed) consultation with the internship coordinator
- This opportunity is open to all Clark students, including eligible international students

Orientation agenda:

Overview of the formal resettlement process:

- Legal classification of the different types of immigrant status in the USA, distinguishing between forced migration and other migrant categories as per US government policies
- Refugee oversees processing and approvals; UNHCR, USA policies regarding refugee resettlement and other forced migrant persons
- Organizational structure of the domestic USA refugee resettlement networks, including governmental agencies such as MORI, ORR, city human rights divisions, migrant health providers and others
- USA funding structure for refugee resettlement including refugee benefits, and the role of the VOLAG organizations

Overview of domestic resettlement process and requirements:

- Arriving to the USA
- Case Management
- Health and wellbeing
- Housing
- Employment and self-sufficiency requirements

- Education options – school enrolments, adult ESOL and other educational opportunities

Overview of local community-based engagement:

Cultural orientation

- Volunteer management, confidentiality, and privacy of vulnerable populations
- Cultural orientation
- Volunteer management, confidentiality, and privacy of vulnerable persons
- Community engagement and local practices, public transportation, religion, and access to worship
- Purchasing and other food practices and shopping options

Suggested reading material, as per IDCE refugee studies, to promote humanization and understanding of what it means to be a refugee.

Qualifications:

Students with a relevant major or program of study, or with previous experience working with refugees or other forced migrants are eligible for the Guided Internship Program at the IBH.

Students from refugee and other forced migrant backgrounds are particularly encouraged to apply.

Undergraduates:

Relevant majors or concentrations:

- International Development
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Peace and Conflict Studies
- Holocaust and Genocide Studies
- Ethnic and Racial Studies
- Urban Studies

Graduate students:

Relevant IDCE concentrations:

- Refugees, Forced Migration, and Belonging
- Urban Resilience
- Health Equity
- Education, Youth, and Development
- Other graduate programs by permission

Application instructions:

Submit resume and cover letter by 5:00 PM, Friday, September 17th:

Jozefina Lantz

Research Associate, Project MISTY, Clark University, JLantz@clarku.edu