

Summer 2018 | Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Project 1 Title: Landscape of Food Insecurity

Bureau		Department	
Practicum Location	Duquesne, PA (15110)	Number of students needed for this project	1-2
Do you have an available workspace? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Do you have an available computer? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
<p>Special note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Food Bank is extremely interested in starting this project as soon as possible. Therefore, the Food Bank is able to accommodate student(s) to complete this internship between January and May of 2018, if any students are available and in need of internships during that time period. 			
Project Description and Project Objectives			
<p>Project Description: The Food Bank uses various methodologies to understand and report on the landscape of food insecurity in the communities it serves. At times, the Food Bank has used each of the following three as estimates of food insecurity: (1) Map the Meal Gap, (2) Missing Meals Index, and (3) Food Scarcity Index. At this time, we need assistance identifying and designing a data collection strategy to go beyond estimates of food insecurity to understand various characteristics and trends of our service area (11 counties in Southwestern PA), the individuals we serve, the pantries with whom we collaborate, and more.</p> <p>Project Objectives: To provide the Food Bank with a clear, documented methodology that takes a range of food insecurity determinants and complicating factors into consideration to describe the landscape on a sub county level or within a given population of individuals. The Landscape of Food Insecurity research project may consist of 11 county-level profiles that explore the wide variety of factors that impact food insecurity including food deserts, unemployment, housing costs, low wages, poverty, lack of SNAP access and medical costs. Other indicators will be added as appropriate and may include factors related to transportation, renter vs. home-ownership rates, and childcare deserts. Each profile will assess the specific county's unique needs.</p>			
Primary Activities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study data currently collected about the individuals the Food Bank is serving Study data from external sources (USDA, CDC, Rural Health, Census, etc.) to ascertain what is most relevant to shape internal models and analysis Create a landscape of food insecurity for given geographic areas and for certain populations Research behavioral health techniques and programming styles that are most successful with each population (category type) Make recommendations about styles of program delivery and services that best fit the needs of the various types of areas or populations 			
Project Deliverables			
<p>By the end of the practicum, the student will be expected to present, at minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A written literature review that explains the methodology behind how food insecurity is determined and described overall and for specific populations. A data dictionary of various sources, proven associations with food insecurity, frequency of updates, and any known issues. A detailed report that features an in-depth analysis of each county with data sources, dates, and calculations clearly marked to allow the Food Bank to update the data in future years Oral presentation at the Food Bank to staff regarding findings and recommendations 			
Specific Qualifications			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong research abilities; stamina in combing through extensive data sources to determine what is most relevant and pertinent to use Comfort with Excel and data visualization software Experience in quantitative and qualitative research methods and design Familiarity in statistical modeling with a focus on demographics 			

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- Interest in understanding how to tailor behavior change recommendations based on data
- [This internship may be most interesting to an Epi or Biostats student.](#)

Cover letter and resume in online application
should be addressed to: Marnie Schilken
Chief Impact Officer

**Summer 2018 | Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Project 2 Title: Maps of Food Insecurity Service Area**

Bureau		Department	
Practicum Location	Duquesne, PA (15110)	Number of students needed for this project	1
Do you have an available workspace? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Do you have an available computer? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Project Description and Project Objectives			
<p>Project Description: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank serves 11 counties in SW PA. The Food Bank does not currently have standardized maps to visually show information about the individuals we serve, the agencies with whom we collaborate, other social service agencies in the areas, demographic information, and more.</p> <p>Project Objectives: To provide the Food Bank with a series of maps that visually express a range (to be determined) of food insecurity characteristics as well as other population based characteristics such as food deserts, unemployment rates, housing costs, low wages, poverty levels, SNAP access, medical costs, etc. Other indicators could be mapped if deemed appropriate, such as access to transportation, renter vs. home-ownership rates, childcare deserts, etc. Ideally, a “master map” will be created from which details can be dropped or added to visually express more targeted mapping as needed.</p>			
Primary Activities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · In conjunction with student(s) working on a separate research project, Landscape of Food Insecurity, study data from external sources (USDA, CDC, Rural Health, Census, etc.) to ascertain what is most relevant to include in maps · Create at least one master map, which includes the ability to add and drop relevant layers of data, for staff to use for internal planning purposes and to communicate to external stakeholders the food insecurity landscape in specific communities throughout our service area. 			
Project Deliverables			
<p>By the end of the practicum, the student will be expected to present, at minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A master map in which all major data points are visually consolidated and can be of use to the Food Bank staff · In-depth documentation of the data sources, dates, and calculations used to generate the master map, to allow the Food Bank to update the map in future years · Oral presentation at the Food Bank to staff regarding findings and recommendations 			
Specific Qualifications			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · GIS mapping experience required; Must have a high comfort level with Tableau, Maptitude, Arc GIS, or other relevant programs · Comfort with Excel and data visualization software · Stamina in combing through extensive data sources to determine what is pertinent to use · This internship may be most interesting to an Epi or Biostats student. 			

Cover letter and resume in online application should be addressed to:
Marnie Schilken
Chief Impact Officer

**Summer 2018 | Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Project 3 Title: Nutrition Assessment Survey 2.0**

Bureau		Department	
Practicum Location	Duquesne, PA (15110)	Number of students needed for this project	1
Do you have an available workspace? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Do you have an available computer? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Project Description and Project Objectives			
<p>Project Description: Throughout the Summer of 2017, a graduate student from the Food Science program at Chatham assisted the Food Bank in carrying out a nutrition assessment with some 550 individuals seeking food assistance at pantry sites and direct distribution sites. Much new information was learned in that assessment, some of which is the need for a more rigorous survey process with even more individuals.</p> <p>Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assist the Director of Health & Wellness to conduct a thorough survey of individuals seeking food assistance, as well as the volunteers who serve those individuals, throughout the Food Bank's 11-county service area To analyze the data, identify findings and communicate recommendations about those findings that could improve or change the Food Bank's programming 			
Primary Activities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in the development of a nutrition survey to gather perspectives from the individuals the Food Bank serves about "nutritious diet", barriers to food security, desired nutrition services, and more. Administer client survey in food pantries across the GPCFB service area. Collect and manage survey data. Analyze and summarize results of survey and interview data collected. 			
Project Deliverables			
<p>By the end of the practicum, the student will be expected to present, at minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A written report including a summary of survey results. An oral presentation at the Food Bank regarding analysis findings and recommendations. 			
Specific Qualifications			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to work with diverse populations. Advanced understanding of survey design and administration. Experience using Excel and/or data analysis software. Ability to work independently and also to work strategically and effectively with multiple team members. Transportation and willingness to travel within Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank's 11 county service area (Food Bank will reimburse for mileage). Flexible schedule, including evening and weekend hours as needed. 			

SCover letter and resume in online application should be addressed to:

Sarah Trist
Director of Health and Wellness

Summer 2018 | Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Project Title 4: Earned Media Analysis

Bureau		Department	
Practicum Location	Duquesne, PA (15110)	Number of students needed for this project	1-2
Do you have an available workspace? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Do you have an available computer? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		
Project Description and Project Objectives			
<p>Project Description: We need one to two student(s) to review about 300 earned media mentions for this fiscal year, as well as the last two fiscal years. We estimate a review of each fiscal year to require at least 50 hours of work, for a total of around 150 hours.</p> <p>Objective(s): To assist the Director of Marketing & Communication , as well as one of the Food Bank’s Decision Support Analysts, to locate media mentions, read or watch the media mention, Code the media mention according to about three to five things we want to study, and save the media mention as a pdf</p>			
Primary Activities			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review a subset of all of our thousands of media campaigns and placements, mainly with a "publicity value" above \$100, to understand the impact. We are still fleshing out exactly how we want to measure that impact, but are thinking it could be an impact on recruiting and retaining volunteers, changing societal opinion or attitudes about food insecurity and/or poverty, increasing knowledge base of listeners/viewers about food assistance services and/or food insecurity as an important public issues, etc. Media types to be reviewed will include any the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Online, consumer ○ Television program ○ Online, news and business ○ Radio program ○ Radio station ○ Television station ○ Cable/satellite program ○ Cable/satellite - network/station ○ Newspaper ○ Radio program, regional • Collect and manage data. • Analyze and summarize results of data collected. 			
Project Deliverables			
<p>By the end of the practicum, the student will be expected to present, at minimum, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A written report including a summary of survey results. • An oral presentation at the Food Bank regarding analysis findings and recommendations. 			
Specific Qualifications			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in Excel and/or data analysis software. • Ability to work independently and also to work strategically and effectively with multiple team members. <i>We need highly independent students who can effectively and efficiently self-manage their time. There will be oversight for the overall project, and access to assistance throughout all work hours, but once trained, the student(s) would be operating very much on their own.</i> • Flexible schedule, including evening and weekend hours as needed. 			

Submit cover letter and resume in online application should be addressed to:

Justin Gilmore
Decision Support Analyst

Summer 2018 | Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Project Title 5: Listening to and learning from the Individuals we serve

Bureau		Department	Impact Department
Practicum Location	Duquesne, PA (15110)	Number of students needed for this project	2
Do you have an available workspace? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		Do you have an available computer? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
Project Description and Project Objectives			
<p><u>Project Description:</u> The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank will be conducting a series of focus groups / community conversations from March through July/August of 2018 to listen to the experiences of Young Adults (age 18 – 26) and Older Adults (age 60+). We want to hear feedback, thoughts and opinions from individual who are or have been affected by food insecurity throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania.</p> <p><u>Project Objective:</u> To provide the Food Bank with a clear report on the findings of these focus groups / community conversations, and to give more clarity on how individuals are dealing with food insecurity.</p>			
Primary Activities			
<p>The project is slated to follow the following timeframe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2018 - May 2018: Conducting Focus Groups and Interviews • June 2018 - Sept 2018: Processing and analyzing data; Building reports of findings <p>A student(s) is/are needed throughout this timeframe. The student(s) will assist Food Bank’s Advisory Council Coordinators on a range of tasks, which could include and not be limited to: directly communicating with community members, sifting through research to help compile data, participating with the planning and facilitation of the focus groups, making recommendations about and/or designing an anonymous survey to gather additional findings, helping to analyze and report on findings.</p>			
Project Deliverables			
<p>The anticipated deliverables for a student intern depend on the timing of when the student is involved in the project. For the project overall, the deliverables include: a written, final report detailing the findings of each Advisory Council, a written detailed explanation of the methodology and/or systems used for story collection as a feedback-loop tool for the Food Bank, an oral presentation to Food Bank senior leaders about how the findings align with or diverge from finding from other studies conducted by other researchers on food insecurity in young adults throughout the United States today.</p>			
Specific Qualifications			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong interpersonal skills and an outgoing, curious nature: Story collection is at the heart of this work! • Must be a good listener: Listening to learn, and not just to respond, is an essential skill. • Experience with data collection and reporting abilities: This project includes a combination of story collection experiences and data entry and reporting - some previous experience with research preferred. • Must be able to work evenings and/or weekends if needed for community meetings 			

Submit cover letter and resume in online application should be addressed to:

Marnie Schilken
 Chief Impact Officer