



Interning at GirlForward

Social Justice Internship Presentation
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What is GirlForward?

“GirlForward is a community of support dedicated to creating and enhancing opportunities for girls who have been displaced globally by conflict and persecution.”



This mission is executed through three main programs:

- 1) Mentoring: pairing girls with female mentors to develop a pillar relationship
- 2) Education: tutoring services and summer-session Camp GirlForward
- 3) Safe Spaces: providing a place where build community, do homework, and access resources

As part of the Social Justice Internship program, I have worked approximately 10 hours per week at GirlForward's center across the academic year alongside my full schedule of classes.



I have spent this year working at GirlForward as their **Fundraising and Development Intern**, supervised by their Executive Director, Ashley Marine.

My Position

As the Fundraising and Development Intern, I took on a variety of tasks...

Some of the most notable:

- Tracked donor gifts and oversaw database analytics using the nonprofit CRM portal, Kindful
- Facilitated “Thank-a-thon”, a week of personally calling all of GirlForward’s donors to express gratitude
- Performed research to identify prospective grant matches
- Proposed new policy to refine GirlForward’s in-kind donation processes
- Managed donor communications via email and phone
- Engaged with girls in GirlForward’s drop-in center (my personal favorite!)

Some Takeaways from My Experience

1. Working in GirlForward's office has taught me a lot about my own personal work style, along with what I look for in a manager and collaborative environment. I will definitely keep this in mind as I continue on in my career!
2. My knowledge and interest in refugee and immigration affairs has increased drastically. The process of resettlement is immensely complicated - I was able to learn so much through dedicated lessons and conversations with my fellow interns and other staff in the office.
3. I gained significant insight into the world of nonprofit management. Some of the most interesting hours I spent at GirlForward were listening into fundraising meetings organized by board members.
4. Work / professional development can and should be something you enjoy.

Overall, I loved my time with GirlForward! I hope to remain close with this organization as I continue on in my educational and career journey.