

2016 NYC SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

AGENCY NAME

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING

DIVISION

Community Services

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION (Max characters 3000)

The mission of the Department for the Aging (DFTA) is "to work for the empowerment, independence, dignity and quality of life of New York City's diverse older adults and for the support of their families through advocacy, education and the coordination and delivery of services."

As an agency of City government and an Area Agency on Aging under the federal Administration on Aging, DFTA receives federal, state and city funds to provide essential services for seniors. It channels these monies to community-based organizations that contract with the Department to provide needed programs locally throughout the five boroughs. Hot meals and activities at senior centers, home-delivered meals, case management, home care, transportation and legal services are among the services these programs provide. DFTA manages the contracts with these programs and ensures service quality.

DFTA also provides services directly through its Senior Employment Services Unit, Elderly Crime Victims Resource Center, Alzheimer's and Caregiver Resource Center, Foster Grandparent Program, Grandparent Resource Center, Health Insurance Information Counseling and Assistance Program, and Health Promotion Unit.

The Department's community presentations and other public outreach activities educate New Yorkers on aging issues and on City services and resources for seniors and their families. Through testimony at public hearings and legislative advocacy, DFTA serves as a major voice for the concerns of New York's seniors.

Currently DFTA is the lead agency for implementation of the 59 strategies for improving the City's livability for older persons that comprise [Age Friendly NYC](#), an initiative launched by Mayor Bloomberg, the City Council and the New York Academy of Medicine in August 2009. This blueprint to transform NYC builds on the World Health Organization's *Global Age-Friendly Cities* initiative and links New York to sister cities throughout the world working to promote the well-being of their growing older populations. The Department is proud to be in the forefront of this effort.

UNIT DESCRIPTION (Max characters 1000)

The Bureau of Community Services oversees the operation of senior centers throughout New York City. Within this bureau is Health Promotion Services, which administers community based health promotion programs conducted by senior volunteers. Two of these programs, Partner to Partner and Alert and Alive would be the subject of the intern's work.

POSITION TITLE (Max characters 100)

Summer Graduate Intern

INTERNSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES (Max characters 1500)

Partner to Partner trains seniors to recognize when a peer may need to talk, and to be a receptive listener. Trained “partners” offer support, not advice or answers. The seven session trainings cover aging issues, signs of depression and abuse, common mental health diseases in the elderly, and issues of cultural sensitivity. Volunteers hone their empathic listening skills and learn how to use their own live experiences to reach out and encourage sharing.

Alert & Alive is an informal discussion group. Trained and supervised to run their own sessions on a continuous basis, volunteers learn the skills necessary to establish a warm and friendly atmosphere for peer group discussions. Since 1992, the goal of Alert & Alive has been to help members feel comfortable sharing their beliefs, attitudes and concerns about aging.

This intern would be responsible for assessing the status of Partner to Partner and Alert and Alive programs throughout NYC. This would be accomplished through one-on one and group meetings with the volunteers who conduct the program. The purpose of the assessment would be first to gauge the effectiveness/ relevancy of the program overall; second to address/remedy any needs/deficiencies of the programs through an in-service training and/or revisions to the training manual and lastly assess the possibility of turning both curriculums into one thereby joining the programs.

QUALIFICATIONS/SPECIAL SKILLS/AREA OF STUDY (Max characters 1500)

Intern should be a 3rd year graduate social work student. Concentration in geriatrics preferred.

APPLICATION PROCESS (Max characters 700)

All applicants may apply by going to www.nyc.gov/careers/search and search for Job ID#236992

Please be sure to submit a resume and cover letter when applying indicating Community Services Graduate Internship.

Please do not email, mail or fax your resume to DFTA directly.

SALARY RANGE

\$14.00 Hourly

Internship may be used to fulfill college credit requirement

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION / COMMENTS (Max characters 700)