Dan Broun Summer Internship

Job Description

The Dan Broun Summer Internship honors the late Dan Broun, a staff member who championed place-based strategies to improve outcomes for low-income people, particularly in rural communities in the South. Throughout his career, Dan also worked hard to provide college students with learning opportunities that would help them become leaders and professionals focused on equity and inclusion in the South.

The goal of the internship, made possible by donations to MDC in Dan Broun’s honor, is to provide two-year and four-year college students with the opportunity to contribute to MDC’s mission and agenda during summer and to take away skills and insights that will shape the intern’s perspective on the unique challenges and opportunities facing the rural South. The emphasis of the intern’s experience will be on projects centered on workforce development and youth economic mobility.

Position Description

MDC is looking for a bright and enthusiastic individual for a position in the Summer of 2021 to assist with two projects underway at MDC: one led by United Philanthropy Forum focused on philanthropy in rural communities to advance rural equity and, secondarily, Great Expectations, a project of the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust focused on early childhood development in an urban setting.

The Dan Broun Intern will assist the program staff with a major project that aims to advance philanthropic investment to increase equitable outcomes for rural people across America, with a particular focus on racial equity and in places that experience high poverty. The intern will also provide limited assistance to MDC’s Great Expectations team, which works to ensure that all children in Forsyth County, NC reach Kindergarten prepared to succeed. As part of project teams, the intern can expect to:

- Track and monitor key themes, trends, and events emerging from the work of project partner organizations, especially THRIVE Rural
- Research rural investing on the part of members of the United Philanthropy Forum and organize information into types of investments
- Develop a database in which MDC can track strong, rural practitioners we may want to tap for expertise over the course of the project
- Scan literature and strong practices on critical issues facing rural communities nationally that limit equitable outcomes for rural people (e.g., lack of access to broadband; lack of nonprofit capacity in some rural places). Write informal/internal summary memos as needed to summarize the state of the field on these issues
- Identify and track key publications that focus on rural equity issues; summarize key issues for the project team; organize information in team files
- Carry out background research on certain members of the United Philanthropy Forum on their interests and experience in funding work relevant to this initiative
- Assist the Great Expectations team with research, scheduling, and note-taking as assigned
- Carry out a national scan of the field of strong approaches that are addressing inequities in maternal-infant mortality and other equitable birth outcomes
- Maintaining a log or journal outlining highlights and insights of the internship experience for external audiences, including MDC Board members

Please read the full description of the internship at https://www.mdcinc.org/about/dan-broun-internship/
Qualifications

Applicants should:
• be currently enrolled in an undergraduate program at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university and have completed two years of coursework
• be eligible to work in the United States
• have a demonstrated interest in social/structural change in the South
• have an interest in the challenges and opportunities facing rural communities, with an emphasis on rural areas in the South
• possess excellent communication skills – verbal and written
• have a strong working knowledge of MS Office, especially Word and Excel
• be creative and task oriented
• be eager to learn, able to work well on project teams, and have a sense of humor

Wage, Duration and Schedule

• The intern will be paid $15.50/hour. As a temporary employee, this position is not eligible for other benefits.
• Minimum of eight weeks during the summer, with a general expected timeframe beginning in June and completing in late August or early September.
• The position is virtual in summer 2021, though some MDC staff will return to the office on certain days of the week, depending on vaccination and comfort levels. The intern may have the opportunity to be with some staff in-person from time-to-time.
• 40 hours per week; MDC’s office hours are 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Supervision

The intern will report to Jenna Bryant, MDC Program Director. The intern will be assigned to work on teams led by other MDC staff members or consultants. (All MDC staff and interns report to various project leaders. This experience will allow the intern to get to know a mix of MDC staff members). MDC is committed to providing an intern with thoughtful and responsive supervision with an eye toward ensuring that the intern leaves the internship with a set of new skills and tangible accomplishments. In addition, there may be opportunities in which the intern, with support from their supervisor, will be able to identify or develop a value-added process or tool that may be applied to MDC’s repertoire. This contribution could provide a substantial addition to the intern’s resume as practical and applicable work experience.

To Apply

MDC is proud to be an equal opportunity employer and contractor. People of color are especially encouraged to apply. As an organization committed to diversity and equity, it is our policy to provide equal employment and contracting opportunities to all individuals without regard to age, color, race, religion, national origin, disability, military/veteran status, sex, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, or status in any other group protected by federal or local law or for any other reason. For more info about MDC, go to www.mdcinc.org.

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE INTERNSHIP, YOU MUST APPLY THROUGH JAZZ HR. Please send a brief cover letter that speaks directly to your skills and interests in this role, your résumé, a writing sample, and two references via JazzHR by COB Thursday, May 6, 2021. Please direct the cover letter to Jenna Bryant, MDC, 307 West Main Street, Durham NC 27701. NOTE: Please send the application package electronically through JazzHR rather than by regular mail; MDC staff are working remotely due to the pandemic. If you have problems filling out the application, please contact info@mdcinc.org.

Thank you for your interest.