

Three years ago, I found out about the world-wide injustice of human trafficking. Ever since then, I have been on a pursuit to do everything in my power to act against this injustice, and this pursuit has been greatly aided by my college career. In fact, with every class in my major I have taken thus far, I have been able to cater my final project or research paper to human trafficking. I have learned a great deal about the multi-faceted dynamic of this social problem, the various kinds of human trafficking, and efforts that have been implemented thus far to prevent it. A gap, however, remains in my studies, and that is experience. Whereas I have gained valuable and important knowledge through my research and class work, I am in need of the experience of working with an organization that is active in grassroots efforts to prevent trafficking. This will provide the missing piece of the puzzle in my learning experience.

Therefore, this fall I will be interning at a safe house for victims of sex trafficking in the United States. These houses provide a place for rescued victims to receive medical attention, education, job training, legal aid, and counseling. They also network with local law enforcement so as to provide training programs and awareness events for the community. During my internship I will not only have the opportunity to work one on one with victims, but I will also be educating law enforcement, dealing with government relations, lobbying for state and federal policy, and educating the public. These experiences will fit perfectly amongst the public policy, international affairs, and cultural studies I have done within the last three years.

Through this internship, I will be able to use and refine the knowledge and skills I have obtained thus far in my education, aiding in my trafficking prevention efforts both now and in the future. I am unsure of my exact career goals, but I do know that I want to be involved with human trafficking prevention in the United States. This internship can therefore aid me in better understanding the complexities of trafficking in this country, the needs for improved prevention efforts, and where my skill set fits in filling those needs. This is thus an integral part of my academic journey, but I know I cannot do this on my own. The internship will be unpaid, and therefore I will be responsible for all of my food, housing, and travel expenses throughout the semester. Considering the exact location is yet to be determined, I do not have exact numbers for these costs, but I do know that I will be unable to pay for them without the aid of scholarships. I am in great need of funds to pay for these expenses, and I thank you for the opportunity to aid me in my journey as I continue on my pursuit to combat human trafficking.