UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP
MPOWERING THE STATE

SUMMER 2024

STUDENT OPPORTUNITY at the UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE

Child Trafficking: Analysis of State Child Welfare Responses to Minor Victims of Sex and Labor Trafficking

OVERVIEW: One 10 week/400-hour student internship is being offered to a student with a background in public policy, pre-law, criminology & criminal justice, sociology, or an interest in the child welfare and juvenile justice system. Funded by the University of Maryland Strategic Partnership (MPower), the project is part of the UM Scholars program for a University of Maryland College Park student to conduct research on the implementation of federal anti-trafficking legislation by state child welfare agencies. The intern will work under the supervision of Amelia Rubenstein, Director of the Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative, and Neil Mallon, Clinical Research Specialist, both at the University of Maryland School of Social Work at UMB. The research is conducted with state child welfare and juvenile justice agencies, human trafficking task forces, and specialized service providers. The selected student will receive $5,500 for the work, to be paid in two installments over the 10 weeks. Students must be enrolled in Fall 2024 semester to be considered as a participant in this program.

IDEAL CANDIDATE: This is a policy analysis project and would be ideal for students with a background/interest in public policy, pre-law, criminology & criminal justice, sociology, and who have an interest in child-serving systems (child welfare and juvenile justice). Student must be actively enrolled in Fall 2024 semester to be considered.

LOCATION: Hybrid: Remote & In-person (Monday's). Traveling to, and parking at UMB, is the responsibility of the student and paid for in the stipend. *Note: 70% remote and 30% in person*

FACULTY LEAD: Amelia Rubenstein, MSW, LCSW-C, Director of the Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative and Adjunct Faculty, University of Maryland School of Social Work

BIO: https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/content/people/name-629761-en.html?&

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ABOUT THE PROJECT: Following the passage of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking & Strengthening Families Act of 2014, state child welfare systems had to enact a number of changes to identify and respond to trafficked youth. This project would conduct an in-depth analysis of how states have implemented this legislation and which interventions have been most effective in identifying and responding to youth victims of sex and labor trafficking. An MPower scholar would work under Amelia Rubenstein, Director of the Prevention of Adolescent Risks Initiative, and Neil Mallon, Clinical Research Specialist, to conduct a policy analysis of how state child welfare systems have responded to child sex and labor trafficking in the following categories: policy guidance, worker training, data collection, response protocols, screening and identification processes, and specialized service provision for trafficked youth. The scholar would conduct a literature review, and work with the team to establish qualitative data points, conduct direct outreach with state child welfare agencies, conduct data

collection and analysis, and draft the final report. The student would also help with cross-referencing information from federal child maltreatment reports.

For more information on PARI: https://www.ssw.umaryland.edu/pari/

International Students*: F-1 or J-1 students should consult an International Students and Scholars Services (ISSS) advisor for this activity. If you are interested in applying,* **_please contact ISSS_** *before submitting your application.*

APPLY HERE.

Application Deadline: 11:59 on Sunday, February 25, 2024.

Application must include:

1. A Statement of Interest (no more than 500 words) as a PDF. Please identify the file as follows: Your_Last_Name_SOI

2. A PDF of your current resume. Please identify the file as follows: Your_Last_Name_Resume

Questions may be sent to Adrianne Arthur, Executive Director and Assistant Vice Provost, University of Maryland Strategic Partnership, aarthur@umaryland.edu.