

Bread for the World Internship 2013

This summer, I had the great privilege of working with Bread for the World in Washington D.C. as the Development and Membership intern. Bread for the World describes itself as “a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, it provides help and opportunity far beyond the communities in which they live.”

As the Development and Membership intern, I reported to the Deputy Director of Development and Membership. My primary responsibilities as an intern were to provide administrative and program support to the Development and Membership department. In conjunction with these responsibilities I also worked on Latino Outreach.

My time with Bread started a week prior to my official start date, when I arrived in Washington to participate in Bread’s 2013 National Gathering and Lobby day events. During this time I participated in countless workshops, two of my favorites being “Immigration as a Hunger Issue” and “Development in Latin America.” During this gathering I was also able to listen to a panel of the people featured in the documentary *A Place at the Table* as well as meet Kristi Jacobson, the film director. I was also able to attend an international meeting with Dr. Raj Shah, Administrator of USAID, and another session on domestic social development.

During my internship I worked in the office Monday through Friday from 9 A.M. until 5 P.M., where I was surrounded with people who were always happy to come to work because they knew they were doing very meaningful work. Throughout my internship I felt extremely welcomed and as though I was part of the Bread family. This close-knit community proved to be great as I got to know mostly everyone in the office and got a good sense of how my coworkers’ job roles and their departments help in the smooth running of Bread. Moreover, during my time

at Bread I also attended legislative update meetings to help me keep up to date on what was happening on Capitol Hill. I also participated in Membership and Major Gift team meetings and in the membership department meetings. Even though I had a busy time at work, Bread was very flexible when it came to allowing me to do special events that interested me, such as participating in an immigration demonstration with the organization United We Dream.

Some of my specific duties: performing prospect and donor research, reviewing the Legacy of Hope participant records and record estimates of bequest intentions, reviewing endowment files and updating gift records, reviewing past Bread newsletters and Legacy of Hope publications and recording profiles on member records and reviewing charity rating organization websites and updating information where needed. I also helped plan Bread for the World Sunday, updated the webpage with resources (including creating a children's sermon), and created a PowerPoint. Additionally, I used my language skills extensively in helping provide support for the Bread online store, including updates to the Spanish resources. Another project I dedicated significant time towards was working on Latino Outreach. Specifically, I conducted research on how to better target the Latino community using different means such as social media. I also helped create a database of Latino churches throughout the U.S in the hope of expanding our membership.

My main and probably most important contribution to Bread was the database I created and organized of Bread's Legacy of Hope members, people that are leaving a substantial amount of money to Bread after their passing. This database will make the running of the department smoother and I take great pride in that. I also like to think that all the Latino outreach work I did will help grow the Latino membership, especially the bilingual website I helped to create and that soon will be available. To me one of the most rewarding things from my internship is being

able to see a lot of the work I did this summer appear on the Bread website and know that in a small way because of my help Bread is able to accomplish its goals.

To say I learned a lot during my internship is an understatement, and I cannot thank Bread for this opportunity enough, especially Rev. Goldsmith, without whose generous support my time at Bread would not have been able to be possible. I learned how to effectively work in a professional office setting and to answer to a supervisor. I also learned a lot of specific skills such as working with different databases and creating materials, whether that be an excel spread sheet that will be used to create a database, or writing reports in a quick and efficient manner. In conclusion, this internship was truly formative in my career goal of working in the non-profit sector for social change and I loved my time at Bread. It is a wonderful organization filled with lovely people who have a commitment to helping improve the lives of others, as I hope to do too one day by improving public policy.