

Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools®

Servant Leader Intern Position Description

Title: Servant Leader Intern

Date: 2013

Organization:

Nature and Scope

The CDF Freedom Schools® program is an educational and cultural enrichment program. Our program provides summer options for children where there are none and strengthens parent and community involvement in the year-round achievement of children. We serve children ages 5 to 18 for five to eight weeks and integrate reading, conflict resolution, and social action in an activity-based curriculum to promote social, cultural, and historical awareness.

Founded in 1995 by the Children's Defense Fund's Black Community Crusade for Children® (BCCC) initiative and today coordinated nationally by the Children's Defense Fund in partnership with well-established and effective local and regional child-serving organizations, the *CDF Freedom Schools* program is a direct service initiative. CDF's Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a *Healthy Start*, a *Head Start*, a *Fair Start*, a *Safe Start* and a *Moral Start* in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities. The project director position requires training sessions conducted by *CDF Freedom Schools* national staff at the historic CDF Alex Haley Farm in Clinton, Tennessee.

College-age young people and recent college graduates play a key role in the *Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools* program as servant leader interns. *CDF Freedom Schools* servant leader interns are responsible for the front-line care and nurturing of the children. Using the Integrated Reading Curriculum, they serve as facilitators in the classroom and as leaders of parent workshops and community outreach activities.

Responsibilities

- Deliver the Integrated Reading Curriculum to a class of no more than ten students for 6–8 weeks during the summer months, according to the standards developed by the Children's Defense Fund and the local program sponsor.
- Set up and break down his/her classroom space, including securing and organizing the appropriate materials.
- Collaborate with staff to establish and maintain a supportive and structured environment for the children entrusted to their care.
- Serve as a *Harambee!* leader each day of program operation.
- Serve as a leader of afternoon activities and other special events; chaperone field trips.
- Participate fully in the June National Training from June 2 – 9, 2013. (1st, 2nd and 3rd year servant leader interns only).

Qualifications

- Must be between 19 – 30 years of age, completed at least one year of college, and have plans to complete the college degree
- Maintain or have graduated with at least a 3.0 G.P.A.
- Solid commitment to children's advocacy and enthusiasm for the *Children's Defense Fund Freedom Schools* program
- Ability to motivate others and work as part of an intergenerational team
- Strong appreciation and understanding of individual cultural history and the willingness to be open and respectful of all cultures
- Willingness to strive for excellence in all areas
- Ability to think critically and analytically
- Exhibit positive attitude; model a mature and professional demeanor
- Excellent written and verbal skills
- Strong interpersonal skills and commitment to the character, humility, and servant leadership ethics of Ella Baker
- Current voter registration
- Authorization for background check for criminal and child protective findings