The 2022 Staten Island Foundation Elizabeth Dubovsky Fellowship in Social Work
Offered in 2022 in Partnership with the YMCA Counseling Services and Community Health Action of Staten Island

Background

The Staten Island Foundation (Foundation), working in partnership with the Staten Island YMCA Counseling Services (YMCA) and Community Health Action of Staten Island (CHASI), invites graduate students enrolled in an accredited social work program to submit applications for the 2022 Staten Island Foundation Elizabeth Dubovsky Fellowship in Social Work (Fellowship).

The Fellowship celebrates the legacy of Betsy Dubovsky, the Foundation’s first Executive Director, who passed away suddenly in February 2021 from pancreatic cancer. Betsy often introduced herself as a social worker, emphasizing that this was the perspective that guided her thinking about how the resources of the Foundation could improve the lives of the least advantaged. Betsy received her MSW from The Graduate School of Social Work at Rutgers University in January 1975. She began her career as Director of Social Work at Eger Lutheran Homes and Services Inc. She was the first social worker of the Staten Island Visiting Nurse Association and then served at the Community Agency for Senior Citizens, at the YMCA, and the American Red Cross.

The Fellowship seeks to incorporate some of the values that Betsy championed such as the importance of life-long learning, working collaboratively to improve systems and outcomes for individuals, and the integration of principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The mission of the Fellowship is to strengthen the efficacy of the local social work field by supporting emerging professionals to improve outcomes for Staten Island’s least advantaged by expanding their capacity to work in collaboration with community.

Fellows will be chosen to complete year-long internships at one of two 2022 Fellowship Host Sites: the YMCA or CHASI while interfacing on a regular basis with the Foundation in order to learn about local nonprofits and collaborative efforts to improve outcomes for Staten Island residents. Students interested in the Fellowship will be selected from those applying to either of the two host organizations for a yearlong internship beginning in the Fall of 2022, to be completed by Spring 2023. Fellows will have schedules that include 21 – 24 hours per week. The paid Fellowship will also offer professional development opportunities and mentorship.

About the Foundation and Host Sites

The Staten Island Foundation was created in December 1997 by the former Staten Island Savings Bank when the Bank converted to a public company. In 2006 it became The Staten Island Foundation with a clear guiding mission: to improve the quality of life in Staten Island, especially for the least advantaged. Since its inception, the Foundation has granted more than $76 million in its focus areas of health, education, arts, and community services. To learn more about the Foundation, see www.thestatenislandfoundation.org.

The Staten Island YMCA Counseling Service (YMCA) has adult, teen, youth, and family programs for those struggling with substance use and their families. Since 1980, they have provided the Staten Island community with comprehensive prevention and treatment services that promote the development of spirit, mind, and body. Their state-licensed outpatient program includes treatment services for adults and older teens, prevention services for at-risk youth, and counseling services for children whose lives have been affected by a family member’s addiction.
Community Health Action of Staten Island (CHASI) provides access to an extensive range of high-quality behavioral health care and social support services. CHASI provides extensive health services for individuals and groups, including free HIV and hepatitis C testing, workshops for managing chronic illness, and safer sex education. CHASI operates Mobile Health Units that deliver high quality nursing care, health assessments, HIV tests, assistance with Health Insurance and SNAP applications, and wellness services right in your neighborhood.

**Fellowship Criteria**

Fellows must be Staten Island residents;
should demonstrate a commitment to continuing their career on Staten Island;
studying to be licensed to provide clinical services or community services at a macro level;
must be Masters-level Social Work students and may attend school full or part-time;
commit to a full academic year from Fall 2022 through Spring 2023;
meet requirements for an internship at either the YMCA or CHASI.
Financial need may be a consideration.

The Host site internships will provide the selected individual with on-site work experience in an Outpatient facility providing care to individuals and families who are struggling with the disease of addiction in the case of the YMCA, or offer a range of opportunities to provide health services to those with limited access to such services. Fellows will also regularly engage with Foundation staff and participate in meetings of community collaborations at the suggestion of the Foundation and/or host nonprofit. In this way, the Fellows will be introduced to the wider community of social services, develop a network of professional relationships, and become familiar with the resources available to Staten Islanders in need.

At the conclusion of the year’s Fellowship, Fellows will share their reflections on their experiences with Foundation and Host Site members and guests.

**YMCA Internship responsibilities, tasks, and training will include:**

- On-site training in electronic record keeping
- Education and Training in OASAS regulations, clinical service delivery and operational requirements
- Mandatory agency training in: HIPAA; Child Abuse and Mandated Reporting; Medication Addiction Treatment; Person centered Care; Cultural Competency; and workplace etiquette
- Conducting Assessments including using a Biopsychosocial approach
- Facilitating group, individual, and family Sessions
- Completing discharges and referrals
- Developing treatment plans
- Completing progress notes and all required documentation
- Attending Clinical Team Weekly Case Conference Meetings
- Attending Individual supervision
- Conducting on-site drug testing
- Facilitating referrals to alternate services and/or levels of care

**CHASI Internship responsibilities, tasks, and training will include:**

- Conducting intakes and brief assessments
- Developing client-centered, strengths-based service or action plans
- Co-facilitating group or individual sessions
- Linking clients to needed medical and social services
- Completing progress notes and required documentation
- Attending Clinical Case Conferences
- Attending Individual supervision

To Apply for the Fellowship:

Applications should be emailed to info@thestatenislandfoundation.org by May 27, 2022. Application submissions should include a resume and responses to the following in a Word document:

A short bio that addresses interests and experiences that have inspired your interest in social work

What area of social work are you planning to pursue as part of your career and how does it relate to the Staten Island community?

Statement of Placement Interests: Applicants choose one of the following areas of interest and explains how an internship in this area will further their career goals:

- Substance Abuse Treatment and Prevention
- Alternatives to Incarceration
- Domestic Violence
- Opioid Use Disorder Treatment in a low threshold setting
- Medical Care Coordination for low-income people with chronic illnesses

Fellowship recipients will be selected by The Staten Island Foundation in consultation with the 2022 Fellowship Host Site Partners. Fellowship recipients will be announced in June 2022.