

HIGHROAD FELLOWSHIPS



Summer 2019 Deadline: February 4, 2019

BELIEVE IN EQUITY, INCLUSION & THE GREATER GOOD?

put it to work

Since 2009, High Road Fellows have come to Buffalo for an immersion in grassroots economic development. Through the Fellowships, students earn two-credits and a stipend over the summer while working with community organizations .

Students gain hands-on experiences in the vital social sector of the economy where job creation, neighborhood revitalization, and the greening of the economy are an everyday reality.

Grounded in reciprocity between community and university, this year's High Road placements represent a diverse array of organizations, focused on issues like civic engagement, affordable housing and homelessness alleviation, workforce development and re-entry services for previously incarcerated individuals, community reinvestment, labor advocacy, and legal services.

The 2019 program runs from June 3 -- July 26.

Group housing is facilitated and all students receive a public transportation pass.

Apply today!

<https://www.ilr.cornell.edu/buffalo/high-road-fellowships>



"As far as a typical internship goes, I did not want to spend my summer sitting at a desk from 9 to 5. I knew I wanted to engage with a non-profit advocacy organization and get involved in a community on a grassroots level. The immersive and intensive educational experience drew me to the High Road program."

GAYATHRI JAI



"The High Road Fellowship has helped me learn that Buffalo's labor movement is incredibly active and interconnected. My daily interactions with other fellows showed me how diverse community-based organizations are, yet how intertwined their organizational missions are."

GRACE BOGDANOVE

HIGHROAD

Summer Fellowships in Buffalo Application Deadline: February 4, 2019

The Program: Summer fellows in Buffalo work through June and July, earning a \$4,000 stipend for eight 35-hour weeks. Students are given a specific project with their host organizations, working 7.5 hours per day, Monday through Thursday. Every Friday the students as a group are immersed in the city life of Buffalo with neighborhood walking tours, field trips, cultural experiences, and discussions with guest experts and civic leaders. Friday's workshops are also forums for learning from each other by sharing weekly journals, project experiences, research and other accomplishments.

Community Partner: Each student is placed with a host organization affiliated with the **Partnership for the Public Good**, a civic organization made up of over 280 community partners promoting more equitable and sustainable economic development in Greater Buffalo. PPG produces action research and policy recommendations on pressing local, regional and state concerns. Students gain hands-on experiences working with organizations in the vital nonprofit sector of the economy where job creation, neighborhood revitalization, and the greening of the economy are everyday reality.

Who should apply? High Road Fellows are Cornell undergraduates interested in grassroots democracy and how individuals can help create a more equitable economy.

Project Topics:

*Fighting Inequality • Next Up: Youth and Education • Affordable Housing and Anti-Gentrification Work
A Green and Healthy City • New Americans • Tools for Community Reinvestment*

High Road Fellowships Operating Assumptions

Engaged Learning and Action Research

Through High Road Fellowships students confront real-world problems that require real-world solutions. Fellows learn by doing. They are able to weave these opportunities into their education at Cornell through courses including the required two-credit High Road: *Community Controlled Economic Development: The Case of Buffalo NY*. The course introduces fellows to the types of innovative organizations they will work with—those creating the community resources and capacities needed to redirect investment and control of economic development for the benefit of all. High Road introduces students to the ways in which social science research tools can be used by community-based organizations to advance policy and programmatic agendas.

Place-Based Knowledge and Change

Buffalo is home to Cornell ILR's first extension office, established in 1946. Over seven decades advancing progress at work, ILR in Buffalo exemplifies the University's land-grant mission, linking cutting-edge research and education with real world practice. PPG's exceptional network of grassroots organizations allows students exposure to all aspects of effective community-based advocacy regarding economic development.

Spirit of Collaboration

Fellows work collectively and collaboratively to serve the Buffalo community through relationships grounded in reciprocity. Being a part of PPG's network allows them to learn from practitioners and experience the interconnectedness of community change work. They build on the work of 170 alumni who have taken the High Road to diverse and inspiring heights, carrying with them lessons such as prioritizing equity as a growth model and cultural humility.

FIGHTING INEQUALITY

Center for Employment Opportunities

170 Franklin Street,
Suite 701
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.842.6320 Ext. 501

www.ceoworks.org

For more than 30 years, the Center for Employment Opportunities' goal has been to provide immediate, comprehensive, and effective employment services for men and women returning from incarceration. CEO offers comprehensive employment services exclusively for people with criminal records. CEO's model is based on a highly structured program of life skill education, short-term paid transitional employment, full-time job placement, and post- placement services.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Addressing Barriers to Re-Entry*

The Fellow will complete a final project that will consist of research on what barriers prevented participants from completing the programs. The student will collect and analyze data from past participants using phone interviews and surveys, in order to identify barriers to following through with program services. The final report will also provide suggestions as to how to counter these barriers, assisting staff to serve participants more effectively. The Fellow will also help coordinate a program by ILR's Labor and Employment Law to provide training for CEO participants on understanding the individual's criminal record, record correction, employment law, discussing a criminal record with employers, and addressing gaps in employment history.



Western New York Area Labor Federation AFL-CIO

2495 Main Street,
Suite #440
Buffalo, NY 14214
716.852.0375

www.wnyalf.org

The WNY Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, includes five Central Labor Councils (CLCs): the Buffalo Labor Council representing Erie County; the Niagara/Orleans Labor Council representing all of Niagara County and the western part of Orleans County; and the Dunkirk, Jamestown, and Cattaraugus/Allegany Labor Councils representing the counties in the Southern Tier. The WNYALF represents over 130,000 members from all walks of life and occupations. It seeks to strengthen connections with its affiliates and better understand the individuals comprising the organized workforce of the region. Its mission is to improve the lives and increase the power of working families, bring fairness and dignity to the workplace and secure social equality.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Bargaining for the Common Good*

The WNYALF, in collaboration with PPG, is rolling out the local campaign of Bargaining for the Common Good. The Bargaining for the Common Good Network is made up of unions, community groups, racial justice organizations and student organizations that work together as equal partners to win bigger and broader demands at the bargaining table and in the streets. In these campaigns, labor and community groups work with a broad group of stakeholders acting in their own interest to demand that corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share so that our communities have what they need to prosper. The Fellow will reach out to affiliates and community groups to introduce them to the initiative. S/he will help plan and execute a summer program with a Cornell faculty speaker on this topic. The Fellow will also help plan a larger conference for fall 2019. The WNYALF coordinates year-round programs of political education, Get-Out-The-Vote campaigns, and non-partisan registration for union members. The fellow will work on these initiatives working towards the 2018 elections. The fellow will participate in meetings of local labor councils and the WNYALF's executive council, labor coalitions, work closely with WNYALF affiliates, and gain exposure to a wide range of community and economic development issues and actors.



Western New York Council on Occupational Safety and Health, Worker Center

2495 Main Street,
Suite 438
Buffalo, NY 14214
716.833.5416

www.wnycosh.org



WNYCOSH is a nonprofit membership organization established in 1979 by labor unions, labor educators, and health professionals to provide educational and technical assistance to workers on occupational safety and health. WNYCOSH also provides access to safety trainers and experts in toxicology, industrial hygiene, epidemiology, and occupational medicine, and is coordinating the new Worker Center in Buffalo, founded to address the needs of immigrant/refugee workers, unemployed or underemployed youth, and low-wage workers in many sectors.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Fighting for Workers*

The Fellow will create and deliver a workers' compensation workshop as part of a larger workers' rights training. The Fellow will also build upon and expand the research done by a previous Fellow on temp workers in the Buffalo area to include the rest of the "gig economy" and how worker health and safety, as well as general labor practices are impacted, specifically in the Buffalo-Niagara region. Lastly, the Fellow will participate in tabling, rallies and actions to raise awareness of workers' rights issues.

Western New York Women's Foundation

742 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14209
716.855.0203

www.wnywomensfoundation.org



In 1999, the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County and the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo recognized that there was not enough funding or focus on the unique needs of women and girls in our region. Together with a group of diverse women, they created the WNY Women's Fund. They defined a shared vision by establishing a modest endowment fund to support programs specifically geared towards women and girls. An expansive group of leaders and supporters worked tirelessly to grow the WNY Women's Fund into a self-sustaining, independent organization. Nearly two decades later the WNY Women's Foundation is a separate 501(c)3, non-profit organization continually expanding efforts to make Western New York a great place for women and girls to live, work, and grow.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Closing the Gender Gap*

Women are one of our region's greatest asset. In WNY, women make up over 51% of the population, 49% of the workforce, and 53% of the college graduates. Recognizing that there is a glaring disparity for women in leadership in comparison to their male counterparts, the Women's Foundation launched *All In*, an initiative to make Western New York a premier place for women to live, work, and lead by engaging the community in purposeful efforts to empower women and illuminate pathways to leadership. This project will be focused on the Individual Development Pathway, where the goal is to create a model of a program aimed toward women who have been out of the workplace so that they can seamlessly re-enter the workforce, and overcome any barriers that being out of the workforce would present.

NEW AMERICANS

Jericho Road Community Health Center

184 Barton Street
Buffalo, NY 14213
716.881.6191

<http://www.jrchc.org/>

Jericho Road Community Health Center provides a culturally sensitive medical home, especially for refugee and low-income community members, facilitating wellness and self-sufficiency by addressing health, education, economic and spiritual barriers.



2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Creating a Welcoming and Accessible City*

A Fellow's responsibilities will involve shadowing and helping teach ESL and citizenship classes to refugee adults on the West Side of Buffalo as well as developing and implementing instructional modules related to the self-identified needs of learners in the classes. During most weeks of the Fellowship, the Fellow will spend roughly half their time in direct service to community members through shadowing, assisting, and teaching classes, and the other half gathering information, designing learning modules, and collaborating with community partners. Over the past two summers, Fellows have engaged in projects related to educating students about community resources, culminating in several field trips to community locations where these resources were available. This year's Fellow could choose to pursue a similar project to those from previous years, or alternately develop and implement instructional modules based on another topic such as health, housing, banking, nutrition, or safety, based on the students' self-identified needs.

Westminster Economic Development Initiative (WEDI)

436 Grant Street
Buffalo, NY 14213
716.393.4088

www.wedibuffalo.org

The Westminster Economic Development Initiative (WEDI) began as a mission of Westminster Presbyterian Church to improve the quality of life for residents of Buffalo's West Side, but became a separate 501 (c) 3 organization by 2007. In 2013, WEDI revised its mission and now focuses on offering "business and educational opportunity to people of Buffalo's West Side" in hopes of achieving its vision for a vibrant, stable, and inviting community. WEDI continues to bring together people with determination and desire to turn the West Side into a successful neighborhood and people who have the resources to make it happen.



2018 Summer Fellowship Project: *Expanding the High Road*

The High Roader will assist in expanding WEDI's expertise and efforts in community development and economic development within its new targeted business district, Bailey Green. Through his/her research, coalition-building, event coordination, and policy recommendations, the Fellow will assist WEDI leadership to expand the agency's work and prepare for future growth. Specifically, the activities the Fellow will engage in may include: reaching out to potential community-based and partners, coordinating community meetings, creating and distributing surveys, analyzing survey results and making recommendations, researching land and landlord issues and compiling a database, creating visual materials to market and measure the target business districts, working with business owners on mutual promotions and strategy, and working with city and state government on policy and local action. The Fellow's efforts will bring the principles of high road economic development to a new footprint for WEDI, impacting dozens of business owners and stimulating economic growth drawn from community-led solutions.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND ANTI-GENTRIFICATION WORK

Habitat for Humanity Buffalo

1675 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14220
716.204.0740

www.habitatbuffalo.org

Habitat for Humanity is a widely respected, beloved organization. Habitat Buffalo is a local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International. Around the world, Habitat for Humanity has remained one of the most recognizable and admired non-profit organizations. Habitat is among the largest homebuilders in the United States, and is one of the largest single-family homebuilders in the City of Buffalo.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Homeownership Successes*

Habitat for Humanity Buffalo makes homeownership possible for local families. Since 1985, the organization has assisted 308 families in achieving their dream of homeownership. The Fellow will create and conduct a homeowner success survey. Habitat affiliates across the country report of success measures for its program but Habitat Buffalo has never surveyed its homeowner families to measure high school graduation rates for children growing up in a Habitat home; maintaining a checking and/or savings account; emergency room visits; participation in neighborhood watch groups, block clubs or community groups; etc.



Homeless Alliance of Western New York

960 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.853.1101

www.wnyhomeless.org

The Homeless Alliance of Western New York is the lead agency for both the Continuum of Care (CoC) and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) in Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Wyoming and Orleans Counties. While not a direct services agency, the Alliance's work fosters collaboration in the community to implement best-practice models ensuring everyone has a home.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Ending Youth Homelessness*

Youth homelessness is often underreported and extremely difficult to track. On a single night in 2017, a national survey found nearly 41,000 unaccompanied youth were counted as homeless. Of those, 88 percent were between the ages of 18 to 24. To end their homelessness, youth and young adults need stable housing, supportive connections to caring adults, and access to mainstream services that will place them on a path to long-term success. The Fellow will work with HAWNY staff to update the regional plan to end youth homelessness. S/he will be able to collect data through the Homeless Management Information System and will also have a network of partners and committees available as resources. The final work product will be a business model for a youth drop in center that will be a one-stop shop providing shelter and resources for housing assistance, mental health, physical health, public benefits and legal assistance for young adults ages 18-24.



PUSH Buffalo

429 Plymouth Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14213
716.882.2672

www.pushbuffalo.org

The mission of PUSH Buffalo is to mobilize residents to create strong neighborhoods with quality, affordable housing; to expand local hiring opportunities; and to advance economic justice in Buffalo.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Inclusive Planning for Affordability and Accessibility*

Although the City of Buffalo has experienced a resurgence, it has inadequate high-quality housing that is affordable to a significant portion of its population. Through this opportunity, the Fellow will learn not only the how-to's of project management, but also about the affordable housing and community development field. The Fellow will specifically complete a community needs assessment for the project. This will be a combination of qualitative and quantitative analysis. S/he will interview residents of the targeted neighborhood and also utilize census, locally available data sources and existing planning documents to complete the market analysis for the needs assessment. Experience with data analysis, GIS, or housing finance helpful and not required.



NEXT UP: YOUTH AND EDUCATION

Buffalo Center for Arts & Technology

1221 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14209
716.259.1680

www.buffaloartstechcenter.org

The primary vision of Buffalo Center for Arts & Technology (BCAT) is to provide community-enhancing tools to reduce the effect of poverty on families. The mission of BCAT, as part of Buffalo's economic revitalization is twofold:

- To keep youth in school through high school completion so they are able to take advantage of the post-secondary opportunities the "Say Yes" scholarship program makes available to them by offering high-quality and high-tech arts instruction and studio space.
- To assist unemployed or underemployed adults in securing jobs with wages sufficient to support a family through NYS Education Department-approved training programs that will lead to jobs in the healthcare industry.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Creating Pipelines for Impact*

The Fellow will develop and help implement a new and improved volunteer and intern recruitment process. The Fellow will:

- Work alongside the Youth Program Coordinator to develop a strategic plan for the volunteer and internship program.
- Research and compile a database of different area colleges, community organizations, and other potential sources of interns and volunteers in the local community focusing on new teaching academies and relevant programs.
- Develop a pathway for BCAT alumni to return to serve as graduate assistants in classes and programs.

In addition to this project the Fellow will have the opportunity to be a part of our six week summer programming session. Youth come to BCAT during the summer Monday-Thursday from 12PM-5PM to attend Visual Art, Performance Ensemble, and Digital Production classes. The High Roader will support Teaching Artists by assisting with lesson preparation and execution and chaperone field trips.



Cornell Cooperative Extension

617 Main Street,
Suite 300
Buffalo, NY 14203
716.652.5400 ext. 142

www.erie.cce.cornell.edu

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) is a key outreach system of Cornell University with a strong public mission and an extensive local presence that is responsive to the needs in New York communities. CCE is a participant in the nationwide network of Cooperative Extension programs, which began in 1914 as a means of applying land-grant university research in understandable and useful ways to farmers and rural families. The CCE educational system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project

The main focus of this placement will be to develop and assist in the implementation of a summer civic engagement program for at-risk teens in Buffalo, Youth Community Action Network (Youth CAN). The Fellow will develop curriculum and run workshops for the summer term of Youth CAN. This will include helping the youth identify a capstone project for the summer. The teen leaders have completed many powerful projects in their communities, including: developing a documentary about how to address discrimination, hosting a community & police speakout, holding a mental health day at their school, offering nutrition lessons for younger youth, and speaking out about humanizing the homeless in their community. The Fellow may also participate in field trips with the teen leaders, including an event called Career Explorations at Cornell, and other college trips.



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Erie County

Open Buffalo

1327 Jefferson Avenue,
Upper
Buffalo, NY 14208
716.243.8777

www.openbuffalo.org



Open Buffalo is a civic initiative to make major, long-term improvements in justice and equity; it is an unprecedented collaboration among a diverse group of partners; and it is one of three projects in the nation chosen for the Open Places Initiative of the Open Society Foundations. Open Buffalo's mission is to create systemic changes leading to an "open" city for residents of Buffalo, N.Y., through the measures of equality, justice, and freedom. Open Buffalo provides leadership development, media and policy strategy and coordination, direct support, and assistance to social and economic justice organizations and campaigns, facilitates action-oriented community research, and raises the profile of and mobilizes funding for this important work.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Leadership for Diversity and Inclusion*

In 2015, Open Buffalo launched Emerging Leaders, a first-of-its-kind leadership development school which aims to build a stronger Buffalo by preparing new leaders in our city. Those accepted into Emerging Leaders complete an innovative program that combines cutting-edge community organizing training, action-oriented research, and interpersonal skill-building. There is a stark lack of women and people of color in leadership positions in the Buffalo economy. Focusing on the public sector—local government, boards and commissions—the Fellow will research and produce an analysis about the demographics of who holds power. This will help identify targets to get Open Buffalo's leadership development programs into positions of influence.

Say Yes to Education Buffalo

712 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.247.5310

www.sayyesbuffalo.org



Say Yes Buffalo is a landmark partnership that aims to provide a powerful engine for long-term economic development through radically improving the life course of public school students in the City of Buffalo. To do this, Say Yes Buffalo partnership combines a comprehensive K-12 support system with the incentive of locally funded postsecondary tuition scholarships to remove the barriers (financial, academic, social and health) to college access and success for youth in the City of Buffalo.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *A Holistic Approach to Education*

Say Yes to Education has extensive experience convening partners to find new ways to support students and families. This approach mirrors the Community Schools model, which understands that the entire community must come together in order to create an environment where students and families have the tools and opportunities they need to reach their full potential. The Cornell Fellow will work with the Community Schools team to develop data driven programming that is integrated in school-based, after-school, evening and Saturday activities—specifically for Parent Centers and Saturday Academies. The Fellow will review and revise the instruments used to collect data from the community and participants (surveys, focus group questions and observations) and systemize for administration and collection. Based on the data and analysis, s/he will identify gaps in services and providers, instructors, organizations to conduct workshops and programs based on identified needs. The Fellow will determine programming trends to align with the school's growth plan and school improvement plans. Finally, the Fellow will assist in the development of a best practice guide for this programming through research including updating an asset map for the targeted schools.

TOOLS FOR COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT

Partnership for the Public Good

617 Main Street,
Suite 300
Buffalo, NY 14203
716.852.4191

www.ppgbuffalo.org



The Partnership for the Public Good is working to build a more just, sustainable and culturally vibrant Greater Buffalo through action-oriented research, policy development and citizen engagement. With over 270 affiliated partners, PPG develops an annual Community Agenda of policy planks, hosts a weekly radio show, and produces publications and other resources to give the nonprofit community and citizens a stronger voice in public policy.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Checking Services*

PPG is a partner in the Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition (BNCRC), which works to ensure equal access to banking in Western New York, doing advocacy with local banks to improve their services to people with low and moderate incomes and people of color to help reverse the impacts of discrimination, segregation, redlining, and other practices. Many Buffalo residents lack checking accounts and must rely on high cost check cashing services and other fringe financial services. Others have checking accounts but suffer from high overdraft and insufficient funds fees. Many banks either do not offer good options for people with low incomes or offer options but do not market them. The High Road Fellow will become an expert on checking services for people with low incomes, including current fringe services in Buffalo-Niagara, current bank offerings, and best practices from around the country and experts. The Fellow will draft a policy brief for public release as well as use by BNCRC in advocating for better checking services. The Fellow will participate in BNCRC meetings and meet with Coalition partners, and will do research in the office as well as in the field. In addition to the policy brief the Fellow will provide other research and support for PPG's work with the BNCRC as needed.

Western New York Law Center

37 Franklin Street,
2nd floor
Buffalo, NY 14202
716.855.0203

www.wnylc.net



The WNY Law Center is a nonprofit legal services organization of legal professionals representing low-income people in a full range of civil matters. They engage in direct representation of homeowners facing foreclosure as well as in fair lending advocacy and education.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Campaign Strategy for Community Reinvestment*

The Western New York Law Center runs the Buffalo Niagara Community Reinvestment Coalition (BNCRC.) BNCRC is a coalition of local organizations that work to ensure equal access to banking in Western New York. As the Buffalo-Niagara region enters a renaissance, it is imperative that communities are not left behind. For generations low- to moderate-income communities and communities of color in the Buffalo-Niagara region have been stripped of necessary resources financial and housing, which has led to a cycle of poverty and deterioration of neighborhoods. The Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) is a United States federal law designed to encourage commercial banks and savings associations to help meet the needs of borrowers in all segments of their communities, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods. The summer High Roader will meet and survey local CRA officers about what they think and know about CBAs. She/he will then create a report of her/his findings that will help the BNCRC plan for future campaigns. The High Roader will also attend coalition meetings, and visit member sites.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Making Community Benefit Agreements Count*

Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) are complex, multi-party contracts that have primarily been used in for large development projects and land use. CBAs promote inclusiveness by providing a mechanism to ensure that a broad range of community concerns are heard and addressed. The summer High Roader will be working with BNCRC members to research CBAs across the country with a focus on instances where they have been negotiated with financial institutions. This will include examples of what communities have been able to get banks and financial institutions to agree to through CRA advocacy. S/he will compile a report with all the corresponding information including any scholarly articles on the subject.

A GREEN AND HEALTHY CITY

Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo

726 Exchange Street
Buffalo, NY 14210
716.852.2857
www.cfgb.org



The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo is a 501(c)3 public charity holding more than 800 different charitable funds, large and small, established by individuals, families, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to benefit Western New York. For over 95 years, the Community Foundation has carried out its mission of "connecting people, ideas and resources to improve the lives in Western New York" to achieve a "vibrant and inclusive Greater Buffalo region with opportunity for all." The Community Foundation directs resources to drive significant community change in the areas of education, equity, arts/culture and environment. Beyond grantmaking in these areas, the Community Foundation also acts as a community leader and convener to address specific pressing needs in our region.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Lead Poisoning Prevention through Lead-Safe Work Practices*

In at least four city of Buffalo zip codes, 40 percent of children tested from 2006 to 2014 had high blood lead levels, making Buffalo among the most dangerous lead hotspots in America. The rate of high lead tests in these areas was far worse – eight times greater – than that found among children across Flint, Michigan, during that city's recent water crisis. The Community Action Plan for Lead, released in March 2018, identified lead in paint as the major source of lead poisoning in the Buffalo region. With that in mind, one recommendation from the report is for the State to take over the administration and enforcement of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) rule, whose purpose is to minimize exposure from lead based paint during renovation, repair or painting activities. The Fellow will be responsible for a research project that will culminate in a report and presentation to the Lead Poisoning Prevention Statewide Advocacy Network. The report will include a financial analysis of how the RRP Program is working in the 14 States that have adopted the administration and enforcement of RRP.

Learning Disabilities Association of WNY

2555 Elmwood Avenue
Kenmore, NY 14217
716.874.7200
www.ldaofwny.org



The Learning Disabilities Association of WNY is a parent and client led, professionally managed organization that assists individuals in gaining as much independence as their abilities allow. LDA provides an array of supports to individuals with learning disabilities, neurological impairments and other such disabilities. LDA programming includes service coordination (case management), leisure skill building, job coaching, residential services, and an art studio and gallery.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Lead 716*

Project and activities description: The Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York has long supported school-age children in Western New York. Last year LDA launched LEAD716 to offer critically-needed early intervention to preschool children in Western New York diagnosed with elevated blood lead levels. Two other agencies in WNY align well with this mission: The Parent Network and EPIC (Every Person Influences Children). The three agencies want to evaluate the potential for future projects and collaborations that could help to better serve children in this community.

Partnership for the Public Good

617 Main Street,
Suite 300
Buffalo, NY 14203
716.852.4191

www.ppgbuffalo.org



The Partnership for the Public Good is working to build a more just, sustainable and culturally vibrant Greater Buffalo through action-oriented research, policy development and citizen engagement. With over 270 affiliated partners, PPG develops an annual Community Agenda of policy planks, hosts a weekly radio show, and produces publications and other resources to give the nonprofit community and citizens a stronger voice in public policy.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Healthy Housing: Lead Poisoning Prevention*

PPG is working with three partner organizations on a project for the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo regarding health equity through healthy homes for all, with a focus on lead poisoning. The project includes:

- story collection to shift perceptions around lead poisoning and healthy homes;
- targeted messaging development for both advocacy and direct service on lead poisoning;
- training for health workers, advocates and partners, and direct service workers;
- shared leadership, learning, and advocacy convening with key partners, including the Racial Equity Roundtable, Lead Safe Task Force, city and county officials, and others;
- meetings with city and county officials on the implementation of policy changes from the Lead Action plan, in coordination with the Lead Safe Task Force.

The High Road Fellow will work as part of the project team, with an emphasis on the messaging development. The work product will include community education and advocacy materials, such as fact sheets, posters, social media posts, etc. designed to communicate key information about lead poisoning to non-experts. Different materials will be tailored to different audiences, including policy makers, media, and different resident populations, including recent immigrants and refugees.

Western New York Environmental Alliance

617 Main Street,
Suite 300
Buffalo, NY 14203
510.847.3374

www.growwny.org



The WNY Environmental Alliance is an independent, member-run organization with a mission to mobilize change through collective action and collaboration, in order to ensure sustainable, thriving ecosystems and communities in Western New York. With more than 100 member organizations, affiliates and supporters, the WNYEA wants to ensure that the environment is the key factor in local and regional planning.

2019 Summer Fellowship Project: *Telling the Stories of Regeneration*

Buffalo Niagara is writing a new story about itself – a story about how an old “rust belt” region is retooling itself in the 21st century to meet the real challenge of how to live more sustainably in an era of economic instability, social inequality, and the environmental uncertainty of climate change. The Fellow will conduct in-depth interviews with identified member and partner organizations, spotlighting their “Story of Regeneration” with a photo and audio app (Pixtore) as well as a narrative that tells the story through their eyes. This will be a qualitative research exercise to help tell the “Stories of Regeneration”. The Fellow will analyze existing documentation of the campaigns and initiatives, attend related events or informational sessions, and write a narrative to describe the work being done, and help the broader public have access to these stories. In addition to the contributing to “Stories of Regeneration”, the Fellow will also develop a Youth & Climate Justice Outreach & Communications Library.