Policy Advocate Externship (unpaid; 10 – 20 hours per week)

Our Work

Break the Cycle is a culturally affirming, national nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire and support young people to build healthy relationships and create a culture without abuse. With a dynamic and diverse team that believes all young people deserve to live in a world where they can thrive, our values and work are centered in young people and their lived realities, leadership, vision, and hopes for the future. We aspire to deepen our programs and catalyze social change so that all young people can move through the world with dignity and respect.

Position Description

The Policy Advocate Extern shares Break the Cycle’s goal of centering our work in young people and their lived realities, leadership, and vision. This is a full year externship with some flexibility between 8 and 12 months. The Policy Advocate Extern will engage in policy advocacy activities with the goal of ending the cycle of relationship abuse in youths’ lives and aiding youth advocates and youth-focused support organizations by creating tools and resources to assist in successful advocacy campaigns. The policy extern may have the opportunity to participate in advocacy activities on behalf of youth on both the local and national level, including conducting research on local policy issues, participating in the drafting of legislation, providing testimony, drafting blog posts, creating tool kits, speaking on panels and at other public advocacy events and many other activities. The policy extern will also have the opportunity to attend local and national advocacy meetings and participate in other Break the Cycle outreach activities.

Major Tasks:

- Researching policy matters impacting on youth and their safety;
- Drafting policy/legislation to support the goal of ending relationship based abuse in the lives of youth and to create greater protections for survivors of dating abuse, sexual assault and stalking;
- Engaging in testimony and other public advocacy on behalf of youth and youth survivors;
- Engaging in online advocacy, including drafting blogs and creating and participating in BTC’s social media campaigns;
- Creating tool kits and other resources for youth advocates and youth focused support systems to support policy advocacy initiatives;
- Attending local and national policy advocacy meetings;
- Conducting listening sessions;
- Assisting with BTC’s outreach initiatives; and
• Other tasks as may be assigned.

Qualifications:

• Bachelor’s degree in legal studies, political science, administration, policy or other related field. Graduate students in legal or policy related field in need of externship credit encouraged to apply;
• Deep knowledge of dating abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, and school policies and procedures;
• Experience advocating around issue of dating abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking;
• Strong organization and interpersonal communication skills;
• Big picture” oriented and creative;
• Experience working with young people ages 12-24;
• Strong research and writing skills;
• Strong public speaking skills;
• Strong organizational, administration, telephone and interpersonal communication skills;
• Professional demeanor, flexible, and able to respond to multiple demands at once;
• Able and willing to take responsibility and be a self-starter
• Fluency in Spanish a plus.

Salary & Benefits
This is an unpaid, part-time (10 - 25 hours a week) position.

To apply, email resume and cover letter to jobs@breakthecycle.org.

Break the Cycle is an equal opportunity employer. Please visit breakthecycle.org to view our Equal Opportunity Employment Practices.