Carlson Leadership & Public Service Center
Community Based Internships

Carlson Center Undergraduate Community Based Internships (UCBI) create outstanding partnerships between dedicated undergraduate students and non-profit and public sector organizations that are actively engaging in community-led work and reflecting on power, privilege, and oppression in the greater community and within their own organizations. This pilot program, funded by the University of Washington, invites collaboration and eliminates financial barriers: organizations receive support from student interns, while students interested in public service are supported to explore this career path by receiving an educational stipend that enables them to embark on an internship experience.

As partners, community organizations will:

• Collaborate with the Carlson Center to interview and select UCBI interns
• Engage UCBI interns in concrete work assignments that help address interests and needs identified by the community
• Serve as co-educators of talented University of Washington undergraduates by providing orientation and training and ongoing mentorship and supervision
• Benefit from the enthusiasm, and unique personal and professional experiences of UCBI interns

As Undergraduate Community Based Interns, students will:

• Work on a focus project collaboratively developed by the organization and the student. The focus project should respond to the community and organization strengths and needs and the student's skills and interests.
• Participate in individual and group reflection on internship experiences, ethical leadership, and personal and professional development
• Develop a final presentation to staff and community members about their personal and professional growth as a result of this internship
• Receive an educational stipend from the UW for their time dedicated to the internship and reflective learning activities.

As the sponsor of this Community Based Internship, the Carlson Center will:

• Provide coordination and support for host agencies and UCBI interns
• Collaborate with the UW Career Center and the Husky Leadership Initiative to provide personal and professional training to UCBI interns; training topics will be responsive to community and student needs and assets and will include skill and career development, equity, and social justice