



Public Policy & Advocacy Internship (Remote)

Our public policy and advocacy interns support IHRRC's efforts in pursuit of our mission to enact community-centered and intersectional policy reforms to prevent overdose death, reduce the harms associated with substance use, improve access to treatment, promote racial equity, and advance public health rather than a criminal justice approach. Interns help coordinate and implement state-focused legislative, education, and communications activities that fulfill our ultimate vision of eliminating stigma against people who use drugs and upholding every individual's sense of dignity and well-being.

In addition, our interns work with local, state, and federal legislators to promote and enact laws dedicated to helping advance peer-led harm reduction and recovery support services and working to eliminate policies that perpetuate the drug war. The Public Policy & Advocacy Intern is a part-time position with the standard hours for the spring term at 10-20 hours per week. A stipend is included. Start and end times are flexible, depending on the intern's academic calendar and finals schedule.

Position Description

The Public Policy & Advocacy Intern executes essential tasks focused on supporting the needs of our public policy professionals, advocates, and coalition members. The Intern will also be expected to draft materials as needed, including research memos, fact sheets, presentations, and digital campaigns (i.e., press advisories, social media outreach, and email marketing). Interns may be asked to review and summarize policy documents. In addition, the intern will assist IHRRC's Policy & Advocacy Team in their general work to identify and pursue policy change through the Illinois General Assembly.

General Responsibilities:

- Communicate and coordinate advocacy activities with the Policy & Advocacy Committee and IHRRC's advocacy community;
- Support the Team (Coalition Coordinator, Founders, Executive Committee Members & P/A Committee) in their correspondence with governmental agencies, stakeholders, coalitions/associations, and other elected offices;
- Provide the Team with general research, facts, and materials regarding harm reduction, recovery, and the drug war; and maintain our database of documents and resources.
- Help drafting memos, policy statements, and letters to government officials as needed;



- Work with the Team to design and implement digital marketing efforts, conduct press outreach, prepare for press conferences, and provide core messaging training for advocates;
- Assist with administrative and data input tasks as needed.

Qualifications:

- Current undergraduate or graduate student (required qualification);
- Strong writing, research, analytical, and organizational skills;
- Strong interest in public health and policy work;
- Demonstrated interest in the issue of the overdose crisis, harm reduction and recovery, and ending the drug war;
- Proficient in Canva, Google Suite, and social media platforms;
- Strong interpersonal skills and a team-player attitude.

TO APPLY:

Please email the following information to illinoisharmreduction@gmail.com with the subject line, "Public Policy & Advocacy Internship":

- Cover letter
- Resume
- Writing Sample

When you work for IHRRC, you're joining a team of people with lived/living experience, experts, and professionals who stand up for people who use drugs daily. Your job is important--and so are you. IHRRC will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, genetic information, disability, or protected veteran status. IHRRC is committed to maximizing the diversity of its organization, depends on a diverse staff to carry out its mission, and encourages all qualified candidates to apply.