

Whatcom Peace & Justice Center

Practicum: Intern

Salary: \$13.69 per hour, 24 hours/week for 10 weeks (*paid by Office of Sustainability*)

Supervisor: Aline Prata, Executive Director

Period of Employment: June 21, 2021 – August 27, 2021

Overview

The Whatcom Peace & Justice Center is a small intersectional nonprofit organization that works to create a voice for peace and social justice in Whatcom County through partnerships with local community and religious organizations, direct action, public witness, and education on alternatives to violence and war. We call on our government and society to disavow policies of violence and seek a culture of peace.

The idea for the Whatcom Peace & Justice Center (WPJC) came about in early 2002 among participants of the Bellingham Peace Vigil, the nation's longest-running weekly peace vigil (1967-present). WPJC began under the sponsorship of the Bellingham Quakers and received its own non-profit status in February 2005. The center was formed not only to address U.S. aggression against the people of Afghanistan and the invasion of Iraq, but to establish an organization fostering nonviolence as a way of life and as a tool of domestic and foreign policy. Since then, the Center has continued to evolve as a movement incubator, resource center and intergenerational activist hub for the community.

As an intern, you will be involved in all aspects of our work, from helping to plan and run programs such as Alternatives to Military programs and International Day of Peace, to developing digital marketing materials, and supporting fundraising efforts for the center. In August, we will be preparing for our biggest fundraiser and educational event of the year: our annual International Day of Peace commemoration. Last year, we raised 25% of our annual budget through a weekend of virtual events titled "[No Justice No Peace](#)", which brought together as keynote speakers former Seattle Black Panther Party co-founder Aaron Dixon and Portland historian, artist and author, Walidah Imarisha for an intergenerational dialogue about radical imagination, structural racism and state sanctioned violence. For more on what we do click [here](#).

Responsibilities

Actual duties will depend on program priorities at the time of the internship and the interns interest in developing their own project, but potential projects include:

- Clerical tasks; support office functions and membership relations including welcoming visitors, managing phone calls, scheduling meetings, and supporting fundraising educational and/or organizing efforts.
- Contribute to “The Dove” bi-weekly newsletter and WPJC blog.
- Assist with general planning, organization, coordination, and promotion of WPJC events.
- Create informational brochures/pamphlets to enhance the resources and outreach focus of the WPJC.
- Attend all WPJC events and help coordinate volunteers and community partners at those events.
- Join and support International Day of Peace’s planning committee
- Support the development of a virtual program for Alternatives to Military Service.

Required Qualifications and Experience

- Commitment to social justice and community organizing.
- Willingness to work with a diverse cross-section of Whatcom County community members including elders, youth, business owners and the general public.
- Computer Skills: Word, Excel, Outlook, Google Drive, etc.
- Ability to work creatively; independently as well as in group situations.
- Interpersonal communication skills, including written and verbal.
- BIPOC, working class and LGBTQIA+ people strongly encouraged to apply
- *Not required, but encouraged:*
 - o *Social media management*
 - o *Familiarity with Canva and Mailchimp*
 - o *Website management and design*
 - o *Fundraising and donor’s stewardship*
 - o *Marketing and/or journalism*
 - o *Graphic design (i.e. through Canva, Adobe, etc.)*
 - o *Zoom & digital webinar proficiency*

Educational/Professional Benefits

- Flexible internship opportunity with a small, local nonprofit organization.
- Chance to find community and work alongside local human rights advocates and long-time community activists under direction of a five-member volunteer board of directors.
- As the WPJC Communication and Community Outreach intern you can gain new skills and experiences essential to pursuing a career path in the non-profit sector, while also gaining a critical perspective of the corporate and exploitative aspects of the nonprofit-industrial-complex.
- Learn about community-centric fundraising strategies, donor stewardship, NGO management, marketing, and the local history of grassroots community organizing in Bellingham.
- Network with other organizations and groups relating to social justice and demilitarization.