



Social Justice Internship Sites

This document provides a list of several social justice-oriented organizations in the region which offer internship placements. For each organization, you'll find a description of their work, along with contact info and/or links where you can find additional information.

Boston GLASS

- GLASS provides a continuum of services to LGBTQ+ youth of color and their allies in the Greater Boston and Greater Framingham areas. Their continuum of services model aims to address a young person's immediate needs, equip them with tools to make healthy decisions and live fulfilling lives, and help create communities in which they can thrive. Services they provide include: Drop-in community centers for LGBTQ+ youth of color between the ages of 13–25; Culturally responsive behavioral health services like mental health support and clinical case management; Free and confidential prevention and testing services for HIV, Hepatitis C, and sexually transmitted infections, as well as Safer Sex kits; Educational opportunities, field trips and social events, one-on-one mentorship, and leadership and employment opportunities
 - o Location: Boston
 - o More information: https://jri.org/services/health-and-housing/health/boston-glass?gclid=Cj0KCQjwhtT1BRCiARIsAGIY51KNyH4Gs3-qMns9oxhGmLn_hjWGmnAQGOS7ARaDVr3dv8n7xZV5_8IaAkRJEALw_wcB

Framingham GLASS

- The Mission of GLASS is to improve the well-being of LGBTQ+ youth of color and their allies by providing a continuum of services that addresses their immediate needs, equips them with tools to make healthy decisions and live fulfilling lives, and helps create communities in which they can thrive. Framingham GLASS actualizes this mission through the provision of groups and activities in our community drop-in space, health navigation services, peer support, services specifically for QYOC living with HIV, free access to safer sex supplies and harm reduction supplies, community education, 1-on-1 direct support, community partnerships, and seamless integration with other Program RISE services: STI/HIV Testing, STI treatment, PrEP and PEP, Medical and Housing Case Management, peer support, and our Syringe Services Program.
- Internships at GLASS are considered on a case-by-case basis. In addition to a) an internship reflection journal b) regular supervision and c) all-staff expected tasks, such as safer sex kit assembly, internship responsibilities are entirely dependent on the individual intern; responsibilities are designated through a collaboration between the LGBTQ+ Program Manager and the intern in identifying a compelling blend of projects and tasks that a) reflect the intern's personal and professional interests while b) contributing directly to the needs and mission of GLASS. Potential intern candidates should be comfortable working independently, have some clarity about their passions/interests, and prepared to discuss why and how they would be a good fit in a program serving primarily LGBTQ+ youth of color.
 - o Location: Framingham
 - o Contact information: LB Moore, 508-935-2960 x2564, lbmoore@jri.org

Discovering Hidden Gems

- Discovering Hidden Gems in a youth-focused organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of at-risk youth through recreational and educational experiences. Each program they offer targets the development of skills to help each child reach their full potential and every event is created to implement community engagement and inclusion. Programs included: **Planeta Infantil:** Weekly morning bilingual group to introduce the Spanish language. The program helps promote school readiness skills. Activities will include sing-along, story time, sensory activities, and body movement. **Lounge Fridays:** Weekly evening group to provide our youth access to recreational activities that target the development of interpersonal skills and positive self-image. Activities include Game Night, Spoken Word, Yoga class, paint night, etc. **Dance Team:** We are providing our youth the opportunity to experience self-expression through dance. Participants are introduced to a variety of dance types and they learn about the origin of each. As a result, our youth will gain knowledge about dance culture, exercise, and use dancing as a coping strategy. They will practice skills that help them become leaders and also work as a team.
 - o Location: Framingham
 - o More information: <http://www.discoveringhiddengems.org/>

OUT Metrowest

- OUT Metrowest is dedicated to building communities where LGBTQ+ youth thrive. It values affirming LGBTQ+ identities through positive role modeling, challenging ableism, classism, misogyny, racism, and other systems of oppression, creating supportive spaces where LGBTQ+ youth can be themselves, respecting, embracing, and celebrating diversity, and treating people with care and compassion. OUT Metrowest offers three programs for youth: **Nexus** is OUT MetroWest's program for LGBTQ+ and allied middle school youth. Open to all youth in grades 6-8, Nexus provides a safe space to explore questions relating to sexual orientation and gender identity. Meetings include a light dinner along with check-ins, group discussions, and diverse activities. **Umbrella** is a trans-facilitated program for transgender and gender non-conforming high school youth. Umbrella is a supportive, social, and educational group facilitated by trans adults. Non-binary, transgender, genderqueer, gender-bending, gender-expansive, agender, and questioning are just some of the gender identities you'll find among Umbrella participants. **WAGLY** is our program for all LGBTQ+ and allied high school youth. Meetings provide social connection and education in a fun, safe atmosphere. A clinician from Wayside Youth & Family Support Network is present on-site at WAGLY meetings. The organization also offers weekly drop-in hours for LGBTQ+ and allied youth at our Framingham office and a variety of educational workshops on topics related to LGBTQ+ youth.
 - o Location: Framingham
 - o More information: <https://outmetrowest.org/>

Youth on Fire

- Youth on Fire (YOF is a drop-in center for homeless and street-involved youth, ages 14-24, located in Harvard Square, Cambridge. Annually, Youth on Fire serves over 200 young adults who make over 3,000 visits to the center, and connects members to: 4,000 meals and snacks, 2,376 check-in conversations, 216 HIV/STI tests, 123 housing support referrals, 50 Narcan/Overdose prevention enrollments. The program seeks to respond to the basic and urgent needs of homeless and street-involved young adults at highest risk of communicable diseases and victimization, connect homeless and street-involved youth to age-appropriate services including on-site behavioral health and medical care through strengths-based case management, create safe and supportive relationships and a sense of community through activities, events and groups, partner with community and civic organizations, local businesses, public officials and advocacy groups to address the short and long-term effects of youth homelessness. YOF provides a broad spectrum of vital services, supports and opportunities based on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and Positive Youth Development principles. Core elements of YOF's three-tiered service delivery system include the following: **Tier 1 Services:** a) hot meals; b) showers; c) laundry; d) lockers; e) voice-mail and phone; and f) computers in a safe and welcoming drop-in center. **Tier 2 Supports:** a) behavioral health services; b) medical care; c) HIV, STI and viral hepatitis screenings; d) housing search; e) enrollment in health insurance and benefits; f) educational workshops; and g) supported referrals for other self-identified needs. **Tier 3 Opportunities:** a) Peer Outreach and Education program; b) Youth Advisory Board; c) Speaker's Bureau; d) art and talent shows; e) Hiring Committee; and f) Community Give Back Days, in which members clean up the surrounding neighborhoods of Youth on Fire and Harvard Square.
 - o Location: Cambridge
 - o More information: <https://aac.org/youth-on-fire/>
 - o Contact information: 617-661-2508, yof@fenwayhealth.org

Justice Resource Institute:

JRI is a leader in social justice, with over 90 diverse programs meeting the needs of underserved individuals, families and communities. JRI offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities for volunteers and interns to work in their community. Our volunteers may read to children in a homeless shelter, mentor teens, provide clerical help, repair and paint our facilities, interpret, facilitate workshops or assist elders. Because of the 90 diverse programs within JRI, over 120 student interns join us each year. Their education interests include social work, psychology, education, counseling, nursing, public relations and administrative assistance. We are a teaching organization and value the opportunity to supervise interns.

- Anyone interested in an internship with JRI can reach out to for more information:
 - o Heather DePalma, 508-821-7777 x3132, hdepalma@jri.org

Some of the specific programs that Sociology/Criminology students might be interested in include (but are not limited to):

Anchor Academy

- Anchor Academy is a special education, therapeutic day school that serves school aged students between the ages of 10-22. The curriculum prepares students for high school graduation and transition to post-secondary education, career or vocational training. Anchor Academy promotes a transformational learning experience for students who require alternative pathways for educational and emotional success and growth. The clinical framework provides students with opportunities to increase self-awareness,

develop skills needed to regulate, and access various levels of educational and emotional support.

- Location: Middleboro
- Contact information: Lauren Cohen, 508-947-0131 x3765, lcohen@jri.org

Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County

- CAC provides a coordinated response to disclosures and allegations of child sexual abuse, severe physical abuse and witness to violence. Populations served include children (ages infant-18) and adults with intellectual disabilities (ages 18+). Working closely with a multi-disciplinary team (MDT), comprised of law enforcement, Massachusetts Department of Children & Families, Bristol County District Attorney's office, Massachusetts Pedi-SANE program and community-based agencies, the center provides free and direct services to children and families from any of the 20 towns and cities in Bristol County, Massachusetts.
 - Location: Bristol County
 - Contact information: Cathy Rutkowski, 508-674-6111 x103, crutkowski@jri.org

Children's Friend and Family Services – Lawrence Site

- CFFS understands that there's no such thing as a perfect family. At some point, we'll all be affected by one hardship or another. While no one is impervious to the strains of family life, not all families have the resources to deal with them. In many cases, some of those challenges are just too difficult to handle alone. That's why CFFS is here. Everyday CFFS workers come to work ready to help people who span the socio-economic scope improve their lives and better their families. Using evidence-based, cutting-edge treatments, CFFS responds to the needs of the children and families in our communities. It works with people of all ages and all genders.
 - Location: Lawrence
 - Contact information: Amy Ackroyd, aackroyd@jri.org

Early Childhood Training & Consultation

- Early Childhood Training and Consultation (ECTC) is composed of a multi-disciplinary team of early childhood, mental health, education, and special education professionals who partner with childcare programs and families to support the healthy development of young children. ECTC professionals provide training and consultation to childcare programs, providers, and families with children ages birth through 14.
 - Location: Taunton
 - Contact information: Stacey Gay, 774-501-7715, sgay@jri.org

FOCUS

- The FOCUS Program provides temporary emergency shelter, diversion services, case management, and stabilization services to families in southeastern Mass. who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless.
 - Location: Bristol County
 - Contact information: Bonnie Paiva, 608-617-4359, bpaiva@jri.org

Journey Home

- Journey Home is a therapeutic intensive group home for adolescent males who with support and treatment are ready to live and participate in a community setting. These youth typically exceed lengths of stay in other settings, yet with appropriate focus on fostering self regulation and building competencies they will be able to transition back into the community to reunify with family or another identified community based living situation.

The goal of Journey Home is to provide individualized intensive services to improve their relationships and maximize their strengths. A trauma informed approach (ARC) across all levels of services aids in the success of each individual youth. Journey Home empowers young men as they begin their journey of hope, discovery and learning to navigate through the obstacles of life by providing a safe, therapeutic and engaging environment on their road home.

- Location: Attleboro
- Contact information: Hayley Bergen and Joanna Stumper, 508-479-1119, hbergen@jri.org, jstumper@jri.org

Lindencroft

- The Lindencroft intensive group home serves adolescent females ages 12-18 through a comprehensive network of trauma-informed (ARC) services, including community living, behavioral treatment, therapeutic recreation, competency development, and family, group, and individual therapy. Emphasis is placed on educational, vocational, competency, therapeutic recreational, wellness, daily living skills, and developing and maintaining safe and appropriate relationships. Equal emphasis is directed toward clarifying values, improving self-esteem, strengthening socialization skills and learning how to network and access community resources and supports. Services are individually tailored to meet the diverse and individual needs of each specific youth.
 - Location: Berkley
 - Contact information: Kelly Davenport, kdavenport@jri.org

Meadowridge Academy

- Meadowridge Academy is a comprehensive therapeutic residential school located on 6.2 acres in rural MA. Students range from low to average and high cognitive functioning, and may have learning disabilities as well as medical fragility. Meadowridge Academy strives to make a positive difference in the lives of our students through individualized care and strengths based, trauma informed treatment. We use the ARC model to help students build positive relationships, learn and practice self regulation skills, and transform their individual interests into sources of strength, resiliency and success. We partner with families and communities to meet each student's individual needs while providing endless opportunities for exploration, growth and independence. We provide comprehensive treatment through a multidisciplinary team approach that includes clinical, educational, vocational, residential, psychiatric and nursing services. Our unique focus on sensory regulation, vocational training and animal assisted interventions are integral in the success of our students.
 - Location: Swansea
 - Contact information: Eric Lunn, 508-677-0304 x3512, elunn@jri.org

Pelham Academy

- Pelham Academy is a therapeutic residential school located in historic Lexington, Mass. We serve adolescent females who have struggled in previous home, community, and academic settings, and come to us with social, emotional, behavioral, and academic challenges, and histories of complex trauma. Pelham uses a strength-based model that identifies the unique capacities of the individuals and families we serve. We believe that all of our students, given the opportunities and care they need, are capable of leading healthy, fulfilling lives. Within a structured, nurturing environment, our students receive individualized support from our multi-disciplinary staff, who provide care that is collaborative, holistic, and goal-oriented. Within the safety and structure of a home-like environment and a supportive community,

our students find a sense of belonging and a strengthened sense of self, allowing them to realize their potential and move forward from Pelham Academy with a renewed sense of hope for the future.

- Location: Lexington
- Contact information: Heidi Crampton, 781-274-6800 x3701

Rediscovery House

- Rediscovery House is a pre-independent living, community based group home with a 1:4 staff to youth ratio which supports youth who are preparing to age out state custody. Caregivers are on site 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide structure and guidance. The house provides a stable, safe, and supportive home like environment for young men, while also allowing them to integrate into the community. Youth are evaluated according to a natural consequences guided by the clinical framework of ARC in supporting goal attainment. The young men are also encouraged to spend time in the community in order to learn how to appropriately interact with others and follow community standards.
 - Location: Waltham
 - Contact information: Melanie Burke, mburke@jri.org

STRIVE

- STRIVE Boston is a Workforce Readiness program that envisions a world where everyone has the opportunity to achieve economic self-sufficiency, dignity, and a promising future. STRIVE Boston helps chronically unemployed men and women realize their potential to find and keep jobs that promise sustainable livelihoods and personal growth. STRIVE has programs that are devoted to helping adults (START program) and youth (Future Leaders Program).
 - Location: Boston
 - Contact information: Kathy Traylor, 617-825-1800, ktraylor@jri.org

Total Achievement Program

- The Total Achievement Program (TAP) provides intensive community-based, therapeutic support for children with mental health challenges to avert psychiatric hospitalization or out-of-home placements. TAP offers individualized goal-setting, support, and services to at-risk children to help them develop the social and adaptive skills necessary to function appropriately at home, at school, and in the community. The program offers an after-school program, week-long activities during school break, and a comprehensive summer schedule. TAP's consistent and structured schedule includes homework assistance, outside activity, and daily group therapy. This provides the children with a sense of safety and opportunities to develop skills for managing their environment and learning new ways to interact with others. In addition, the staff works closely with parents and collaterals in order to develop a clinically appropriate treatment plan, which is personalized to the child's needs and strengths. Children typically attend the program for 9 to 15 months, based on the unique needs of each individual child.
 - Location: Norton, New Bedford, Fall River, Plymouth, Yarmouthport
 - Contact information:
 - Bridget Hennessey, Sherry White, Sulwa Lima, Cara Kuczarski, Patricia Biffar
 - 508-672-4349, 508-420-7401, 774-425-4808, 508-285-4364 x201, 508-747-0402
 - bhennessey@jri.org, swhite@jri.org, slima@jri.org, ckuczarski@jri.org, pbiffar@jri.org

Victor School

- At The Victor School, an exceptional education and specialized therapeutic attention go hand in hand. Our students are intellectually gifted and have social/emotional challenges that have been under served in previous school settings. Our unique program allows students to continue their college-preparatory education within a supportive environment in which they can learn, grow, and succeed.
 - o Location: Acton
 - o Contact information: Wendy Rosenblum, wrosenblum@jri.org

Walden Street School

- Walden Street School is a trauma-informed therapeutic residential school for females who are struggling with significant past trauma or organic mental illness. Through our individualized treatment approach, our students are able to heal while creating positive personal-growth opportunities that build a strong core of internal skill sets, encourage individual talents, build self-esteem, and create healthy relationships.
 - o Location: Concord
 - o Contact information: Caylie Andrews, 978-369-7611 x205, candrews@jri.org

Youth Harbors

- The YouthHarbors program serves homeless, unaccompanied high school students who statistically are 87% more likely than their housed peers to drop out of high school. YouthHarbors works to ensure that these youth are safely housed so they can concentrate on school, and that they are given all the tools and skills they need to be able to focus on their future and achieve success. The YouthHarbors program works because it operates with a dynamic, can-do attitude and meets youth where they are, using a wrap-around service delivery model to meet each youth's individual needs.
 - o Location: Waltham
 - o Contact information: Jonathan Regis, 617-270-3934, jregis@jri.org