

Global Health Justice Partnership

Sex Worker Health and Rights Project in New Haven:

Call for Applications

The [Global Health Justice Partnership](#) (GHJP) is a program hosted jointly by Yale Law School (YLS) and Yale School of Public Health (YSPH) that tackles contemporary problems at the interface of global health, human rights, and social justice.

For spring 2019, the GHJP is looking for 2-3 graduate or professional school students to join our project on local sex worker health and rights for practicum or independent study credit. Please read the description below for a full project overview, position details and desired qualifications, and application instructions. Applications are due by Monday, January 14.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

For the past several years, the GHJP has been engaged in national and global work to support the health and rights of people involved in the sex sector. While the work began as a [national research project](#) on criminal laws impacting people who sell sex and on court-based “prostitution diversion” processes, in recent years the GHJP has partnered with a New Haven-based grassroots harm reduction organization led by and for current and former street-based sex worker communities called the [Sex Workers and Allies Network](#) (SWAN). With commitments to working ethically and in politically-conscious ways with sex workers and other historically marginalized communities, and with awareness of our positioning as Yale academics in New Haven, the GHJP has entered into several local projects in collaboration with SWAN.

These projects collectively function to enhance SWAN’s capacity to advocate for and serve the needs of people involved in selling sex on the streets of New Haven. One component of the collaboration involves research and analysis into a city-led criminal “diversion” initiative taking root in New Haven under the rubric of a pre-arrest/pre-booking model known as LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion). The GHJP supports SWAN in developing engagement and advocacy strategies with New Haven’s pilot LEAD program in order to increase the accountability and transparency of the City and other actors (police, prosecutors, service providers, etc.) as well as create mechanisms for meaningful community input into the program. For detailed information on our work related to LEAD thus far, please visit our watch site: <https://leadwatchsite.wixsite.com/newhaven>. The other major aspect of the GHJP partnership with SWAN involves supporting them in developing, implementing and analyzing a peer-led needs assessment survey that will help SWAN better understand the NH service landscape and gaps in social and structural resources for their communities.

In 2019, the GHJP will be working with SWAN to continue building and investing in the current set of projects that are ongoing as well as any new efforts as they arise.

POSITION DETAILS AND DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

We are seeking graduate and professional school students to join this project in spring 2019 (undergraduate students may not apply). While the commitment is only for the spring semester (~5-10

hours per week), we will give preference to qualified students who have interest in continuing project work in the next academic year. The project is designed to engage public health, legal, and policy approaches, though students from other disciplines are also encouraged to apply.

Practicum or independent study credit is available. There is no didactic or seminar competent to this project, but the team will meet regularly (1-2x/week) at the Yale Law School for supervision. The project is supervised by Alice Miller (GHJP Co-Director), Poonam Daryani (GHJP Clinical Fellow) and Senior GHJP Students. The project is quick-paced with time-sensitive deadlines, so an ability to work both collaboratively as well as independently is required.

We are looking for students who have:

- Interest in learning about and engaging with local city politics and institutions
- Interest in local criminal legal system policies and practices, including the state of policing in NH
- Experience using Qualtrics and skills in qualitative and quantitative data analysis (for the peer-led needs assessment)
- Competency in engaging ethically with grassroots community-based organizations and an understanding of the dynamics and histories of structural oppression, criminalization and over-policing, trauma, addiction and discrimination that may impact traditionally marginalized communities (including people who trade sex, people who use drugs, people who are homeless, etc.)
- Interest in working with an interdisciplinary team to address local questions of health and rights justice

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply, please send us a copy of your resume and a cover letter (max one page single spaced) no later than Monday, January 14, 2019. Application materials and any questions should be sent to both alice.miller@yale.edu (GHJP Co-Director) and poonam.daryani@yale.edu (GHJP Clinical Fellow).