Title of Project: Main South Byrne Criminal Justice Initiative (BCJI) Project

Main Contact: Casey Starr, mstarr@mainsouthcdc.org, 508-752-6181

Duration: Minimum of 180 hours.

Deadline: April 1, 2017

Location: The Main South CDC office, located at 875 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01610

Position Description:
The LEEP intern would be working directly on the Main South Byrne Criminal Justice Initiative project. The Main South CDC received a grant from the DOJ to undertake programs and strategies intended to address neighborhood crime and create a community with a higher perception of safety. The project is funded for two years of implementation, which started in the summer of 2016. The LEEP student will work with project staff to plan, outreach, and execute several programs under this project. Specifically, the expectation is that the LEEP student will focus on the following three strategies/programs: Community Mobilization, Main South Youth Service Corps, and the programming of University Park.

Activities in the Community Mobilization domain is really around community organizing, and the LEEP student will work with our Community Organizer to outreach for and attend community meetings, and organize and participate in neighborhood events and community beautification projects. This will include partaking in all outreach stages, i.e. creating marketing materials, media outreach, door-to-door, etc.

The Main South Youth Corps is a 27-week program that focuses on job readiness, leadership development, and neighborhood stewardship. This program is for 14-16 years old youth who live in a specific geographical area in Main South. The Main South Youth Corps provides youth with opportunities for resume building, skill-based trainings (i.e. First Aid, Gardening, Marketing, and many more), job and college readiness, time and money management, while receiving a bi-weekly paycheck ($11/hour per Massachusetts minimum wages requirements) for their participation and involvement in program sessions and projects. The LEEP student will work with the MSYC Coordinator to identify neighborhood projects, community partners, speaker presentations, and workshops/trainings as well as to conduct recruitment for the 2017-2018 MSYC’s cohort.

Through this initiative the Main South CDC is focusing a lot of attention on University Park and, specifically, is planning on working to program University Park to create opportunities for families to use this important neighborhood asset. The agency is very excited to have the LEEP student work with us on this part of the project and also help to identify some ways to engage more Clark students to use the park more frequently.

This will be a great learning opportunity for a student. He/She/They will be exposed to community organizing, event planning, community development, youth development, and will work in collaboration with several agencies and the different city departments.

Qualifications:

- Familiarity and respect for the Main South neighborhood
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to multitask
Housing: Housing will not be provided. Students are responsible for finding their own housing.

For more info: Please, visit: www.mainsouthcdc.org

Funding: $2500 Available through the LEEP Fellows Program.

How to Apply:
Please send resume and cover letter to Casey Starr at mstarr@mainsouthcdc.org.

To apply for LEEP Funding and to be considered as a LEEP fellow, students must secure the position and complete the LEEP Fellows Application Process by March 3, 2017 (for early decision) or April 14th, 2017. Students will be required to submit a resume, cover letter, and a proposal outlining how they will complete their project.

Additional position information is available through Clark Recruiter. (Recommendation letters should be emailed directly to rmaddox@clarku.edu)

About the Organization:
The Main South CDC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that was incorporated in 1986. It evolved as a result of neighborhood residents’ concerns about the evident decline in the neighborhood and the increasing shortage of affordable housing.

The Mission of the Main South CDC is to improve the quality of life for ourselves, our families, and our neighbors by working together on projects and issues that will maintain and/or create safe affordable housing for low-to-moderate income individuals, support economic opportunities for businesses and residents of Main South, enhance the physical image of the area, and instill a sense of neighborhood pride and commitment.