



BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE
FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST

BPI 2010 SUMMER PUBLIC INTEREST INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), a Chicago-based public interest law and policy center that addresses compelling issues of social justice and quality of life in the Chicago region, is hiring interns for the summer of 2010. BPI is currently working to increase the availability of affordable housing for working families, transform segregated public housing, and improve Chicago's public schools. To accomplish these goals, BPI's staff of lawyers and policy specialists uses a wide variety of approaches, including legal and policy research, advocacy, organizing, impact litigation and collaboration with non-profit, business, community and governmental organizations.

Interns work closely with our staff on important public interest projects in BPI's program groups. They receive excellent supervision and mentorship, the opportunity to contribute directly to solving pressing policy issues, and the chance to learn about Chicago's thriving public interest community.

Successful applicants will have a superior record of academic achievement, strong research and writing skills, and a demonstrated commitment to public interest work. Students at all stages of their graduate public policy or law school careers, including 1Ls, 2Ls, 3Ls, and joint degree students are encouraged to apply.

Funding

BPI is frequently able to offer summer funding assistance to legal interns through the Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) program. PILI provides funding for law students to work at various public interest legal organizations in Chicago. PILI also provides an opportunity for incoming associates at many of Chicago's private firms to work part time in public interest legal organizations while they are studying for the bar exam.

Application

BPI makes summer internship hiring decisions on a rolling basis.

Please submit a resume and cover letter detailing interest in the position electronically through PILI, <http://www.pili-law.org/internships.htm>, or by mail to:

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest
Attn: Internship Coordinator
25 East Washington Street, Suite 1515
Chicago, Illinois 60602
312-641-5570
www.bpichicago.org

BPI is an equal opportunity employer.
Persons of color are strongly encouraged to apply.



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THE BPI POLIKOFF-GAUTREAU FELLOWSHIP FOR A PUBLIC INTEREST LAWYER OR POLICY ANALYST

Application Deadline: October 16, 2009

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest (BPI), a Chicago-based not-for-profit law and policy center, seeks a recent law or public policy graduate to serve as the Polikoff-Gautreaux Fellow for one year, renewable for a second, beginning in Summer or Fall 2010.

The Polikoff-Gautreaux Fellowship offers the opportunity for recent law school or public policy school graduates to develop the experience, skills and network critical to a rewarding career in public interest advocacy. Fellows have gone on to become the Executive Director of a non-profit organization that serves youth interests, to practice affordable housing law, to accept a full-time staff position with BPI and more.

Founded in 1969, BPI is dedicated to addressing compelling issues of social justice and to enhancing the quality of life for all people living in the Chicago region. Currently, BPI works to increase the availability of affordable housing for working families, transform segregated public housing, and improve Chicago's public schools. BPI's staff of lawyers and policy specialists uses a variety of approaches, including litigation, policy research and advocacy, community organizing, and collaboration with civic, business, and community organizations.

REQUIREMENTS of the Fellowship are:

- Either a JD or MA/MS in public policy or related field
- Demonstrated interest or experience in one of BPI's program areas
- Accomplished oral and writing skills
- Strong academic record
- Initiative, creativity and flexibility
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with a variety of organizations, constituent groups, government, and civic leaders.

Fellows receive an annual salary of \$46,000 with medical and dental coverage. Debt service on law school or graduate school loans for the duration of the Fellowship may be available, based on need.

Send resume, writing sample, references and a cover letter detailing interest in the position, postmarked by **Friday, OCTOBER 16, 2009** to:

**Business and Professional People for the Public Interest
Polikoff-Gautreaux Fellowship
25 East Washington Street, Suite 1515
Chicago, Illinois 60602
312-641-5570**

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SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE BPI POLIKOFF-GAUTREAUX FELLOWSHIP

WHY THE "POLIKOFF-GAUTREAUX" FELLOWSHIP?

The Fellowship was created in 1999 to honor Alexander Polikoff who served as BPI's Executive Director for 29 years, and Dorothy Gautreaux, the public housing activist who gave her name to Polikoff's most significant lawsuit. Through the landmark *Gautreaux* lawsuit, Polikoff helped thousands of public housing residents live in non-segregated communities throughout Chicago and has changed the face of federal public housing policy.

WHY WAS BPI CREATED? WHAT HAS IT ACCOMPLISHED?

BPI was founded in 1969 by prominent Chicago businessman and social activist Gordon Sherman on the premise that the business and professional community has a special responsibility to confront the problems of modern society. Assembling a small group of like-minded supporters, he created BPI to fight for the public interest. Since its inception, BPI's accomplishments illustrate the organization's wide-ranging commitment to equal justice and a better quality of life for all Chicagoans. For example, through a combination of legal and policy advocacy BPI:

- Helped improve life opportunities for more than 25,000 victims of racial discrimination by the Chicago Housing Authority
- Led a successful legislative initiative to increase the availability of affordable housing in the job-rich Chicago suburbs
- Helped initiate and support the creation of innovative, small and charter schools -- one of the most promising, positive avenues to public education reform that research and experience offer

WHAT WORK DO FELLOWS PERFORM?

As a result of the diverse range of issues BPI work addresses and the complicated political dilemmas they present, work at BPI requires a variety of skills, creativity and a willingness to go beyond traditional legal remedies to bring about social change. In a typical day, a BPI attorney or policy analyst might do any of the following:

- Negotiate the components of a site plan for a new mixed-income community in a working group of public housing residents, community members, the developer, Chicago Housing Authority and the City of Chicago staff
- Interview teachers and administrators about policies and practices that challenge the development and long-term sustainability of innovative public schools
- Conduct research for groundbreaking exclusionary zoning litigation to increase affordable housing
- Draft a motion to allow for the construction of public housing within the context of a new mixed-income community
- Meet with municipal officials and state legislators to advocate for the creation and preservation of affordable housing for low- and moderate-income households

WHAT DO FELLOWS SAY ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP?

- *From drafting court pleadings to policy research, as a Polikoff-Gautreaux Fellow at BPI I had the opportunity to participate in various facets of public interest advocacy and work with incredibly experienced and dedicated colleagues on some of the region's pressing social justice issues.*

Rosanne Aviles, 2005 Fellow

- *BPI is one of the few places in the country where you can combine law, policy research, advocacy and organizing strategies in order to make a difference on major public equity issues confronting our society today. For people who want to bring about social change, the Polikoff-Gautreaux Fellowship is a perfect fit.*

Nick Brunick, 2000 Fellow