

ESTRI Field Residency: 3-Month Embedded Research Proposal

Who We Are: The Emergent Systems and Transience Research Institute (ESTRI) is a living research project studying how people and communities transform when allowed to be wholly themselves. We explore **emergence** as becoming, and **transience** as intentional impermanence.

Why Intentional Communities? Intentional communities model decentralized care, adaptive structure, and co-created survival. We believe they are vital to understanding systemic emergence.

Residency Offer: We are seeking a partner community for a 3-month field placement (July-September) with our Research Director, Cedar Compson.

Residency Arc

- **Month 1: Observe + Integrate** - Learn rhythms, relationships, and flows of community.
- **Month 2: Co-Create** - Collaborate to design and prototype tools that support your existing ways.
- **Month 3: Transition and Sustain** - Transfer tools, scaffold autonomy, and support ongoing use.

About the Researcher: Cedar Compson (they/them) is a field researcher and systems theorist specializing in emergent intelligence, trauma-informed facilitation, and relational systems design. They bring over seven years of experience at the intersection of technology, care, and decentralized infrastructure. Their work centers lived experience, structural clarity, and non-extractive observation.

What We Offer:

- Community-specific tool creation (e.g. communication protocols, task-sharing, time banks, resource maps)
- Documentation of emergent patterns and support for internal clarity
- Optional workshops and facilitation training
- Embedded, low-waste presence focused on contribution and care

What We Need

- A place to stay (tent, room, cabin, etc)
- Dog-friendly setup (researcher travels with support dog)
- Some food and water support (small stipend available)
- Internet access or access to shared tech space
- Community willing to be in intentional relationship with an embedded researcher

Why ESTRI? We are not extractive. We do not study you as subjects. We are with you as collaborators. Our goal is to co-create tools and frameworks that reflect who your community already is.

Let's Talk! If your community is curious, we'd love to connect. Visit es-tri.org/julyresearchproposal for more information and to explore our ethos. Email contact.estri@protonmail.com to reach us.