

SEE-Beyond Award—Resources for Gender Studies Students

Gender studies is an interdisciplinary academic field that draws on feminist, gender, and queer theories and scholarship to analyze the experiences, perspectives, and contributions of women, men, and intersexed people and systems of gender relations in various cultural settings and time periods. The gender studies major is a multidisciplinary program that involves students in the exploration of topics such as the social construction and role of gender within various societies, women's historical and contemporary experiences, and multiple social identities. Completion of the major strengthens students' preparation for further work in fields including gender studies, women's studies, law, public and international affairs, social sciences, the humanities, communications, and the arts.

There are therefore a number of ways that Gender Studies students could construct a SEE-Beyond (Summer Experiential Experience-Learning Beyond the Campus) proposal to support and complement their academic goals. We encourage you to explore the resources (<http://www.skidmore.edu/see-beyond/resources/index.php>) in related departments and programs and also offer the following, local organizations as possible opportunities to explore. You can search for similar organizations in any region and consider approaching them regarding internship and/or research opportunities. Review the SEE-Beyond site for additional information including past awards, updated application and deadlines: <http://www.skidmore.edu/see-beyond/about.php>

Saratoga EOC:

The Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council is a not for profit organization whose mission is to empower low-income individuals with the skills, training, knowledge, advocacy and opportunities to help themselves become economically self-sufficient.

Departments:

WOMEN, INFANTS & CHILDREN (WIC):

WIC is a federally funded supplemental nutrition program for Women, Infants, and Children.

WIC is for income eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, and non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants and children up to age five.

WIC provides:

- Breastfeeding and peer counseling support
- Nutrition education focused on your needs
- Ideas for easy physical activities that are fun and healthy
- Convenient hours, locations and services

- Referrals to other health and social services
- Individualized food packages
- Farmers Market Coupons (seasonal)
- And more!

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

The Community Services Department is composed of many programs. These programs are funded through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) funds, Federal Emergency Management funds (FEMA), agency fundraising activities and private donations.

Programs:

Crisis Intervention Services: Crisis intervention is a short-term helping process to address the individual/family's emergency needs. The focus is on the resolution of the immediate problem through the use of personal, social, and environmental resources. An individual/family assessment is developed to determine the nature of the crisis and a formalized service plan is negotiated between the family and the crisis intervention worker.

Some common types of crisis situations we address include:

Housing - pending evictions, landlord/tenant relations, pending utility shut off

Financial - customers in financial crisis

Domestic violence

Drug and alcohol

Mental Health

Family Development: Family Development is a strength-based, long term helping process in which the individual/family works with EOC on a weekly basis to address reaching their personal goals. The individualized service plan addresses goals such as affordable housing, education and training, financial stability, employment, health, and effective parenting.

Emergency Food Pantry: Every individual and family coming to the food pantry will complete an initial intake form and will be assessed for crisis intervention services. Customers receive a 3-day supply of food which is packed by volunteers. The order is appropriate to family size, dietary needs, and cooking facilities. Assistance is available to bring the groceries to the individual/family's car if needed.

Soup Kitchen: It is open to the general public and the only information collected is the number of meals served each day.

Rural Food Delivery: This service is a bimonthly delivery of food to customers that are elderly and/or disabled and homebound.

Summer Youth Feeding: This project provides a nutritious lunchtime meal to low-income children during the summer months when there is no school.

Thanksgiving Baskets: EOC provides a full Thanksgiving meal to families in need in Saratoga County. Families receive a basket based on family size.

Holiday Meals: A full prepared holiday dinner is also served at our Soup Kitchen on Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

WHEELS FOR WORK:

Wheels for Work provides reliable cars to low-income Saratoga County residents in need of transportation in order to maintain employment.

HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START:

Head Start and Early Head Start are FREE federally funded programs for low-income pregnant women and children birth to age 5. Saratoga County EOC Head Start serves 434 children and pregnant women throughout Saratoga County. Children get ready for kindergarten by learning to get along with others as they develop reading, language, and math skills.

Infant and Toddler Rooms: Infants or toddlers participate in a variety of activities in a safe, nurturing NYS Daycare licensed room

Home-based services:

Parents and children participate in weekly home visits and regularly scheduled group activities called PACT's (Parents and Children Together). Family Educators work with parents to achieve goals they have set for their children and themselves.

Head Start offers:

- Medical, dental, health, developmental and behavioral screenings for all children.
- Nutritious meals and snacks.
- Disability services for children.
- Parenting support, adult education workshops, and referrals to community resources.
- Limited transportation services to parents and children.
- Volunteer and employment opportunities for parents.

LATINO COMMUNITY ADVOCACY PROGRAM (LCAP):

The Latino Community Advocacy Program (LCAP) addresses the special needs of the Spanish speaking immigrant population in Saratoga County. Our activities also promote cultural understanding and recognize the positive contributions of immigrants and long tradition of immigration in our communities. Our bilingual staff provides assistance by facilitating communication and access to health, legal, and educational services. The goal of our program is to extend EOC's mission of promoting economic self-sufficiency to immigrants in our community.

Our Services Include:

- English as a Second Language Classes
- Interpreters
- Consultations and referrals with regard to
 - medical attention
 - immigration
 - legal rights, obligations, and processes
 - assistance with taxes
 - educational programs
 - and other services in the community
- Help in the case of an emergency
- Cultural and social events

The Saratoga EOC is located on 40 New St. Saratoga Springs, NY <http://www.saratogaecoc.org/>

Planned Parenthood

Planned Parenthood is the nation's leading sexual and reproductive health care provider, educator, and advocate, serving millions of women, men, teens, and families in the United States and abroad.

Planned Parenthood is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes all qualified applicants, regardless of gender, race, age, sexuality, or disability.

Services Offered:

- Abortion Referral
- Birth Control
- HIV Testing
- LGBT Services
- Men's Health Care
- Morning-After Pill (Emergency Contraception)
- Pregnancy Testing & Services STD Testing
- Treatment & Vaccines
- Women's Health Care

Volunteer/internship Opportunities:

Volunteers and interns have consistently held Planned Parenthood together. Under staff leadership, volunteers assist with day-to-day clinical and education work.

Planned Parenthood Center of Saratoga Springs is located on 236 Washington Street

Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 P: 518.584.0041 | F: 518.581.2524

<http://www.plannedparenthood.org/ppmh/>

Family Planning Advocates of New York State

Family Planning Advocates of New York State (FPA) is a non-profit statewide membership organization dedicated to protecting and expanding access to a full range of reproductive health services, including abortion care. We represent and are primarily funded by New York's Planned Parenthood affiliates, with additional support from member family planning clinics and dozens of sister organizations, as well as thousands of individual members across the state.

Work, Intern, Volunteer

Internship Program: Family Planning Advocates of New York State (FPA) offers internship opportunities to work in a professional, nonpartisan, not-for-profit membership organization. Full and part-time, unpaid, internship positions are available year round. There are no application deadlines, and resumes are accepted throughout the year.

Every effort is made to ensure internship opportunities are flexible to accommodate students' schedules, allowing students to gain valuable experience in their respective fields of study as they work with skilled and knowledgeable staff members.

Staff members will share knowledge, career advice, workplace mentoring and specifically tailored assignments to match the student's desire to learn and gain valuable experience while meeting FPA's mission.

Internships may be available in the following areas depending on need:

- Communications
- Government relations
- Public policy
- Public affairs and grassroots organizing
- Cultural competence and diverse communities health care research
- Clergy advocacy

Candidates must be pro-choice and committed to the mission of FPA.

If interested, candidates should send a short (1 – 2 page) writing sample that discusses your commitment to choice, a resume and cover letter indicating field of study, area of focus and internship desired (fall, summer, spring, winter, full-time, part time) to:

Kimberly Bobb, Internship Coordinator

Family Planning Advocates of NYS

17 Elk Street, Albany, NY 12207

Phone: 518.436.8408 | Fax: 518.436.0004 | Email: kimberly@fpaofnys.org

FPA is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, and strongly encourages women, people of color, persons with disabilities and LGBT persons to apply.

Shelters of Saratoga

Shelters of Saratoga strives to ensure that every member of our community has safe and affordable housing. We provide shelter, advocacy and referral services for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness. We develop and maintain a range of affordable housing opportunities and resources for low to moderate income families and individuals.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Volunteers are crucial in the effort to fund and operate the shelter. Individual and group volunteers are utilized in a number of ways, including:

Front desk management

Office and receptionist duties

Coordination of fundraisers

Food drive facilitation

Group projects (i.e. painting, yard work, meal preparation, maintenance projects)

Research and data collection

Qualified board members

Services:

Emergency Shelter:

SOS provides a safe, sober and structured environment where emergency houseguests can gain independence and stability during a maximum stay of 60 days due to high demand. Individuals seeking assistance from SOS have varying degrees of needs and circumstances. During case management meetings, houseguests are referred to appropriate programs and services (e.g. mental health or drug and alcohol services). Employment seeking assistance is provided.

Mobile outreach:

The goal of Mobile Outreach is to make contact and build relationships primarily with chronically homeless individuals. Through the outreach unit, we provide nourishment, basic survival items, respite from the cold. We also offer counseling and encouragement to utilize the shelter or other alternatives to living on the streets to gain stability.

Neighborhood preservation:

Since 1997 Shelters of Saratoga has been designated by the NYS Department of Housing and Community Renewal as an agency that can revitalize local neighborhoods by assisting low-income citizens of Saratoga Springs with housing rehabilitation and repairs which, if not resolved, might cause the homes to become unsafe or uninhabitable, resulting in homelessness. Each year, the Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP) competes with similar organizations in other municipalities to secure the federal and state funds needed to undertake such work. More than 100 homeowners have been assisted by these programs to date.

A recent addition to the array of NPP services is the Home Safety Inspection Program. Essentially a "homelessness prevention" strategy, this affordable fee-for-service initiative offers homeowners a whole house inspection that seeks to identify structural, design and daily use practices which, if not corrected, could result in serious or even debilitating injury that might require the resident to abandon their home.

Affordable housing:

Shelters of Saratoga owns and manages two properties that contain a total of seven apartments which provide an affordable housing option in downtown Saratoga Springs. The properties, located at 112 Washington Street and 128 Grand Avenue, promote independent, permanent and safe housing. During a tenant's occupancy, should they be in need of assistance with transportation, nutritional, medical or financial needs, SOS staff will gladly assist them in arranging for support services. As vacancies occur, transitional housing "graduates" will be offered the opportunity to occupy these apartments; however, a waiting list is maintained for income eligible individuals as apartments become available.