

The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship

Training Leaders in the Fight Against Hunger

Training Tomorrow's Leaders

The **Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program** is a unique leadership development opportunity for motivated individuals seeking to **make a difference** in the struggle to **eliminate hunger and poverty**.

Program participants gain **practical experience** at the grassroots level through placements in community-based organizations across the country, as well as **policy experience** through placements in Washington, D.C. Fellows graduate with training in local anti-hunger program development and an understanding of public policy as it relates to hunger and poverty issues. Through this unique program bridging community grassroots efforts and national public policy, Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows develop as **effective leaders** in the anti-hunger movement.



The Program

Each year, between **twenty and twenty-four participants** are selected from around the country for this twelve-month program. They assemble in Washington, D.C. in August for a comprehensive ten-day orientation and **skills training**, where they explore the **reality of hunger** in the United States and build a sense of **team identity**.

Fellows are placed for six months with **urban and rural community organizations** involved in fighting hunger at the local level, such as food banks, local advocacy groups, economic development agencies, and faith-based organizations. Each host organization identifies specific goals and objectives for the Fellows and provides the supervision and resources necessary to accomplish them.

In mid-February, the Fellows regroup in Washington, D.C. to process and evaluate their field experiences and participate in an extensive **policy training** to learn about national anti-hunger and anti-poverty policy work.

Fellows then work in **national nonprofit organizations and government agencies** involved in the anti-hunger and poverty movement. These placements give insight into the process that shapes national policy. In addition, Fellows meet regularly for **professional development days**, designed to facilitate ongoing learning.

The Best of Both Worlds: In the Field and Behind the Policy

Benefits

- \$12,500 annual living allowance
- Health insurance
- Travel expenses
- Housing during field placement
- \$3,500 housing stipend in D.C.
- \$3,500 end of service award
- Relocation stipends
- Connection to the Hunger Fellows network

Applying

The application deadline for the 2008–2009 program (beginning August 2008) is **January 17, 2008**. See reverse for application instructions.

Questions? See www.hungercenter.org/national.



Application Information

The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship

Fellowship

Do you want to spend a year fighting hunger and poverty with a tight-knit community of emerging leaders? Emerson Hunger Fellows shape and implement local anti-hunger programs all over the U.S., and then research and support national policy initiatives in Washington, D.C. **Apply now!**

Application Requirements

Applications to the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship will be accepted via email only. Applications should consist of one MS Word document, three pages in length: the first page should be your resume, the second page your personal statement, and the third page your answers to the two short essay questions. Please give your document the filename Last name_First name_Middle initial.doc, attach it to your email, and send it to fellows@hungercenter.org by January 17, 2008.

Resume: Please be certain to include your email address and phone number.

Personal Statement: What values, principles, and personal factors (social, economic, and cultural) have shaped your interest in participating in the Emerson Hunger Fellows Program? What particular abilities, qualities, knowledge, and experience will you contribute to your field and policy placements? How do you expect this fellowship to contribute to your professional goals?

Short Essay Questions:

1. What specific professional skills have you acquired that would be most beneficial in the fellowship?
2. What role do you believe the government plays or should play in ending hunger?

Two Letters of Recommendation: Please ask your recommenders to evaluate your written and oral communication skills, demonstrated leadership qualities or experience, and professional skills, if applicable. Letters should include a telephone number and email address, and should be *sent by the recommender* via email to fellows@hungercenter.org, via fax to 202-547-7575, or via post to: Emerson Selection Committee at the Congressional Hunger Center (address at right).



Join the
Community of
Hunger Fellows

Deadline

The application deadline for the 2008–2009 program is **January 17, 2008.**

Selection Criteria

- Commitment to **social justice** and demonstrated **leadership** qualities and skills
- Bachelor's degree
- U.S. citizenship or permanent residency
- **Flexibility** and ability to adjust to new situations
- Creativity and initiative in **problem solving**
- Willingness to **learn from experts** in the field, and commitment to the **search for new models** in anti-hunger and anti-poverty work

Timeline

Semifinalist selection will be complete by mid-February; interviews will be scheduled in Washington, D.C. in March; and final selection decisions will be made in April.



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