Organizational Overview

Over the past 30 years, EverThrive Illinois has worked to improve the health of women, children, and families over the lifespan. Since our inception we have emerged as a leader in engaging consumers and providers to inform policy and programs, and our commitment to health equity, diverse voices, and strong partnerships continue to anchor our work. We are dedicated to achieving health equity for women, children, and families by:

- advancing access to comprehensive health care and support services;
- improving the health outcomes of entire communities and populations; and
- engaging community to inform decision-making, build capacity, and build relationships.

By aligning our programmatic, policy and advocacy, and community engagement activities with these three primary impact areas, we can improve the health of women, children, and families. Our primary organizational activities include but are not limited to:

- **Leading the Illinois School-Based Health Alliance (ISBHA) to improve access to care for children and adolescents in IL**
  
  The ISBHA brings together a broad-based coalition of organizations and individuals to advocate for and support school-based health centers (SBHCs) as school and community assets. SBHCs are primary care clinics located in or linked to a school, and the ISBHA’s work ensures that SBHCs continue to serve as a critical health care access point for over 50,000 children and adolescents across the State.

- **Promoting and implementing positive health care reform policies and strengthening Medicaid and other safety net systems**
  
  EverThrive IL provides education for stakeholders and consumers on the impact of new health care laws while advocating for policies that bring us closer to providing every individual with high quality, comprehensive health care. Our team has played an integral role in defeating threats to health care, including efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, disastrous changes to Medicaid, and the dismantling of quality and affordable health care.

- **Promoting the delivery of safe, effective, and timely vaccines to increase immunization rates and decrease the incidence of vaccine-preventable disease**
  
  By promoting the delivery of safe, effective, and timely immunizations and working closely with the Chicago and Illinois Departments of Public Health, EverThrive IL ensures that the public and providers have access to accurate, reliable information about the benefits of vaccines.

- **Reducing racial and ethnic health disparities in maternal and infant morbidity and mortality through community development and health promotion**
  
  Startling data show that African American babies are three times more likely to die within the first year of life over their white counterparts. Also in Illinois, non-Hispanic Black women are six times as likely to die of a pregnancy-related condition as non-Hispanic White women. EverThrive IL prioritizes racial disparities in how we approach our work to improve the health of moms and babies. To this end, EverThrive IL brings together providers, consumers, and advocates to improve access to quality health care and support services to promote healthy pregnancies and birth outcomes.

- **Leading the Contraceptive Justice Coalition to improve health outcomes and access to and utilization of all forms of contraception**
EverThrive IL convenes a cross-disciplinary coalition of stakeholders in reproductive health, rights, and justice that ranges from community-based nonprofits to public health departments and universities. This coalition seeks to improve health outcomes for the most marginalized populations by increasing access to and utilization of all forms of contraception. By using a reproductive framework to do this work, we seek to directly address disparities related to race, sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, income, ability, immigration status, primary language, and geographic location in women’s health and the health care system.

Together, these activities help EverThrive IL bridge the gap between policymakers and those affected by their decisions, and we empower individuals and providers to create healthier communities where children, mothers, and families can thrive. EverThrive IL seeks programmatic, policy and advocacy, and community engagement interns to assist staff in achieving these goals.

In addition to the activities listed above, EverThrive IL seeks interns interested in learning about nonprofit management, operations, and administration. This includes human resources, marketing and communications, Board development and management, impact evaluation, and organizational development and financing.

**General Learning Objectives:**

- Gain or increase knowledge in the maternal and child health field including learning about resources, health-related policies effecting families, current health related statistics, and understanding the value of local and statewide coalitions and partnerships
- Strengthen written communication and research skills
- Enhance problem solving skills
- Understand the state and federal policy making processes, and identify key strategies to impact that process
- Experience working in a team-focused and advocacy-oriented non-profit professional environment
- Better understand the relationship between programs and health policy, and the role local communities’ play in identifying priorities and implementation strategies
- Understand strategies to increase access to quality health care for Medicaid recipients; especially women and children
- Appreciate the power of consumer engagement in effective policy and advocacy

**Requirements and Qualifications:**

- Interest in public health or community health
- Well-developed writing and analytical skills
- Strong reading comprehension skills
- Proficiency in computers and Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Self-motivated and able to work both independently and as part of a team
- Creativity and tenacity in achieving objectives
- Detail oriented

**Timeframe:**

Start and end dates are flexible.

**How to Apply:**

Please send a resume and cover letter to resume@everthriveil.org, Subject Line: Application for Internship. No phone calls please. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.