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URBAN FELLOW INTERNS

CLASS OF SPRING 2015



Mayor Byron W. Brown

One call does it all.



URBAN FELLOW EXPERIENCE

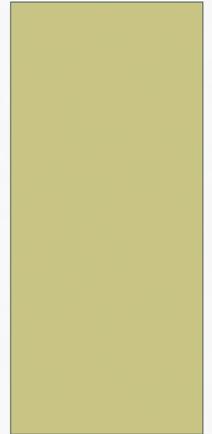
- The City of Buffalo/Division of Citizen Services Urban Fellows Internship Program is designed to introduce our region's most talented college students and graduates to local government and public service, through hands-on practical learning experiences. Throughout their semester at City Hall, the Urban Fellow's have been part of numerous events and projects, some of these include
 - ◆ Mayor Brown State of the City Address
 - ◆ 311 City Stat
 - ◆ Operation Clean Sweep
 - ◆ Data Science for Social Good (DSSG project)
 - ◆ Participation and Implementation of "Next Door App"

BUFFALO CITIZENS ENVIRONMENTAL

FRIENDLINESS EVENT PROPOSAL

BY: IAN SCHWARZENBERG

URBAN FELLOW INTERN



BACKGROUND

- Throughout the US, city governments are making their cities more environmentally friendly.
- They're creating more bike lanes, improving mass transit, and making buildings more energy efficient, just to name some examples.
- Buffalo's government is making the city more environmentally friendly, such as by creating over 80 miles of bike lanes for example.
- However, we need to catch up to other cities in terms of making Buffalo more environmentally friendly.

GOALS

- The main goal is to encourage Buffalonians to adopt more environmentally friendly ways of living.
- It is also meant to remind Buffalo's government to continue to make Buffalo more environmentally friendly.
- The major message is that the actions of every Buffalonian effects the environmental well-being of the city.
- We must make Buffalonians more aware of how they can damage Buffalo by not caring about the environment.
- We need to show that it doesn't take much to behave in more environmentally friendly ways.

NEED

- Many Buffalonians commute around the Buffalo region by car rather than by more eco-friendly ways, such as by bike or public transit.
- Buffalo's legacy of pollution left by industry and dependence on the car are strong and very visible today.
- Holding events like this will help show the people the importance of behaving in environmentally friendly ways.

STATISTICS

- There has recently been as big as 445% spikes in harmful pollutants such as E-coli in Buffalo's waterways, possibly caused by trash and sewage (source: <http://bnriverkeeper.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Buffalo-River-RAP-Bacteriological-Monitoring-Report-2014.pdf>)
- Buffalo's 8-hour average ozone concentration is 0.082 ppm, which is substantially worse than national standard of 0.075 ppm. This is caused by pollutants from cars (source: <http://air-quality-by-city.findthedata.com/I/374/Buffalo-NY-Niagara-Falls-NY>).
- Around 90% of the pollution in the Buffalo area comes from its industrial past (source: <http://www.niagarafrontier.com/environment.html>)

ENVIRONMENTAL HARM IN BUFFALO EXAMPLE



- The picture on the left shows the piles of trash dumped by Buffalonians over time (source: <http://www.investigativepost.org/2014/07/28/city-ignoring-scajaquada-creek-eyesore/>)

EVENT OUTLINE

- The event will be short and to the point, no more than 2 hours in length.
- We should prepare for around 50 people to attend.
- The first half will consist of four 15-minute presentations made by leaders of major Buffalo environmental advocacy organizations, which motivate the attendees to engage in more environmentally friendly behavior.
- The second half will consist of fun activities which teach attendees how to behave in more environmentally friendly ways.
- In order to have an environmentally friendly theme, technology will serve as big of a place as possible, and food will be served on compostable materials.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Podium and Microphone
- Loudspeakers
- Projector
- Tables to serve food on
- Plastic chairs
- Compostable forks, knives, plates, spoons, etc.
- Water dispenser
- Napkins
- Eco-friendly items to serve as giveaways (eco-friendly lightbulbs, etc.)
- Raffle tickets and hats or buckets to pick the raffle tickets from

SPEAKERS

- Jill Jedlicka, Executive Director of Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper

Buffalo Niagara Riverkeeper has said they are willing to participate in this event.

- Erin Heaney, Director of Clean Air Coalition of WNY

Heaney has said the Clean Air Coalition of WNY wants to participate in this event.

- Justin Booth of Green Options Buffalo

Booth has said Green Options Buffalo is willing to participate in this event.

- Melissa Fratello of Grassroots Gardens Buffalo

Fratello has said her organization will be more than happy to participate in this event.

FOOD VENDOR AND STAFF

- Urban Fellows Interns will help with staffing the event.
- I would want the Lexington Real Foods Community Co-Op to provide food at this event.
- However, the general manager has not gotten back to me as to whether or not they will be willing to provide food at this event.

ACTIVITIES

- A competitive jeopardy type game played where questions relating to eco-friendly trivia are asked, whichever team wins gets prizes (ex. Eco-friendly lightbulbs, etc.)
- Raffles to give away items related to being environmentally friendly (ex. Eco-friendly lightbulbs, etc.)
- A brief demonstration on how to recycle

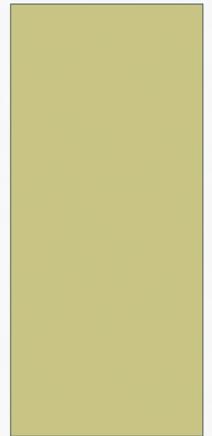
Buffalo Volunteer Service

A blue print to increase Civic Engagement
in the City of Good Neighbors

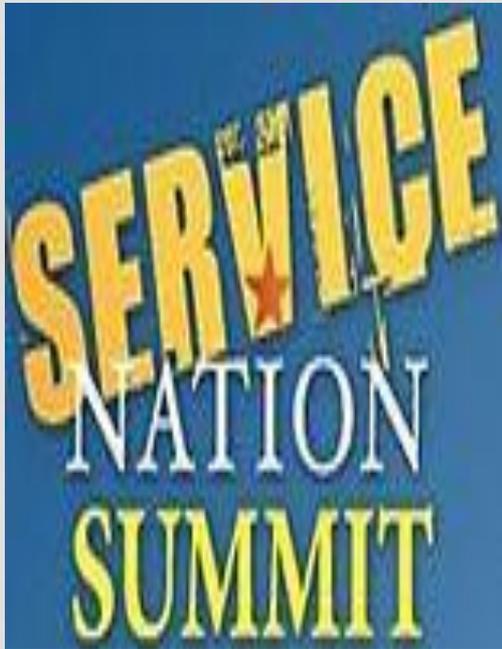
BY: JUWERIA DAHIR



URBAN FELLOW INTERN



BACKGROUND



- New York City has historically been a pioneer in all areas of public policy, and it has a long tradition of public service. In fact, New York City was the proud host of the September 2008 Service Nation Summit, where leaders from every sector of American life laid out plans for a new era of service in America. It is my hope that Buffalo Volunteer Service furthers these efforts in new and innovative ways by leveraging the greatest asset we have: our people.

HOW DOES BVS WORK?

Business sectors and organizations will post volunteering opportunities.



If you are searching online, you can select your location, your type of activity and your area of interest to make sure you only bring up relevant opportunities suitable to you.



Based on your searches, BVS retrieves this data and will recommend you to other opportunities that might interest you.

EXAMPLE

BIRMINGHAM VS. PHILADELPHIA

You are here: Home >

VOLUNTEERING

At Volunteer Centre Birmingham we put people in contact with organisations looking for volunteers and provide advice and information to organisations that want to involve volunteers in their work.



JOIN TODAY!

Register with Transform and get access to resources and services to help build your organisation capacity

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Already registered? [Log in](#)

IN THIS SECTION...

- > [Want to Volunteer?](#)
- > [Looking for volunteers?](#)
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VOLUNTEERING



MAYOR MICHAEL A. NUTTER'S OFFICE OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER SERVICE

I want to help my city with

OPPORTUNITY	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CATEGORY	PRIORITY
Beautification in Overbrook Park	Overbrook Park Civic Association	1200 N 75th St... Philadelphia, PA	Sustainability	★
Create a School Library at Sheridan Elementary Tuesday, May 19th	Free Library of Philadelphia Volunteer Services	800 E. Ontario... Philadelphia, PA	Education & Youth	★
Volunteers Needed at the Bike Race!	Philadelphia International Cycling Classic	The Wall Philadelphia, PA	Health & Physical Activity	★
Playground Revitalization Detroit with Alpha Kappa	EducationWorks	5433 Lansdowne...	Community Building	★

GOALS

THE CENTER FOR VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

- BVS aims to make Buffalo the easiest city in the nation in which to serve.
- ❖ **Help more Buffalonians connect to service opportunities more easily**
 - **new website**
- ❖ **Promote service as a core part of what it means to be a citizen**
 - **Service in Internships**
- ❖ **Support nonprofits and public agencies to use more volunteers, and do so more effectively and strategically**
 - **Services that provide structured opportunities to contribute to the community.**
- ❖ **Measure progress against clear goals; create accountability for results**
 - **Collect Data & Analyze**

THE ADDITIONAL VALUES TO CREATING BUFFALO VOLUNTEER SERVICE INITIATIVE

- Research shows that service matters in some unexpected ways. Volunteering is associated with **stronger communities, measurable health benefits, individual academic achievement, community participation and civic engagement**, and opportunities for professional development. Moreover, by supporting their neighborhoods, volunteers are estimated to contribute anywhere from \$150 to \$300 billion in services and time to the national economy.



LIVE, LEARN
LAUGH
AND
GO
VOLUNTEER



KEEP
CALM
AND
VOLUNTEER



KEEP
CALM
AND
VOLUNTEER
GO GREEN

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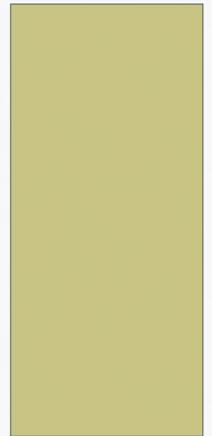


Buffalo In The know:

Connections for Education & Engagement

BY: CATHERINE BROOKS

URBAN FELLOW INTERN



- “Buffalo In The Know: Connections for Education & Engagement”
~ South District~
- Location: Tosh Collins Community Center, 10am - 2pm
- Goals:
 - enhance citizens’ governmental knowledge
 - expose citizens to resources available to them
 - enhance citizen participation in government
 - provide government with feedback from local residents
 - encourage volunteerism within the community



**Become an active, informed member of your community.
Do you know what’s available and happening in your backyard?
Join us for an engaging and informational South District event!**

Who: Various speakers including Mayor Byron W. Brown, Councilman Christopher Scanlon, and City of Buffalo Department Heads.
What: Facilitated panel discussion and open Q & A session addressing the structure, challenges, and future of City departments and offices as they relate to the South District.
When: April 25th - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
Presentations begin promptly at 10:00 am
Where: Tosh Collins Community Center
212 Cazenovia Street, Buffalo, NY 14210



Division of Citizen Services



Have questions or need more information regarding this event?
BuffaloInTheKnow@gmail.com
or call 311 –
City of Buffalo Call & Resolution Center

Come and see what resources are available for you and your family!

EVENT DETAILS

- Participants: Mayor Byron W. Brown, South District Councilman Christopher Scanlon, the Division of Citizen Services, various City of Buffalo Departments, local community organizations (S.Bflo Chamber of Commerce) & city residents.
- Design:
 - A facilitated panel discussion and open Q & A session addressing the structure, challenges, and future of City Departments and offices as they relate to the South District.
 - Information session also running throughout the event. Residents can interact with various community organizations to learn about resources and volunteer opportunities available to them.

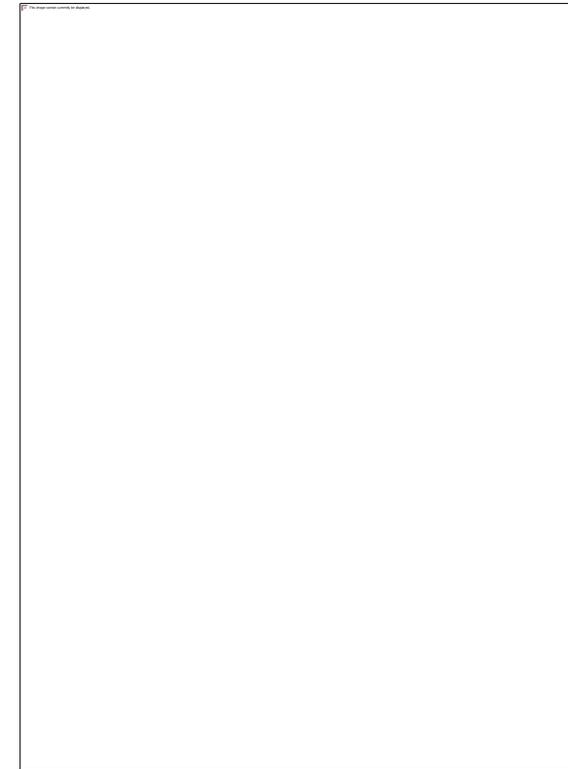
EVENT DETAILS

- Background information: analysis of South District 311 data for the past year, Crime Reports from BPD, QOL reports, input from residents and local leaders
- Assembled an NGO list
 - Ex: Neighborhood Housing Services of S. Bflo, S. Bflo Alive!
- Sponsorship from South Buffalo Chamber of Commerce and Councilman Scanlon
 - Marketing, Advertising, Venue selection
- Long term effects/evaluation:
 - Survey for residents on South District, collection of resident information, booth for suggestions, promotion of 311 app
- Solid template for the future



GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Design a district event
 - Portfolio of work
- Network with community leaders
 - Project & Office provided direct interaction with:
 - Mayor, Council Members, different Dept. workers, residents
- Expand my knowledge of government operations
 - Attendance at many meetings, behind the scenes work
- Gain experience through direct participate in gov't operations
 - Helped with Clean Sweeps, Mayor's Day of Service, State of the City Address



Buffalo Arts Commission

Community development and Beautifying Buffalo

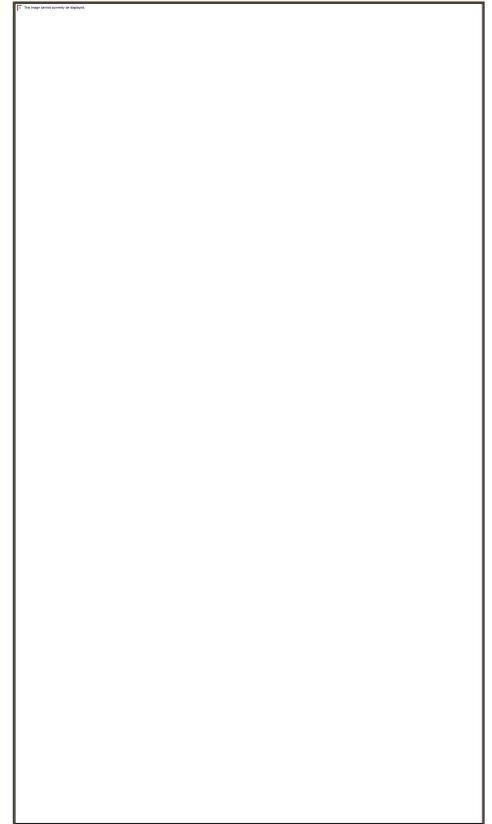
BY: AMY STANLEY

URBAN FELLOW INTERN



PROJECT CONCEPT

- My primary intention was to utilize my creative skills for my individual project. I brainstormed and came up with a collaboration with the Buffalo Arts Commission and Community Canvases. This public art initiative is dedicated to community development and beautifying Buffalo by painting utility boxes and other miscellaneous city structures.
- I contacted the council members involved and pitched several ideas to the president of Community Canvases, however due to the relentless cold weather of Buffalo, the board was forced to push back all kick-off dates and meetings.



PROJECT IDEA

- The artwork is typically done by professional artists who submit their portfolios and are selected on an individual basis. It was my proposal to incorporate children and adolescents in the concept. Instead of perhaps one adult working on a structure, I wanted to make it possible that special needs students or cancer patients could get the opportunity to leave their “mark” on Buffalo.
- Although I was unable to make significant ground during this internship, I do intend to stay in contact and hope to see my proposal followed through in the future.

MY CONTRIBUTION TO GROUP PROJECTS



"Keeping Buffalo's neighborhoods clean is a top priority of mine, as well as our residents, once again, we are bringing all hands on deck to make sure our neighborhoods are clean as we head into the warmer months. I am proud of the collaboration between so many community partners and commend the efforts of our Clean Sweeps participants to improve the overall quality of life in Buffalo. I look forward to ensuring that our neighborhoods continue to shine this season."

Division of Citizen Services
Call & Resolution Center



Are you having an issue with...

- Police**
Crime Prevention, Report a Tip, Crime Reports
- Animals**
Rodents, Licensing, Noise Complaints, Animal Cruelty
- Forestry**
Tree Trimming, Tree Removal, Tree Planting
- Streets**
Pot Holes, Street Plowing/Salting, Traffic Signs
- Graffiti and Sanitation**
Graffiti, Street/Sidewalk Cleaning, Litter, Garbage Tote Maintenance
- Housing/Inspections**
Request Inspection, Building Codes, New/Existing Permit Services
- Utilities**
Report a Faulty Street Light, Services from

DIAL 3-1-1



SAVE
OUR
STREETS



Operation Clean Sweep

Interested in what's happening in your community?
Want to know what resources are available for you?

JOIN US!!

BUFFALO IN THE KNOW:
Connections for Education & Engagement



SOUTH DISTRICT



Who: Various speakers including Mayor Brown, City of Buffalo Department Heads and government officials.



What: Address the structure, challenges and future of their department as it pertains to the **South District**.

Where: TBA

For more information regarding this event please email Event Coordinator Miss. Brooks at:
cbrooks45@verizon.net

When: April 25th
10:00am - 2:00pm

I'm a Communication major with experience in Marketing and Public Relations, therefore, I became the promoter for many of the events. I created brochures, fliers and other relevant marketing information.



Mayor Byron W. Brown

Division of Citizen Services



**YOU'VE BEEN
SWEPT!**

- Mayor's Impact Team
- Operation Clean Sweep
- Anti-Graffiti Program

Your neighborhood has recently been visited and cleaned by one of Mayor Byron Brown's quality of life impact teams. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please call the City of Buffalo's Call and Resolution Center at 3-1-1 or email at: 311@city-buffalo.com

GOALS & ACHIEVEMENTS

My overall objectives for this internship consisted of;

- Interpret a full understanding of Buffalo's government sectors
- Improving my professionalism and portfolio
- Establishing a definitive career goal for myself
- Gain on-site experience
- Expand my personal network

I believe that I was fortunate enough to meet and exceed all of the objectives I set for myself. I have an informed understanding of government sectors, I have marketing and proposal materials for my portfolio, I have established a concrete career plan, I have had first-hand experience with events and, I have expanded my network by coordinating with my interns and working directly with City Hall employees.

Building One BUFFALO:

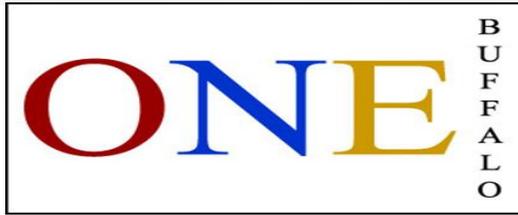
Diversity and Inclusion

BY: EBONY FRIPP

URBAN FELLOW INTERN

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- “Building ONE Buffalo” Social Media Campaign.
 - Builds from the Mayor’s Opportunity Pledge for Diversity and Inclusion
- Take place through the social media apps “*YouTube*,” “*Facebook*,” “*Twitter*,” and “*Instagram*.”
- Objective of Campaign
 - To bridge the gap between cultures, promoting peace, stability, and development within our city and communities.
 - Spread the word about diversity awareness and the many different ways citizens can learn about as well as experience different cultures, religions, ethnicities, etc. represented within Buffalo.
 - Targets the residents, encouraging them to stand up for inclusiveness and to demonstrate a commitment to building, cultivating and preserving a culture of inclusion, fairness and equity in Buffalo.

DETAILS

- Forming A Campaign Team
 - Campaign Manager
 - Official Agent
 - Event Coordinator
 - Media Relations
- Creating Social Media Pages
 - The campaign manager will be in charge of creating and maintaining the campaigns social media accounts and will manage the flow of news about the organization to the media; post updates and necessary information on pages
- Linked Events
 - The event coordinator will be in charge of coordinating events; scheduling, booking the venues/locations, securing any speakers and/or special guests, planning room layout/entertainment program, scheduling workshops and demonstrations, producing tickets (if applicable), etc.



DETAILS CONT...

- One event I propose is collaboration with the *Taste of Diversity Festival*. Being that their annual event promotes diversity and inclusion, and the enhancement of quality of life for residents on the West Side of Buffalo, our campaign team would promote their event on our pages up until the event. The campaign team would also work with the event planners for this festival and put together a plan for collaboration.
 - Having our own booth or table where we could share information about our campaign and diversity awareness.
 - Hand out fliers or pamphlets on how to get connected to our social media sites, as well as the Mayor's online pledge.
 - Take videos and pictures during the festival, interview vendors and people trying new foods and put it on our page.



GOALS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- My goals for this internship were to...
 - Gain hands on experience participating in local government & public service.
 - Gain a better understanding of how government operates, and how it goes about meeting the needs of its citizens.
 - Enhance my networking skills, and network with professionals
 - Find my true career path and definite career goal.

I now have a much better and more detailed understanding of how government operates, the different checks and balances, and who gets what done. I was fortunate enough to play a part in planning and executing different events and programs, which has been an amazing experience. I have met people that I will never forget and believe that I have improved my communication and networking skills. I have not yet found my definite career goal but I do believe that I am on the right path. I want to work in the public sector providing citizens with government services, I am just not sure exactly what position I will take to do this.