Fall 2011 Volume 1

CLJ Career Connection

Big Brother Big Sister

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A Typical Day

A typical day started in the office. I made a lot of phone calls to references for the volunteers signing up to become Bigs. Once school started, I spent my afternoons at the site based programs where I would watch over the matches and fill in as a Big if someone was absent that day. I was also able to attend the jump activities and participate in Girls Group. Every day was filled with a different task, which kept the internship very exciting.

The Most Important Things I learned in the Field

I learned how to be professional, yet still come off approachable to the kids.

I developed much better communication skills because there were a lot of phone calls involved. Helping run orientations also helped me improve these skills.

Working with the jump program offered a fresh look at a different side to the criminal justice system.

This internship helped me

really decide what I want to do in my future, but it also changed some ideas that I had. It gave me a new perspective on how much a small amount of support can make the difference in a child's life.

My Advice to Future Students

It was an amazing internship. Besides the JUMP program, you really do not deal with the criminal justice system. It was not what I expected, but it really gave me a different outlook on life and made me realize what I want to do.

The Highlight of my **Experience**

The best thing that happened was having the kids get to know you. I have really loved feeling like part of the family. I went on an intake, which was the most memorable part of my experience. I am applying to be a Big because it had such an impact on me.

I think that the internship was a great experience, but it did not really prepare me for the type of career I want.