

In their own words ...

Experience – Grow - Make a Difference



How did your internship opportunity happen?

I serve on the executive board for Habitat for Humanity as Secretary. Habitat needed help in the office reorganizing and boosting community education and support, along with organizing the Dedication of the 11th Platteville home. The board thought that I was a great fit for the job and knew I wanted some real life experience prior to applying to graduate school. They offered me the position and Board President Elizabeth Duewer, (a former UW-P Biology instructor), suggested I apply for the PACCE scholarship.

How does your internship complement your academic goals?

After graduation, my goal is to earn a Masters in Clinical Psychology. My internship with Habitat has provided valuable experience that will set me apart. Habitat is also teaching me life lessons that I never could learn from just reading a textbook.

How are you spending your days?

I spend my time researching family selection and support policy and procedure from Habitat for Humanity International. I then tailor those policies to meet our rural affiliate's needs. I also planned our Dedication ceremony in June for our newest home and was responsible for public relations related to the event. The remainder of my time, I will be working on community outreach and have created an online interest survey, an organizational website, a Twitter and Facebook page, and will be planning a county wide informational meeting to be held in September.

What type of skills are you learning?

To many, Habitat is just about building homes but I have not even touched a hammer yet! The organization touches the construction, financing and human service sectors of the world. My skills include learning how to manage time, resources and people, all of which are scarce in nonprofits. Since most of the people who work with Habitat are volunteers, it is crucial to make sure their experience is worthwhile, so they return and that is my job. I have gained important business skills as well and I am learning General Accounting Principles. The most important thing I have learned though is about the kind of person I am and how no matter where I end up, volunteering for a nonprofit will be a part of my life.



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PLATTEVILLE
PIONEER ACADEMIC CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Latisha Lyne UW-Platteville Student & PACCE Summer Intern

Interning at Habitat for Humanity of
Grant County

Senior majoring in Psychology

Hometown: Darlington WI

“Habitat is a hand up, not a hand out; Habitat truly does help families out of poverty, and I get to be a part of that every day!”

- Latisha Lyne

Latisha's aha moment:

“The thing to remember is that you are working with people, and people being people generally have good intentions but may do things in a wrong way. Everyone makes mistakes but it is important to remember to not be afraid to put yourself out there, be vulnerable, and make those mistakes but when they do happen, fess up. Honesty is the best and most important policy.”