

Accelerate 77 Summer Internship

Identifying, connecting and accelerating green initiatives in Chicago's 77 community areas.

About the Program:

The ICA Summer Internship Program: Accelerate 77 is an opportunity for undergrad and graduate students to participate in preparations for the September 15th share fair that will *highlight, connect and accelerate* local green initiatives in the 77 community areas of Chicago. Summer interns will have the option of involvement in one of the three work arenas posted below.

Interns interested in advanced leadership development will have the training and hands-on experience of co-leading teams in these three areas in collaboration with ICA resource guides. More information on leadership development opportunities can be found under the Resilient Communities Program at www.ica-usa.org.

The program will be seven weeks in length, beginning June 18th and ending August 3rd. Participants will have the option of participating in the entire seven-week program – or alternatively choosing a three (June 18-July 6) or four-week (July 9-August 3) cycle. The time commitment is a minimum of twenty hours per week.

The Accelerate 77 summer internship program is unpaid (subject to change) and will be coordinated out of ICA's Uptown facility at 4750 North Sheridan Road. To read more about the Accelerate 77 project and to apply, please visit the **Resilient Communities** program page at www.ica-usa.org.

Choose from one of the following three Internship Work Arenas:

I COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Task:

- Ensuring initial identification of green initiatives in 77 communities
- Reviewing community initiatives documentation
- Doing neighborhood outreach and engagement to facilitate initiative selection

Deliverables:

- Initiatives identified in all of Chicago's 77 communities
- Accessible and organized document of all initiatives identified
- Clear process for initiative selection
- Three initiatives selected by each of the 77 communities

Participants will gain:

- An enhanced capacity to interact with local communities
- A deeper understanding of and skill in building community consensus
- Skill in facilitating participatory group processes

Intern qualifications:

- Organizational skills
- Strong research and writing skills
- Motivated self-starter with ability to work both independently and with a team
- Facility with basic computer software (e.g., Word, Excel)
- Excellent interpersonal and phone skills
- Strong interest in community-based initiatives, sustainability and/or national/international affairs



II COMMUNICATIONS AND PROMOTION

Tasks:

- Developing and executing a promotional plan that includes the message, target audiences, and creative outreach to a diverse demographic
- Initiating and maintaining communication and engagement through social media and email blasts
- Manage all of the digital content and media needs, including the documentation of the participating communities, the program website, photography, and portable media, developing or soliciting new content as necessary

Deliverables:

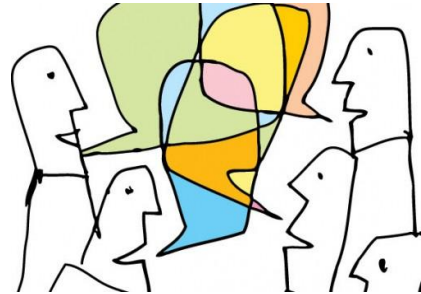
- Comprehensive communications plan
- Engaged virtual community
- Critical content posted on the website
- Accelerate 77 results in a publically accessible format

Participants will gain:

- Experience in using social media strategically
- Exposure to a variety of promotional channels
- Enhanced writing and web management skills
- Example of collaborative program implementation
- Skill in facilitating participatory group processes

Intern qualifications:

- Experience with social networking tools
- Organizational skills and keen eye for visual aesthetics of project information
- Strong research and writing skills
- Motivated self-starter with ability to work both independently and with a team
- Facility with basic computer software (e.g., Word, Excel)
- Excellent interpersonal and phone skills
- Strong interest in community-based initiatives, sustainability and/or national/international affairs



III EVENT DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Tasks:

- Planning and implementing logistics for the event (e.g., equipment list, in-kind calls, food plan)
- Strategizing how to make the event green

Deliverables:

- Logistics plan for prep of the city-wide share fair on September 15, 2012
- Timeline and implementation of logistics
- Space design

Participants will gain:

- Community event planning competencies
- Skill in facilitating participatory group processes

Intern qualifications:

- Organizational skills
- Motivated self-starter with ability to work both independently and with a team
- Facility with basic computer software (e.g., Word, Excel)
- Excellent interpersonal and phone skills
- Strong interest in community-based initiatives, sustainability and/or national/international affairs.



Application deadline is April 9, 2012.

To apply and learn more about the **Accelerate 77 Project**, please visit
Resilient Communities program at www.ica-usa.org.