

# The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship

*Training Leaders in the Fight Against Hunger and Poverty*

## Training Tomorrow's Leaders

The **Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program** is a unique leadership development program that trains, inspires, and sustains emerging leaders committed to social justice.

Program participants gain **practical experience** fighting hunger and poverty through placements in community-based organizations across the country, as well as **policy experience** through placements in Washington, D.C. Through this unique program bridging community-based efforts and national public policy, Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellows develop as **effective leaders** in the movement to end hunger and poverty.

## The Program

Each year, **twenty participants** are selected from around the country for this year long program. They assemble in Washington, D.C. in August for a comprehensive ten-day orientation and **training**, where they explore the **reality of hunger and poverty** in the United States and the various approaches to social and systemic change.

Fellows are placed for five months with **community-based organizations** involved in fighting hunger at the local level, such as grassroots organizing groups, food banks, local advocacy groups, economic development agencies, faith-based organizations, and city/state government agencies. Each host organization identifies specific goals and outcomes for the Fellows and provides the supervision and resources necessary to accomplish them.

In mid-February, the Fellows regroup in Washington, D.C. to debrief and share their field experiences and participate in an extensive **policy training** to learn about national anti-hunger and anti-poverty policy work.

Fellows then work in **national nonprofit organizations and government agencies** involved in the anti-hunger and poverty movement. At these placements Fellows gain into the processes that influence national policy. In addition, Fellows meet regularly for **professional development days**, designed to enhance leadership development skills.



*The Best of  
Both Worlds: In the  
Field and Behind the Policy*

## Benefits

- \$14,500 annual living allowance
- Health insurance
- Travel expenses
- Housing during field placement
- \$3,500 end of service award
- \$3,500 housing stipend in D.C.
- Relocation stipends
- Connection to an extensive community of Hunger Fellows and network of alumni, partners, and experts
- Experience with community and policy leaders
- Training / Mentoring / Leadership Development
- Experience in project management

## Applying

The application deadline for the 2010–2011 program (beginning September 2009) is **January 20, 2010**. See reverse for application instructions.

**Questions?** See [www.hungercenter.org/national](http://www.hungercenter.org/national).



# Application Information

## The Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship

### Fellowship

Do you want to spend a year fighting hunger and poverty with a tight-knit community of emerging leaders? Emerson Hunger Fellows shape and implement local anti-hunger programs all over the U.S., and then research and support national policy initiatives in Washington, D.C. **Apply now!**

### Application Requirements

Applications to the Bill Emerson National Hunger Fellowship will be accepted via email only. Applications should consist of one MS Word document, three pages in length: the first page should be your resume, the second page your personal statement, and the third page your answers to the two short essay questions. Please give your document the filename: Last name\_First name\_Middle initial.doc, attach it to your email, and send it to fellows@hungercenter.org by January 20, 2010.

**Resume:** Please be certain to include your email address and phone number.

**Personal Statement:** What values, principles, and personal factors (social, economic, and cultural) have shaped your interest in participating in the Emerson Hunger Fellows Program? What particular qualities, knowledge, and experience will you contribute to your field and policy placements? How do you expect this fellowship to contribute to your professional goals?

#### Short Essay Questions:

1. What professional skills have you acquired that would be most beneficial in the fellowship?
2. What role do you believe the government plays or should play in ending hunger?

**Two Letters of Recommendation:** Please ask your recommenders to evaluate your written and oral communication skills, demonstrated leadership qualities or experience, and professional skills, if applicable. Letters should include a telephone number and email address, and should be *sent by the recommender* via email to fellows@hungercenter.org, via fax to 202-547-7575, or via post to: Emerson Selection Committee at the Congressional Hunger Center (address at right).



Join the  
Community of  
Hunger Fellows

### Deadline

The application deadline for the 2010–2011 program is **January 20, 2010.**

### Selection Criteria

- Commitment to **social justice**
- Demonstrated **leadership** qualities and skills
- Commitment to **anti-racism**
- Bachelor's degree
- U.S. citizenship or permanent residency
- Flexibility **and ability to adjust to new situations**
- **Creativity and initiative** in problem solving
- Willingness to **learn from experts** in the field, and commitment to the **search for new models** in anti-hunger and anti-poverty work

### Timeline

Semifinalist selection will be complete by mid-February; interviews will be scheduled in Washington, D.C. in March; and final selection decisions will be made in April.



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