

## CFCR's Mission Moments Newsletter



**From** Council for Children's Rights <info@cfcrights.org>  
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## Meet Our Summer Interns!

This summer, Council for Children's Rights is thrilled to welcome a dynamic group of interns! These individuals are all passionate about advancing our mission to advocate for the rights and well-being of children in our community. Our interns have the opportunity to work with several of our teams, including Advancement, Custody Advocacy, Education Law, and Research & Policy.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and the Merancas Foundation for their support, which helps make our internship programs possible.



We are excited to welcome these young professionals and look forward to a summer filled with learning opportunities and impactful service! Read more about each of these talented individuals and the work they will be doing below:

## Get to Know Our Interns



*UNC Charlotte, Psychology, Junior.*

**What is your favorite thing to do outside of work or school?** I love baking and listening to music as much as I can. I have found that baking can be relaxing while still challenging my skills and pushing the limits of what I can create. Seeing people's reactions to the desserts I create is a huge plus, too.

## **Madison Richardson** **(She/Her)**

*Intern through the Merancas Foundation working for Advancement and Policy & Research team*

**Why did you choose to intern with CFCR?** I plan to study forensic psychology after undergrad, and the Child Advocacy Program specifically caught my attention and aligns with some of my future career interests. I felt that this experience with CFCR would be a great way to get exposed to the behind-the-scenes functions of a courtroom and legal cases.

**Some projects you will be working on?** Finding new volunteer programs for non-lawyers interested in supporting CFCR; Google Ad Grants to develop CFCR's advertisement and reach/exposure.

**Where did you grow up, and where do you live now?** I am originally from Winston-Salem, NC, and have lived there for most of my life. However, I spent some of my childhood here in Charlotte, where I currently live for school.

## **Adrianna Patacsil** **(She/Her)**

*Intern for ELP*

**Why did you choose to intern with CFCR?** I have had a passion for child advocacy for quite some time and wanted to explore what a career looks like in this area. My interest in the education law group stems from a class I took while in college, where I learned about educational policy and its implications for students.

**How does interning for CFCR support your long-term goals?** My goal in the next few years is to attend law school, but in the meantime, I would like to take this summer to explore different areas of law. I hope to learn more about child advocacy and see if this is an area I want to pursue after law school.



*Washington University, Sociology, Class of '23*

**What are some projects you will be working on?** FosterEd research related to the legislative proposal and McKinney-Vento vs. ESSA research with a fact sheet. CLT Triage Resource Creation.

**What is your favorite thing to do outside of work or school?** My favorite things to do outside of work are reading or crocheting. Both give me an opportunity to turn my mind off and destress. I also enjoy trying new foods or exploring new coffee shops in my hometown!

## Adelle Morris

(She/Her)

*Legal intern for CAP*

### Why did you choose to intern with CFCR?

I chose to intern for CFCR because I love their mission!

**How does this internship support your long-term goals?** I want to go to law school and pursue family law!

**What is a life goal of yours and why is this goal important to you?** I would like to become fluent in Spanish to communicate and advocate for non-English speakers in law.



*UNC-Chapel Hill, Journalism & Hispanic Studies, Senior*

**What projects will you be working on?** Court observation, summarizing records, attending team meetings, reviewing pleadings



*UNC-Chapel Hill, Philosophy and Political Science, Senior*

**Why did you choose to intern with CFCR?** I chose to intern with CFCR to help with the meaningful, rewarding work that the CAP team engages in. Outside of academics and work, I'm a volunteer tutor with Learn To Be, where I regularly tutor multiple students. I love working with and advocating for children and CFCR is the perfect organization to learn how children's advocacy intersects with my legal aspirations.

## Lindsey Cunningham

(She/Her)

*Legal Intern for CAP*

**Where did you grow up, and where do you live now?** I grew up in Cary, NC, and I currently reside in Chapel Hill for school. I hope to move to D.C. for law school and ultimately live and work there.

**What are some projects you will be working on this summer?** I will be assisting the CAP attorneys with various cases and needs. So far, I've reviewed and summarized DSS records and other documents as needed and attended several observational opportunities in the courtroom.

**How does this internship support your long-term goals?** After I graduate from UNC, I hope to pursue a career in public interest. This opportunity will give me invaluable insight into the nonprofit legal sector and allow me to meet and hear advice from experienced attorneys.

## David Walker

(He/Him)

*Data Intern with Research and Policy*

**What are some projects you will be working on?** Sorting through case files with misplaced health diagnoses and reassigning them to their appropriate position.

**Why did you choose to intern for CFCR?** I chose to intern with CFCR to gain valuable experience and insight into what the legal processes actually looks like and to build connections for the future.

**How does the CFCR internship support your long-term goals?** If I pursue law school sometime down the line, I think that what I've learned and observed here will go a long ways. This experience has also helped solidify my passion for this which is reassuring.

**What is your favorite thing to do outside of work or school?** I make music! Which is my primary joy and passion and what I will pursue directly following school; I'm building experience and getting my degree in the criminal justice field as well.



*University of South Carolina,  
Criminal Justice, Senior*

**What is your life goal?** I have many goals, and as I've grown up a little, those have changed. For a while, I wanted to be the best at whatever I did when I was older. Now, I want to do what I love and make a comfortable living off of it.

**Where did you grow up, and where do you live now?** I grew up in Charlotte and moved to Fort Mill, South Carolina, in middle school, so I have always been pretty much in the Charlotte area.



## Hailey Dunn (She/Her)

*Communications and Policy Intern  
through the Z. Smith Reynolds Program  
working for the Advancement and  
Research & Policy teams.*

*UNC Charlotte, Psychology and  
Sociology, Senior*

**Why did you choose to intern for CFCR?** I chose to intern with CFCR because I am passionate about their mission, am interested in working in the non-profit sector, and have seen how much of an impact they have on the Charlotte area.

**What do you like to do outside of school or work?** I enjoy gardening. I love being outside and watching my garden beds change over time and produce food. No vegetable is as good as a fresh-picked tomato in the middle of summer.

**How does interning for CFCR support your long-term goals?** My life's mission is to make tangible differences for the betterment of people and to reduce or alleviate the effects of systemic inequality. I am deeply committed to my community in Charlotte, where I hope to create lasting change. While I may not change the world, I can certainly open doors for the people in my community. My journey with CFCR has been a profound learning experience, exposing me to the vast potential of the non-profit sector. This experience has helped me make decisions about Ph.D programs and my future career path, what I hope to get out of it, and how soon I want to start.

**Where are you from?** I am from Charlotte, and I have lived about 5 to 15 minutes from uptown the majority of my life.

## Get Involved with Council

**Spread the Word:** Please help us share our mission with your friends and family by forwarding them this newsletter. We are also looking for community members and philanthropists to help accelerate our fundraising efforts. If you're interested in learning how you can get involved, email [advancement@cfcrights.org](mailto:advancement@cfcrights.org).

**Volunteer:** We have [multiple opportunities to volunteer](#), most notably with our Custody Advocacy Program (CAP). You do not need to be a lawyer or have legal experience to volunteer. Email [volunteer@cfcrights.org](mailto:volunteer@cfcrights.org) for more information.

**Give:** You can [donate online](#) or by sending a check to: ATTN: Council for Children's Rights, 601 East 5th Street, Suite 450, Charlotte, NC 28202. Email [advancement@cfcrights.org](mailto:advancement@cfcrights.org) with any questions and to learn more.



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