

Community Engagement Internship

College to County Internship 2025 - Homeless Services Department

Pay Rate: \$24 per hour

Job Type: Temporary College Intern

Duration: Summer 2025 - Starting in June - 12 weeks

Hours: 30 - 40 hours a week

Telework: *Fully remote or hybrid*

Building Physical Location: 619 NW 6th Ave, Portland, OR 97209

Does This Position Require Driving a County Vehicle? If so, please explain why and frequency: No

TriMet Passes are available if transportation to County facilities is required.

Eligibility requirements and more details found on our College to County [website](#).

What Does the Engagement Team at the Homeless Services Department Do?

The Homeless Services Department (formerly known as the Joint Office of Homeless Services) oversees the delivery of services to people experiencing homelessness in Multnomah County through contracts with community organizations and monitors use of public funds and program effectiveness. Our contracted organizations provide services, including shelter, rent assistance, outreach, and permanent supportive housing. The office represents a shared commitment between Multnomah County and the City of Portland to make it easier for those in need to access services and housing. For more information: <https://johs.us/>

The Engagement Team plans community meetings and facilitates the creation and maintenance of Good Neighbor Agreements for HSD-funded programs, such as congregate and village-style shelters. Good Neighbor

Agreements specify the commitments of Multnomah County, the government-funded nonprofit organization operating the program, City, and community partners toward ensuring open communication and collaborative problem-solving to minimize potential impacts of the project in the community.

Internship Description & Responsibilities:

This internship will assist the Engagement team by conducting research on how other cities and jurisdictions implement Good Neighbor Agreements and engage with communities when citing shelter or other homeless services programs. Primary responsibilities of this internship include:

- Evaluate the Good Neighbor Agreement process of the Homeless Services Department at Multnomah County. Good Neighbor Agreements are not a legally binding contract, rather an expression of commitment to work collaboratively for the successful and safe operation of homeless services program (typically a shelter).
- Assess and compare community engagement efforts by homeless service departments in other communities, such as Salem, Eugene, and jurisdictions outside of the state of Oregon like King County (Seattle Metro Area) and City and County of San Francisco.
- Interview partner agencies to gather information about community engagement efforts, with a focus on composition of parties; structure, number, and frequency of meetings; integration into service contracts (if contracted with an outside entity such as a nonprofit organization); etc.
- Research web presence and accessibility of community engagement details, such as future meetings, Good Neighbor Agreements, and other relevant information
- Present and share findings to Engagement Team either in a slide deck or written report, along with contact information of partner agencies for follow up

- Other duties may include: assist in developing a standard web presence for publicly-funded projects, observing community events, and attending team meetings

Learning Outcomes:

- Develop or improve their interviewing and research design skills and gain applied experience
- Connect you to key staff in public organizations who can help deepen your understanding of public service
- Shadow community engagement specialists in negotiations for Good Neighbor Agreements and other community relationship building activities
- Receive valuable feedback on strengths and areas for improvement.

Minimum Qualifications and Education :

- Candidates should have completed within one year or enrolled in a college/university academic institution.
- College to County Program [Eligibility Website](#)
- Promote a culture of respect, inclusiveness, and appreciation of diverse perspectives, backgrounds, and values ([Link to Equity and Empowerment Lens](#))
- Ability to communicate with external parties via phone, email, or in person
- Ability to follow directions and work independently

Workforce Equity:

Our Commitment to Safety, Trust and Belonging: Multnomah County is committed to developing, nurturing and continually improving workforce equity by identifying and addressing the structural and policy barriers to equal employment opportunity faced by our employees and communities.

Learn more by reading our [Workforce Equity Strategic Plan](#) and exploring our [Core Competencies](#) for all County employees.

Veterans' Preference:

Under Oregon Law, qualifying veterans may apply for veterans' preference for this recruitment. Review our [veterans' preference website](#) for details about eligibility and how to apply.

For veterans qualified for Veterans' Preference: If you believe you have skills that would transfer well to this position and/or special qualifications that relate to this position, please list those skills and/or qualifications.

Accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act: We gladly provide reasonable accommodation to anyone whose specific disability prevents them from completing an application or participating in this recruitment process. Please contact the recruiter below in advance to request assistance. Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may contact the recruiter through the Telecommunications Relay Service by dialing 711.

Application Instructions:

Please fill out and submit an application for this position located on this [website](#). The deadline for submitting an online application is April 15th, 2025.