

Job Title: RISE Intern: United Ministries

Internship Description

This internship is part of the Riley Institute Summer Experience (RISE). RISE interns will work with an organization for 10 weeks over the summer to increase the organization's capacity for community impact work, helping them address critical public issues. Additionally, RISE interns will meet weekly on Furman's campus to work on internship goals and learn about various career paths related to community impact and/or public policy work.

United Ministries is a 55-year-old direct services organization that serves individuals and families experiencing scarcity by providing basic needs for stability and supportive services to achieve self-sufficiency. Annually, United Ministries serves more than 3,000 individuals and families in the areas of homeless services, housing stability, and economic mobility.

The RISE intern at United Ministries will have the opportunity to work within each program area, supporting program delivery, while also learning about the participants served and issues that directly impact United Ministries' work. Most services take place in the morning from 8am – 12pm, such as the emergency assistance program (rent, utility, food, and medication assistance) and day shelter services. The intern can expect to work directly with individuals experiencing scarcity each morning. Tasks will include serving in the food pantry, supporting guests at the day shelter, and observing emergency assistance appointments.

Afternoons will be spent on larger projects related to communications and community engagement, including a strategic communications project and onboarding a new volunteer management platform. The intern will have the opportunity to use their own experience and perspectives to influence communications for the agency.

Expected learning outcomes and professional skills:

- Understand the challenges related to homelessness, housing instability, and economic mobility.
- Learn how a direct-service nonprofit operates and impacts the community.
- Build interpersonal skills through daily interactions with individuals experiencing scarcity. Practice culturally humble, trauma-informed communication with diverse populations.
- Observe and understand case management and emergency assistance processes.
- Gain experience supporting program operations, including food pantry services and day shelter activities.
- Strengthen written and digital communication skills through a strategic communications project. Create engagement materials for volunteers, donors, and the community.
- Develop project management skills, including planning, tracking progress, and meeting deadlines. Strengthen time management by balancing direct service work with afternoon project work.
- Practice professionalism through regular supervisor check-ins and collaborative work.

Work setting: Service programming takes place in-person each morning from 8 am - 12 pm on United Ministries' main campus. The intern will have their own space on the mission advancement hallway where team members work for project-based work. Once the student is established in their internship roles, there may be some flexibility to work remotely in the afternoons.

Training and support: The intern will have a site supervisor and mentor: Susan Midgett, United Ministries' VP of Mission Advancement. They will participate in regular check-ins with the site supervisor to discuss progress and learning outcomes. They will also work closely with United Ministries' Director of Community Engagement, Quiwana James. The intern will complete online training modules and a half-day orientation to the organization as a whole. Each program will offer an overview and training while students are working within their program. Additional resources will be offered as needed.

This is a full-time (35 hrs/wk) internship, spanning 10 weeks during the summer (June 8 – August 14). Supervisors may grant up to 5 days off, in addition to any summer holidays observed by the organization.

Students hired for a RISE internship should apply for funding, transcript credit, and discounted campus housing through Furman's internship office *by March 31, 2026*. In addition to the stipend received from the internship office, the Riley Institute will cover the cost of campus housing for students living on-campus.

To learn more about the RISE internship program, visit <https://www.furman.edu/riley/students/students/rise/>.

To learn more about the work of United Ministries, visit <https://united-ministries.org/>.

Eligibility

Applicant Type: Greenville Area Applicants

Class Level: Any

Position Information

Title: RISE Intern: United Ministries

Employer Name: The Riley Institute at Furman University

Organization Description

The Riley Institute empowers emerging and established leaders—across sectors and throughout society—with the knowledge and tools to advance equity and drive social and economic progress in South Carolina and beyond. We work to strengthen public education; promote the power of diversity to help teams, organizations, and communities thrive; and elevate informed,

evidence-based approaches to critical public issues. In all it does, the institute is committed to nonpartisanship and a bias-free path to change.

No. of Openings: 1

Wage/Salary: Eligible to apply for \$3,500 funding through Furman's internship office

Qualifications:

- Strong communications skills
- A willingness to learn and grow
- A special interest in working directly with vulnerable populations
- The ability to be adaptable/flexible and focused simultaneously
- Experience creating social media content, newsletters, digital campaigns, videos, etc., and/or a strong desire to develop these skills
- Experience with Canva is preferred

Application Instructions

Here is how to apply: To apply for this position, please complete the online application linked below. You will be asked to upload a resume and answer a few questions (250 words max per question). You will also need to provide the names of two references (faculty or staff on campus preferred). You may apply for up to two RISE internships with a single application. If you do so, please make sure that you have thoroughly read the job description for each internship you apply for. Please email Kendall Gallagher-King with questions: kendall.gallagher@furman.edu.

Applications are due no later than Sunday, February 8, 2026. The Riley Institute will follow up with successful applicants via email to schedule an interview.

Apply here: <https://www.furman.edu/riley/students/students/rise/>

Contact Information

Share Contact Information: Yes

Title: Director, Riley Institute Student Programs

Contact Name: Kendall Gallagher-King

Address: 3300 Poinsett Hwy, Greenville, SC 29613

Contact Email Address: kendall.gallagher@furman.edu

Phone Number: 864-294-3569

Posting Information

Location: Greenville, SC, USA

Internship Available In? FT Summer

Days/Hours of Duration: 10 weeks, June to August

Internship Category: Riley; Community Services/Non-profits; Poverty-Service

Industry: Community Services/Non-profits; Economic Development