

**Job Title:** *RISE Intern: Soteria*

**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.

Soteria Community Development Corporation, or Soteria CDC, is a 501c3 nonprofit organization located in the Poe Mill Community in West Greenville, SC. Soteria CDC advocates for economic and social justice for those and their families impacted by the criminal justice system. Soteria's work is built around five strategic focus areas: housing, education, employment, affirmation, and advocacy. Through these pillars, they provide transitional housing, life skills development, job training, and personalized support for successful reintegration. Their vision is to be a model for successful faith-based initiatives, by aligning government, churches, non-profit organizations, and industry and community leaders in order to empower long-term positive change.

Soteria CDC is seeking a Community Development Intern to support its ongoing initiatives. This internship offers the opportunity to work across each of the organization's major departments, including Soteria House (the transitional living program), volunteer management, marketing, development, advocacy, and executive leadership.

The goal of this internship position is to provide hands-on exposure to the dynamics of community development by exploring the organization's diverse yet interconnected operations. This internship is well suited for students interested in community impact work, public policy, or social justice, as it provides firsthand exposure to how nonprofit organizations operate within and respond to local policy, reentry systems, and institutional frameworks.

Responsibilities will vary by department and may include assisting with case management for formerly incarcerated individuals, screening volunteer applications, supporting fundraising efforts, collecting and recording intern stories for marketing purposes, and shadowing the Executive Director. Day-to-day experiences will differ depending on departmental placement. When working with the marketing or development team, the intern can expect to spend time in the office completing ad hoc projects. When working with Soteria House staff, the intern may sit in on case management appointments or accompany staff and residents on trips to the DMV or probation office.

*Expected learning outcomes & professional skills:*

- An understanding of community development principles and how nonprofit organizations address systemic barriers impacting formerly incarcerated individuals and underserved populations.
- Exposure to nonprofit operations across multiple functional areas, including program services, volunteer management, fundraising, marketing, property management, and executive leadership.
- Practical experience supporting case management efforts, including observing client-centered, trauma-informed, and reentry-focused practices.
- Increased understanding of leadership, organizational decision-making, and nonprofit governance through executive shadowing.
- Professional communication skills developed through interactions with staff, residents, volunteers, and external partners.
- Time management, adaptability, and professionalism in a dynamic, mission-driven work environment.
- Greater clarity around career pathways in nonprofit work, social services, community organizing, or public policy.

*Work setting:* The majority of the intern's time will be spent in the Soteria office, with occasional time spent outside the office when accompanying staff to case management–related appointments or community events.

*Training and support:* The first day of the internship experience will include an orientation to the organization, including a tour of Soteria's transitional living facilities, Soteria At Work (their social enterprise), and their affordable rental properties. During the intern's first rotation within each department, the program will provide an overview of and training on that department's work. The intern's mentor and supervisor during their time at Soteria will be Jerry Blassingame, Founder and CEO. They will participate in regular check-ins to discuss progress and learning outcomes.

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 Soteria, visit <https://www.soteriacdc.org/>.*

## **Eligibility**

**Applicant Type:** Greenville Area Applicants

**Class Level:** Any

## **Position Information**

**Title:** RISE Intern: Soteria

**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:**

- Empathy and active listening
- Curiosity and initiative
- Strong verbal and written communication
- Reliability and accountability
- Time management and adaptability
- Interest in public policy or advocacy
- Proficiency with Google Suite
- Comfort learning new systems

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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; Economic/Business Development

**Industry:** Community Services/Non-profits; Economic Development