



WHY THE SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION?

Hand in hand, we can handle Scleroderma



As a potential intern, the Scleroderma Foundation knows you have choices. Selecting the perfect internship is an important decision and we want to help you make the BEST choice you can for your future.

An internship can be the beginning of your career; it can change your career path and it can become the foundation of your future.

Executive Laura Dyas would be your mentor and supervisor for your internship. Laura has had over 28 years in the nonprofit field. She is a licensed social worker and licensed counselor in the state of Michigan. She holds a bachelor's degree in social work, a master's degree in guidance and counseling and a certificate in nonprofit management and leadership and is a trauma specialization. She has lead several nonprofits during her career and has been with the Scleroderma Foundation for over ten years.

As your supervisor, her goals for you would be to assure you walk away from this experience feeling like your internship was well rounded, fulfilling, with no answering of telephones, filing and doing someone's else's work.

An internship needs to be an experience that you remember as something that changed your career path or one that shaped your future. It needs to be the creation of a detailed project that means something to the intern.

The Scleroderma Foundation works with interns to create a specific project based on the background of the intern, his or her likes and dislikes and with the future needs of the intern in mind. We also look at the level of independence of each intern. Are you looking for total independence with your project or do you want to work one-on-one with the executive director of the organization? These are the questions that will be answered in the interview process to assure that your project is something that you can walk away and keep in your career portfolio. We also have a marketing firm that help take your project and creatively make it even more professional. Our computers are all brand new and our office is quiet and small so if you desire this type of setting your work environment will help you manage your time well. If you want to more independent and work outside of the office setting a well-established task list will be created to help you manage the project and weekly meetings can be arranged with the executive director so you have immediate feedback on your project. You will also have access to her seven days a week as needed.

The Scleroderma Foundation has flexible hours, with its doors opening as early as 7:00 a.m. Monday –Friday for those students who need early schedules to fit into a busy lifestyle. As an intern you can be shown how to write a grant submission, a fund raising proposal and marketing pieces, as well as, educational curriculum. If you want to learn the budgeting process in the non-profit world this is also a skill you can learn, as well as event planning and management. **When you walk away from your internship you will have experienced every aspect of the nonprofit world if you would like to!** This is truly unique and invaluable to those looking to gain some one on one experience that can be captured for your resume.

For specific ideas of the type of projects available to students here are just a few of the areas that the organization is willing to work with students.

- Advocacy and policy
- Curriculum
- Educational and promotional materials for the community
- Educational and promotional materials for medical community
- Educational and promotional materials for scleroderma population
- Resource Guide Needs state wide
- Medical Guide
- Emotional Guide for scleroderma community
- Creation of a needs based survey for the scleroderma community
- Creation of a patient advocate program for scleroderma community
- Creation of a care management program for scleroderma community
- Establishing of speaker's bureau for organization
- Nutritional and dietary resource guide
- Exercise guide
- Depression guide

These are only suggestions as to the many options that are available to interns. Based on your specific area of interest we can create a specific project for you and fulfill the requirements of your internship.

Our office environment is relaxed and enjoyable. Dress is casual while in the office and business casual when out working in the community. Our office is conveniently located near 696 and 1-96 on Telegraph. **For more information or to apply for an internship, contact Laura Dyas at the Scleroderma Foundation. She can be reached at (248) 595-8526 or via her e-mail, ldyas@scleroderma-mi.org.**