Communications & Development Intern Search

Are you an aspiring social entrepreneur? Do you want to help restore vision for millions of people in low income settings around the world? Are you looking for a substantive, resume boosting internship?

VisionSpring, an international social enterprise, seeks a Communications & Development Intern to be based in New York for the Spring 2016 semester. This individual will help maintain our online presence, manage social media communications and support donor engagement. This position reports directly to the Development Officer, and works closely with the President.

About you

- You find it easy to put your thoughts into words, peers turn to you for editing support, and you love the art of story-telling.
- Diligence is your middle name. You have great follow through and are deliverable and deadline oriented.
- You are deeply curious about social enterprises and the dynamics and constraints in frontier markets.
- You have an eye for detail. We’ll never worry about the integrity of your data in our systems.

About Us

- We are creating affordable access to eyeglasses, everywhere; because clear vision creates opportunities for increased learning, work, safety, civic participation, and quality of life.
- As a social enterprise, social change motivates us first. Our focus on sales and revenue targets serves and advances our mission objective - to increase functioning, productivity, and income earning potential for low-income consumers through the correction of refractive error with eyeglasses.
- We are working to transform the systemic dysfunction of the optical market, which has failed to deliver eyeglasses, a 700 year old technology, to 644 million consumers in need of vision correction, most earning less than $4 a day.
- We serve low income consumers not as beneficiaries but as customers. Our customers expect a high quality and affordable product and will spend limited discretionary income for the immediate and tangible benefits of vision correction.
• By selling eyeglasses, we awaken new demand and seed a viable market. By selling new eyeglasses we are able to serve four times as many people per dollar input than the alternative of donating recycled ones. To efficiently scale, we must deliver each new unit with less cost.

• We run our business on both sales metrics and social impact measures. We exploit a range of organizational forms and practices to get the job done.

• We believe in scaling our impact, not our organization. We are a lean team of doers.

What you’ll do
External Communication

• Contribute to the updating and development of traditional and multimedia content for VisionSpring’s website and partnership portal. Maintain a “Mission Moments” blog to share customer stories.

• Have day-to-day responsibility for VisionSpring’s communications through our social media platforms.

• Create a bank of communications go-to materials, including photos, quotes and info for staff to share with people outside the organization.

• Build a list-serve of relevant news desks and reports aligned with covering topics of interest to VisionSpring. Draft press releases as needed. Monitor mentions of VisionSpring in the media.

• Track our online presence using Google Analytics.

Development Support

• Leverage Salesforce customer relations system to track gift processing, with strict attention to maintaining data integrity

• Assist with the drafting and distribution of the VisionSpring newsletter, compelling program reports, customer feedback stories, and thank you letters for our investors.

• Conduct research to support the writing of proposals.

What’s required

• Currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program, preferably in business, journalism, communications, marketing, English/literature, international development or economics, or a related discipline.

• Desirable skills or prior experience with: Salesforce, Constant Contact, Asana, Google Adwords, Google Analytics, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn preferred, Microsoft Office Suite.
• A commitment of 16 – 24 hours a week from January – June (a May stop date is possible if a candidate is not available through June).

• Currently authorized to work in the U.S.

Compensation
Unpaid (travel stipend offered)

To Apply

Please submit a resume, thoughtful cover letter, and a relevant piece of marketing collateral to talent@visionspring.org. (In lieu of marketing collateral, please submit a relevant writing sample). Please include Communications & Development Team Support Intern in your subject line.

Only candidates to be interviewed will be contacted.

VisionSpring is an Equal Opportunity Employer.