

2025 Summer Internships

The Child Mind Institute's Youth Mental Health Academy (YMHA) is a **community-based career development program** for high school and early college students. It gives students from traditionally underserved communities, including BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ teens, an opportunity to **gain valuable knowledge and experience in the mental health field.**

By providing mentorship and training to high school students in underserved communities, we aim to inspire and cultivate tomorrow's mental health leaders — but we can't do it alone. **We are seeking organizations to provide internships for groups of 5+ students in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, and San Diego during summer 2025.**

About the Interns

- Primarily 16–19 years old.
- Completed the 2024 Youth Mental Health Academy summer program.
- Received Adolescent Crisis Response training.

Internship Details

- Internships will be approximately 100 hours (e.g., 20 hours/week for 5 weeks).
- Must occur between mid-June to mid-August 2025.
- Can be with organizations focused on clinical work, research, community outreach, media, technology, or public policy in mental health and related fields.
- Work setting can be in-person, remote, or hybrid.

Internship Support

- YMHA will pay interns a \$2,000 stipend for their work.
- Interns will have regular check-ins with their YMHA-assigned mentor throughout their internship.
- The YMHA team will assist in the onboarding process for your site and provide open office hours for both interns and hosts to address questions or issues.

GET INVOLVED

If your organization is interested in hosting interns this summer, please email YMHAIternships@childmind.org or [click here to schedule a meeting](#).

For more information visit childmind.org/youth-mental-health-academy

In partnership with

UCLA



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Process & Timeline

The Youth Mental Health Academy will work with internship partners to understand their organizational needs and onboarding requirements and facilitate the matching process with our students for spring 2025.



Highlights from Past Internships

Our interns are eager to explore various roles, topics, and settings in the mental health field and organizations that are working to enhance care, awareness, and advocacy for mental well-being.

<p>Cedars-Sinai Format: In-Person</p>  <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learned and provided input on community-based data and screening tools. Introduced to Share and Care, which offers art-based therapy groups, and assisted with health screenings. <p>Intern Reflection "One of the most important things I learned was the desperate need for resources in a lot of our LA communities. There are a lot of zip codes that are neglected when it comes to health care...they introduced me to different methods...to [help] alleviate these issues."</p>	<p>+ ME Project Format: In-Person</p> <p>+ME PROJECT Where Every Story Matters</p> <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed event calendar and social media content to demonstrate the power of personal storytelling for youth. Hosted and organized an open mic event for the community and shared their stories. <p>Intern Reflection "When I saw PLUS ME's mission, I knew that I wanted to be a part of this. I knew I wanted to help people share their voice...my time with the PLUS ME Project... taught me not to be afraid of making mistakes...to not accept, but respect, imperfection."</p>	<p>Nathan Kline Institute Format: Virtual</p>  <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed a manuscript to be submitted to <i>Frontiers for Young Minds</i> Introduced to data analysis Participated in a journal club to explore topics of interest in neuroscience and experimental methods. <p>Intern Reflection "This experience led me to step out of my comfort zone, and my supervisors at NKI motivated me to further explore careers in this field and envision myself in the clinical psychology pathway."</p>
<p>Crisis Text Line Format: Virtual</p>  <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed 30-hour crisis response training to prepare for the lines. Provided text support to individuals in crisis, helping them navigate difficult emotions and situations with care and compassion. <p>Intern Reflection "This internship opportunity gave me a grasp of what is to come as someone who is planning to work in the mental health field. My job [was] to help through different crises, and it helped me reflect on the many different things people can go through."</p>	<p>YWCA of Glendale and Pasadena Format: Hybrid</p>  <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supported Camp Rosie, a week-long summer camp designed to empower young girls. Co-facilitated activities and workshops, contributing to a positive and empowering experience for the participants. <p>Intern Reflection "Something important that I did was help the girls feel comfortable and safe where they get to learn about life skills, self-esteem skills...Being able to help that program run, a program I wish that I had when I was younger, was really nice."</p>	<p>Child Mind Institute Format: Virtual</p>  <p>Internship Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tested and provided feedback on digital products as part of a pilot for a longterm youth advisory program Developed and presented on individual projects in data science, educational content, or marketing. <p>Intern Reflection "I greatly enjoyed gaining a better understanding of a professional working environment...and seeing my work be applied to developing real-time products and solutions to the youth mental health crisis."</p>