

La Salle University, Center for International Education

Number of Placements: 2

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

URL: <http://ciel.ulsa.edu.mx/>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria.

Position Description:

Placements are available at any of these 5 organizations as per student interest, eligibility and appropriate match with the organization.

1. El Caracol: www.elcaracol.org; <https://www.facebook.com/elcaracolac/>

A private, not for profit organization assists homeless children, youth and disadvantaged adults. Through counseling and emotional support, the organization sets out to promote social inclusion and to provide life skills techniques in order for all to become an active member of society.

El Caracol is focused on the following issues:

- Lobbying for improved public policies for Homeless
- Empowerment of homeless groups
- Research
- Communications

Position Purpose:

1. Educational: intervention, human rights defense
2. Research
3. Communications: social networks, web site

2. Christel

House: www.mx.christelhouse.org; <https://www.facebook.com/christelhousemx/>

Christel House of México A.C. is a private elementary and middle school founded in 2004 to help underprivileged children and their families in poor, underprivileged districts of Mexico City. Serving over 765 students, CH offers the following programs:

- Elementary and Secondary School: grades 1-11, incorporated to the Secretariat of Public Education
- Nutrition and Health Care: School meal plan, Nutrition guide, prevention programs, dental, optical services and counselling support.
- Community Outreach: Parent support program, workshops, volunteer and tutor support program
- College and Careers: Career guidance and mentoring programs

Position Purpose:

- Interact and communicate with children in specific activities.
- Assist the Community Service Outreach worker.
- Support teaching staff.

3. Casa Arturo Mundet Nursing Home for The Elderly

<https://www.gob.mx/difnacional/acciones-y-programas/e040-servicios-de-asistencia-social-integral-atencion-integral-a-las-y-los-adultos-mayores-sujetos-de-asistencia-social>

The nursing home is a public institution that receives federal government funds. The services provided are for seniors over the age of 60 whose families have abandoned them or that do not have the economic means to support themselves.

The facilities are divided in three sections, women's, men's and couple's. There is also a clinic and activity rooms. The government provides the home with qualified staff members, including doctors, nurses, psychologists, therapists, etc. Residents receive medical attention and participate in a series of physical activities such as exercise classes, knitting, ceramics, carpentry, and other manual skills.

Position Purpose:

- Interact and communicate with senior citizens
- Assist in providing care to older adults
- Facilitate social and recreational integration of the residents

4. Casa Refugiado: www.casarefugiado.org; <https://www.facebook.com/CasaRefugiados/>

Casa Refugiados is a Civil Association that provides humanitarian assistance to persons seeking refugee status, refugees, and stateless persons. Casa Refugiados offers complementary protection, and assists with food and clothing, health and primary

education. CR supports people with special needs, promotes initiatives for local integration and assists in the process of family reunification. It also organizes and carries out educational awareness to the public on the situation of refugees in Mexico and the creation and strengthening of support networks. CR receives support from UNHCR.

Position Purpose:

- Provide basic information on services to new users of CR
- Assist in interview process for refugees and asylum seekers
- Facilitate integration of new arrivals to Mexico City.

5. CAFEMIN: <https://www.facebook.com/cafemin1/>

Casa de Acogida y Formación para Mujeres y Familias Migrantes (CAFEMIN) is a non-governmental organization that provides temporary shelter, assistance and job training to migrant women, families and seekers of asylum or refuge, coming from the different countries of Central America, South America and other continents.

The House was founded nine years ago by the Congregation of the Hermanas Josefinas, with the idea of going beyond the basic needs of lodging, toiletries, food and medical services to migrants; the Sister help them integrate into the productive society, providing them with the tools necessary to start a new life when they decide to stay in Mexico. The aim of the Center is to welcome and contribute to the process of training and empowerment of migrant women and their families, potentializing their abilities and personal skills, in order to achieve a satisfactory and full integration in the country.

CAFEMN welcomes migrants for a period of two to three months, during which offered job training in bakery shops, gastronomy, computing and sewing. CAFEMIN also has complementary services in health, and psychological and legal advice in the migration process.

Position Purpose:

- Assist in organizing social and recreational activities for children of migrants.
- Assist in office with administrative work.
- Facilitate social and recreational integration of migrants
- Support other volunteer staff.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Preferred start date: Mid May

Qualifications/skills required:

- Ability to interact with children and seniors
- Ability to adapt to different work environments
- Ability to work with limited resources
- Knowledge of current issues in Mexico, social structure of Mexico and existence of defined social classes.

Language requirements:

Fluent Spanish

Highlights of Organization/background information:

Founded in 1962, La Salle University is among Mexico's most innovative private universities, noted for the facilities offered on campus, the personal attention given to the student and its traditional values and community spirit. It is centrally located within the heart of the trendy Colonia Condesa, which can be easily reached by subway, bus or taxi. It is also within walking distance of many museums, bookstores, restaurants, cafés and movie theatres and only a 20-minute cab ride from the historic downtown center of Mexico City.

At the Center for International Education (CIEL), we take pride in promoting intercultural programs designed to build bridges between Mexico and other nations. Through intellectually challenging and emotionally stimulating learning experiences, we bring participants face to face with Mexican culture and reality.

The Special Programs Office is the contact at CIEL, La Salle. The office provides information on La Salle homestays prior to arrival, initial orientation upon arrival, sets up and accompanies intern to interview and offers guidance and assistance throughout the internship period. Students receive a La Salle student ID, which permits the access to University facilities such as the gym, library and cultural events. Interns are also invited to participate in cultural excursions that are organized by CIEL.