

INTERNSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Greta Bergman

Graduation Semester & Year: Spring 2023

Semester & Year of Internship: Fall 2020-sophomore year

Major: Communication

Hobbies: Skiing, yoga, walking my dog & hanging out with friends & family

Campus Activities: La Femme

Future Plans/Career Goals: Journalism & Non-profit work

Minor: Sociology

Hometown: Ligonier, PA



- **Internship (company/your title):**

Blackburn Center/Medical Advocate & Crisis Counselor

- **How did you find your internship?**

I was interested in volunteering at the Blackburn Center in the spring of 2020 and found information through their website. I then completed my training as a hotline crisis counselor. After my training was finished, I was offered an internship as a medical advocate. Throughout my internship, I continued to volunteer as a hotline crisis counselor and was being trained to be a medical advocate.

- **What were your duties?**

My duties were to support victims of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and sexual assault when they requested that through our local Westmoreland County hospitals. I also offered options to victims and anyone affected by violence via the hotline.

- **How many hours per week were you at your internship site?**

My internship was virtual because of COVID-19, but I was involved with my internship 10 hours per week.

- **What did you enjoy most about your internship?**

I enjoyed the interaction with those who work at the Blackburn Center and how helpful they were to me. I also enjoyed helping victims of domestic violence, intimate partner violence, and sexual assault and offering them services. I truly thought it was a perfect opportunity to make a difference in our community.

- **What was the most difficult aspect of the internship?**

The most difficult aspect of my internship was not being able to shadow the other medical advocates and see how they do their advocacies. I also think that the COVID-19 pandemic had a huge impact on my internship and didn't allow me to do a lot of the things that I would have done. Although I didn't get a typical experience, I still feel honored and proud that I was able to intern with the Blackburn Center and continue my volunteering and advocacy work.

- **How did your experience at UPG and in the Communication department prepare you for your internship?**

I feel as though my experience and major, communications, prepared me for my internship at the Blackburn Center because of the oral, written, and visual communication aspects of everyday life. I was able to exemplify both oral and written communication skills throughout my duties. I was also able to intertwine the aspect of public relations and my minor, sociology, during my time at the Blackburn Center.

- **How has your internship prepared you for a career?**

I feel as though my experience and major, communications, prepared me for my internship at the Blackburn Center because of the oral, written, and visual communication aspects of everyday life. I was able to exemplify both oral and written communication skills throughout my duties. I was also able to intertwine the aspect of public relations and my minor, sociology, during my time at the Blackburn Center.

- **What recommendations do you have for other students about doing an internship?**

Personally, I would encourage everyone to have an internship throughout college. It not only gave me an opportunity to boost my resume but also gave me lifelong lessons and applications that I will never forget. Being able to both help the community and myself was shown through my internship.

√ By checking this box (or initialing next to it) and emailing this document to the campus Internship Coordinator, I give permission to University of Pittsburgh Greensburg to utilize this document along with the photo provided in media publications such as the UPG website, campus bulletin boards, and additional media outlets.

