Project Horseshoe Farm Fellowship
APPLICANT INFORMATION PACKET

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Part I: Logistical Information

Who should consider applying for the Fellowship?

We invite applicants from the full spectrum of majors and backgrounds who have an interest in and the potential for community-based service leadership, including applicants considering community-based service careers or social entrepreneurial activities in healthcare, public health, education, social work, public policy, law, business, and community leadership.

Individuals with a track record of or with an interest in developing new, innovative, or independent community-based initiatives (domestically or abroad) are strongly encouraged to consider applying. Though academic credentials will be taken into consideration, we also seek individuals who have positive personal characteristics such as maturity, empathy, integrity, and strong work ethic.

Fellows will be accepted from a national pool of applicants. We encourage individuals from all across the United States to consider applying.

What are the start and end dates of the Fellowship?

The Fellowship will begin the second Monday in June and end the same date in July of the following year. It is very important that Fellows be able to commit to the full period of the Fellowship because the overlap period of incoming and outgoing Fellows is critical to the continuity of programs.

Is there an option to do a two-year Fellowship?

The Fellowship is primarily designed as a one-year (13-month) experience, but interested Fellows may pursue a two-year (25-month) option. Fellows pursuing this option will take on greater responsibility and a larger leadership role during their second year. Two-year Fellows should also develop a project (research, program development, or other) that can be completed or implemented during their second year. Please indicate any interest in the two-year option on your application.

How many Horseshoe Farm Fellows will be accepted each year?

We expect to accept 12 Fellows for each future Fellowship class. In addition to the 12 mentioned, there are 1-2 returning fellows with each class.

Do Fellows get paid?

We are very sensitive to the issue of student debt burden and its effect on limiting students’ future ability to take risks and pursue unconventional paths. To try to avoid aggravating this problem, First-year Fellows will be provided with free housing and an educational grant of $600/month. Second-Year Fellows will also be provided with free housing, as well as an educational grant of $1000/month. There is also a possibility that you may have student loans deferred by becoming a Horseshoe Farm Fellow. Please consult the financial aid advisor at your college or university for guidance.
Where do Fellows live?

Fellows will live in three different locations during their Fellowship.

For the first six months, approximately half of the Fellows will live together on a portion of the 70-acre Horseshoe Farm campus that is located approximately 3 miles south of Greensboro, Alabama. In this location, the houses have been designed with simple living in mind—therefore, there is no central heat/air conditioning, television, or Internet (though internet is available at multiple sites including the public technology center, the Hotel, the local coffee shop, and the public library in Greensboro). The other half of the Fellows will live together in a one-story house near Main Street. This “in-town” house is equipped with central heat/air conditioning and Internet.

After six months, the two groups will switch houses. The groups will live in their new home for six months. Finally, during the overlap period with New Fellows, all Fellows will live in the homes of several generous community members.

Do I need to have a driver’s license and a car?

Because transportation is central to many components of the Fellowship, Fellows do need to have an active driver’s license prior to arriving at Horseshoe Farm. Horseshoe Farm does have a limited number of automobiles that can be used for organization business and activities, but because Hale County is a rural area without access to public transportation, each Fellow will need to bring their own car for their personal use and to regularly transport program participants and Health Partners, whom otherwise would not have access to programs and services.

Part II: About the Fellowship

Fellows are involved with every aspect of Project Horseshoe Farm. Fellows plan and execute Adult Day Programs and Youth Programs, facilitate and manage the Housing Programs and Health Partners Program, and take on important administrative responsibilities that allow the organization to be successful. Fellows work hard, but they also find time for fun and socialize with community members and other young adults working with other organizations in the community.

Fellows should expect to be challenged and learn a lot. Based on experience from past years, Fellows spend approximately 15% of their time (usually 1 day per week) serving in the housing program, approximately 30% of their time serving in and managing Adult Day programs and outreach programs, approximately 30% of their time on Youth programs, approximately 5-10% of their time on administrative functions, and approximately 10% of their time on shadowing activities, community outreach and engagement activities, activities related to health systems, and activities tailored to Fellows’ specific interests.

A typical week’s schedule, along with detailed descriptions of each activity, can be found on the next two pages.
## Fellows’ Schedule:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8a</strong> Morning Meeting/Transportation for Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>8a</strong> Morning Meeting/Transportation for Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>8a-12p</strong> Community Engagement</td>
<td><strong>8a</strong> Morning Meeting/Transportation for Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>7:30a</strong> Morning Meeting/Transportation for Adult Day Program</td>
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<td><strong>10a-12p</strong> Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>10a-12:30p</strong> Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>12-2:30p</strong> Administrative Time/Health Partners Program</td>
<td><strong>9:30a-11:30a</strong> Adult Day Program</td>
<td><strong>9:30a-11:30a</strong> Adult Day Program</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12-2:30p</strong> Administrative Time/Health Partner Program</td>
<td><strong>12:30-2:30p</strong> Administrative Time/ Health Partner Program</td>
<td><strong>2:30-5:30p</strong> Youth Program</td>
<td><strong>11:30a-2:30p</strong> Administrative Time/ Health Partner Program</td>
<td><strong>12p</strong> Excursions to ‘Get to Know Alabama’</td>
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<td><strong>2:30-5:30p</strong> Youth Program</td>
<td><strong>2:30-5:30p</strong> Youth Program</td>
<td><strong>7-10p</strong> Ultimate Frisbee (optional)</td>
<td><strong>2:30-5:30p</strong> Youth Program</td>
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<td><strong>7p-10p</strong> Discussion w/ Dr. Dorsey</td>
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### Morning Meeting/Transportation:
Fellows participate in daily team meetings with Horseshoe Farm staff members. Afterwards, Fellows drive either Horseshoe Farm vehicles or their own personal vehicles to pick up Day Program participants and bring them to the Day Program. Transporting our program participants is an important part of our program, as it allows fellows to learn further about the community and address a major barrier for the participants.

### Adult Day Program:
In the “Old Hotel,” (now a Community Space), Fellows take the lead in planning, organizing, and running day programs for seniors, adults living with mental illness. Programming involves cooking, exercise, socializing, crafts, and other talents Fellows could share with participants.

### Administrative Time:
Fellows have the opportunity to hone their leadership and management skills and to learn about the operations of a small community based non-profit organization. Fellows recruit and support volunteers, work on continuous program improvement, collaborate with and support nursing and social work students, manage interns, and address organizational or program problems when they arise. Fellows also participate in business and strategy meetings, participate in quarterly Board meetings, help prepare monthly financial summaries for the Board, and help with development and fundraising. Occasionally, Fellows will also volunteer on Saturday with construction and other community related events.

### Health Partners Program:
Fellows provide outreach support to vulnerable community members who could benefit from home visits, transportation, a delivered home-cooked meal, navigate healthcare systems, or other support as needed. Fellows also provide outreach support to vulnerable community members to help improve their quality of life and to help them live successfully in the community.
Youth Programs: In the Youth Programs, Fellows take the lead in planning, organizing, and running programs for at-risk youth in grades K-12. They work with school administrators and teachers, manage and coordinate volunteers in the programs, and work directly with the children. Typically, Fellows manage a table of 7-8 students and set specific math and reading goals for improvement. Additionally, Fellows emphasize employability skills and habits of success with students.

Discussion: Fellows meet with Dr. Dorsey for weekly discussion seminars and movies to help Fellows reflect on and gain a broader understanding of their work at Horseshoe Farm. To further help prepare Fellows for leadership roles amid the complex systems they will likely face, Fellows are introduced through the discussions to topics including community involvement and engagement, management and leadership of non-profit organizations, an introduction to systems of care, healthcare law and ethics, healthcare economics, the structure and financing of the healthcare system, the history of American medicine, and health policy.

Community Engagement: Fellows get involved with the local community by volunteering their time with local individuals and organizations. Past Fellows have spent time with local pastors, farmers, judges, and business, civic leaders, and other health professionals. In this way, Fellows can get involved in the community in ways related to their own unique interests beyond Horseshoe Farm and its service programs.

Excursions: Fellows are encouraged to spend time getting to know the many wonderful people in the community, exploring the fascinating and complex region. Fellows take trips around the local region and the state. Past excursions have included tours of Selma and Demopolis, visits to Priester’s Pecans in Fort Deposit, Perry Lakes Park in Marion, Corn Dog Factory in Demopolis, the “Tire Chapel,” the Safe House Museum in Greensboro, a Montgomery Biscuits Game, Jim Bird’s hay bail art, and weekend trips to Mobile and Huntsville.

Not listed on schedule:

Housing Programs: Fellows are scheduled one day per week to be at the Housing Program, providing companionship to the residents and assisting with daily activities such as cooking, cleaning, and grocery shopping. Fellows also organize and enjoy day trips with residents, support residents in volunteer work and other community activities, provide transportation, and help residents to navigate the healthcare and social services systems.

Shadowing: In order to help Fellows have more direct contact with healthcare and health systems, Fellows have opportunities to shadow several local physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and others who have welcomed Fellows to join them in experiences in local clinics, community hospitals, and other health settings.

Weekends: On the weekends, Fellows do a variety of activities, such as various volunteering opportunities, work days which might include construction work or other organization related business, attending church, going on health partner visits, further exploring Greensboro and the surrounding areas, and more.