



**Internship with Rural and Migrant Ministry**  
**Fall 2017**  
**Garden City, Setauket, or Riverhead, New York**  
**<http://www.ruralmigrantministry.org/>**



Rural & Migrant Ministry (RMM) is a non-profit, non-sectarian organization that works for the creation of a just, rural New York State through:

- Nurturing leadership
- Standing with the disenfranchised, **especially farmworkers** and rural workers
- Changing unjust systems and structures

Students interning with RMM will be working closely with Nathan Berger, the Long Island Accompaniment Coordinator, and Jose Schiffino, the Popular Education Coordinator. Interns can choose from one of three possible internships, each one requiring an average of 8-12 hours per week:

The Justice for Farmworker Campaign (JFW) – Garden City or Setauket

The JFW Campaign aims to change the labor law as it pertains to farmworkers. NYS farmworkers are presently excluded by NY labor law from the right to a day of rest, overtime pay, collective bargaining, child protections, disability insurance, and other basic protections. The Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act (S2727/A4189) removes these exclusions. We are looking for an intern to help build the legislative campaign and the farmworker movement.

Intern's Responsibilities include:

- Developing an understanding of farmworkers in New York and in particular on the east end of Long Island
- Collaborating with allies and planning educational events in the local community to raise awareness of the farmworkers' struggle
  - Panel discussions, workshops, etc.
- Creating pressure on local State Senators to garner their support
  - Setting up constituent visits and actions in targeted state senators' districts.
- Conducting research for campaign distribution materials
  - Track down statistics on the agricultural landscape of Long Island in terms of farms on the East End
- Networking, identifying, and collaborating with other social justice organizations and advocates
  - Meeting with and giving presentations to congregations and social justice groups on the JFW campaign

Popular Education ESL classes/ Outreach—Riverhead

RMM in partnership with the *Consejo* (council) of farmworker and other rural leaders has opened a Worker Education Center in Riverhead NY. We are looking for two-three interns to dedicate at least one evening per week to facilitate weekly evening ESL classes with workers utilizing our curriculum that focuses on justice, equity, and critical consciousness. Depending on your availability and learning objectives, you may also choose to dedicate one afternoon/evening per week to travel to the east end alongside another organizer to conduct outreach or help with a social gathering.

Interns' Responsibilities include:

- Offer an evening ESL class at least once per week in the center in Riverhead
  - Current class schedule to choose from: Tuesday 7-9 Women's Beginner Class; Wednesday 7-9pm Men's Beginner Class; Thursday 7-9pm Co-Ed Advanced Class
  - Read curriculum and develop lesson plans prior to each session. Take notes on how each session went and who came.
- Optional component: Build relationships with workers and connect them to the Worker Education Center
  - Visit farms, homes, churches, local gathering places, and attend events on the east end
  - Help with social event every third Friday from 7-9pm in the Center

Farmworker Solidarity Project (Student Organizer) – Garden City, Setauket, or Remote

RMM has a long history of engaging college students in the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign through internships, campus events, alternative spring breaks, and partnerships on direct actions. Starting winter 2017/2018, we are launching a **new** initiative to increase our student support by creating a student led group to stand with farmworkers. While RMM completes its goal of nurturing young leaders, students will become seasoned advocates and organizers for the JFW campaign and all other future campaigns. The “FSP” intern for Fall 2017 will help us finalize our plan of action for the new project, implement a series of programs to recruit more students, and be an early campus leader. We are seeking at least one intern in Long Island and at least one intern in the Finger Lakes (where we operate another worker education center) to collaborate on this project launch.

Intern’s Responsibilities include:

- Organize on several college campuses in immediate area (send emails or arrange in-person meetings with students and faculty, give short presentations to student orgs, etc)
- Create and facilitate an informational session about the program at at least one college campus
- Identify student and professorial leaders to be promoters or promotores for the program
- Help prepare January retreat for potential FSP campus leaders on Long Island. “Alternative Winter Break” model

**All three positions require the following:**

- Flexible availability\*
- Passion to be an ally for justice
- Driver License and access to vehicle preferential, or ability to arrive to selected office
- Strong communication skills
- Knowledge of Spanish (required for popular education position; only preferred for campaign and FSP)

\* For any of the three positions, we will have a conversation at the outset of the internship to discuss your availability, schedule, and interests. We will set a typical weekly schedule that may change in accordance to shifting program needs (though always within agreed upon parameters).

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*For more information, call Intern Coordinator Katia Chapman at 845-309-8420 or email [ktachapman@gmail.com](mailto:ktachapman@gmail.com)  
[www.ruralmigrantministry.org](http://www.ruralmigrantministry.org)*