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Sunshine Action 2024 Humanitarian Works Internship New York - London - Hong Kong

Overview



Sunshine Action is a non-profit organization founded in Hong Kong in 2008. Since our establishment, the charity has partnered with more than 800 centres and organisations across 23 countries including the US, UK, Chile, Vietnam and recently in the relief programs in Turkey due to the earthquake and Ukraine due to the war, helping over 400,000 individuals and families.

Our programs span 14 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, mainly focusing on food and hunger. We are non-religious, non-political and non-discriminatory, and are also 100% based on volunteers which means that 96% of funding goes directly towards those in need.

Sunshine Action performance reports:
<http://sunshine-action.org/reports>

Keeping up with the Sunshine Ambassadors

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=83R_8y5E9uI

Summary

Since 2021, Sunshine Action has been establishing a new branch office in the US. We would like to invite students interested in charity and social service to join a summer internship and conduct a wide range of tasks, which involves organising humanitarian programs and events, for our US and Hong Kong branches. We are aiming to focus on practical actions and events in this internship. A set of impactful responsibilities is given below as some examples.



Responsibilities

Note that tasks can be tailored to the candidate's own learning interests. For one's reference, the estimated number of hours for each task is given under an internship period of 8 weeks.

New York & London Branches:

- Plan and implement physical poverty-relief programs such as donating Fortune Bags full of essential food and items to low-income families (150 hours)
- Develop partnerships and liaise with local charities for event management (50 hours)
- Assist with marketing efforts and promotion to volunteers (20 hours)
- Contact companies for donations and resources (50 hours)
- Organise fundraising events and write grant proposals (75 hours)
- Propose and develop unique charitable events or projects (25 hours)
- Other ad hoc duties for the charity including administration work

Hong Kong Branch:

- Plan and implement physical poverty-relief programs such as donating Fortune Bags full of essential food and items to low-income families (90 hours)
- Join all practical charity events specially on Friday evening for the street-sleepers and Saturday morning for the packing and distribution of the Sunshine Fortune Bags (30 hours)
- Develop partnerships and liaise with local charities for event management
- Assist with marketing efforts and promotion to volunteers (5 hours)
- Create the short video about the Sunshine Internship to be used to for promotion (25 hours)
- Contact companies for donations and resources (25 hours)
- Organise fundraising events and write grant proposals (25 hours)
- Propose and develop unique charitable events or projects (35 hours)
- Other ad hoc duties for the charity including administration work

Secondary task: Implications of artificial intelligence in social welfare

With recent advances in generative artificial intelligence (AI), chatbots have become increasingly accessible to the general public due to the launch of OpenAI's ChatGPT. Given the enormous amount of language dataset and computing power required to train and operate a language model of such, applications of generative AI in social welfare rely on utilising commercial products provided by technology companies. However, hidden biases and ambiguities are present in the training and fine-tuning processes of commercial chatbots. These uncertainties are inhibiting the implementation of AI for improving productivity and resource optimisation within charity organisations.

An assessment on the practicality of generative AI in social welfare has thus become the first objective of Sunshine Action responding to this new technology. The followings are some concerns towards using generative AI with an audience of vulnerable and marginalised communities:

- Unreliable healthcare information and legal advice
- Sensible personal data being provided by the user
- Lack of accountability in decision-making

Extended objectives towards the implementation are suggested as follows:

- Identify the present needs of seniors/children affected by lockdown or under severe illness
- Brainstorm and suggest potential AI solutions for these needs
- Consult AI professionals about the visibility of these solutions
- Get a quotation for the service of AI training and operation
- Prepare a proposal for funding applications

As big data analytics and artificial intelligence are imposing challenges on current society, ranging from education, government regulation, to social justice, students aiming at any career should be able to find it relevant. Notice that the above project serves as a future vision of Sunshine Action. Students

are advised to attempt these additional but optional tasks on top of the main responsibilities presented in former sections.



Requirements

- Interest in the charity sector (required)
- Excellent sense of responsibility and detail-oriented (required)
- Creative and willing to think outside the box (required)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills (required)
- Proactive and willing to take initiative to start unique projects (required)
- Strong independent worker without need for much supervision (desired)
- Interested in developing and improving leadership skills (desired)

Internship Period

Flexible start date in June or July for a minimum of 8 weeks, this can be arranged and negotiated with each intern.

Location

For the **US branch**, the internship will be conducted in hybrid format, with a preference for candidates being located around New York City. Events and partner visiting will be organised in person. Much of the writing tasks will be done remotely from home, since Sunshine Action does not have a physical office in the US. Regular meetings will mostly take place online.

For the **Hong Kong branch**, all events will take place in person, with meetings being both in person and online.



Eligibility

Open to all years.

How to apply

Please apply by sending an email to Adrian Yan at **ambassador@sunshine-action.org**, attaching your CV and a cover letter detailing why you are interested in the role and why you would be a good candidate.

Required Application Documents

- Resume
- Cover letter

Please address your cover letter to Adrian Yan (Director & Head of Sunshine Ambassadors) and Sunny Mak (Founder & Director).

For more information about Sunshine Action:

- The YouTube Channel of Sunshine Action: <https://www.youtube.com/@sunshineaction22>