

Kaveri's practicum experience involved working as the advocacy intern for Share Our Strength's No Kid Hungry Campaign. Share Our Strength® has led the fight against hunger and poverty, since 1984 by inspiring and organizing individuals and businesses to share their strengths. Today, through the No Kid Hungry campaign, they are ending childhood hunger in America by ensuring that all children get the healthy food they need. The advocacy and government relations team, work with elected officials and government agencies at the federal, state and local level, to strengthen and improve food security programs that children rely on. As part of her three-month internship she aided the advocacy team with developing stakeholder lists for strategic communication, tracking legislation, understanding politicians' priorities in hunger and poverty, and kick-starting a climate change initiative.

One of her first projects was to research state governors' gubernatorial and state of state speeches, and highlight their interest in child hunger, poverty, education and health. She compiled information from speeches across 34 states and created a resource that highlighted each governors' priorities with respect to these issues. This was done to enable the advocacy team to pinpoint champion politicians and aid with their strategic outreach.

Kaveri also provided support to kick-start a new climate change initiative. The No Kid Hungry Campaign is in the initial phases of understanding its role in the issue of climate change and has hired a consulting firm to determine potential opportunities to engage with. As part of this initiative, Kaveri created briefs on organizations working at the intersection of climate change and child food insecurity, to help the project better understand this landscape.

As part of her final intern project, designed with the help of her team, she researched Farm-to-School legislation and how it relates to No Kid Hungry's school breakfast priorities in the states of California, Texas and Florida. She looked into the correlation and overlap of legislation, sponsors and the demographics of the districts they represent, for these two programs. This was meant to help the advocacy team better understand the Farm-to-School landscape and its potential role in pushing forward school breakfast legislation. She compiled her findings into a final presentation, which was delivered to her team and the senior management.

The entire internship was an immense learning experience that gave Kaveri new skills in analyzing policy and tracking legislation. It helped her better understand the issues of poverty and hunger in the US and what the current legislative priorities are. Through this internship she was able to get a better understanding of how the US government functions and legislation is passed. Most importantly she learned about the role of advocacy in bringing about social change.