Boston Children’s Hospital, Office of Government Relations
www.childrenshospital.org/government-relations-and-public-policy/

- Anushi Shah (International Relations, Community Health, 2015)
- Government Relations Intern
- Full-time, 40 hours per week
- Paid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
My duties include attending coalition and legislative meetings at the State House to help increase awareness of pediatric oriented legislation. I also read reports on topics such as child welfare and obesity prevention to prepare memos and briefs for team. I also have some administrative tasks such as creating monthly newsletters and keeping the department website and advocacy materials up-to-date. Finally, I aid in legislative research and applying for grant opportunities.

How did you find your internship?
I found the internship on Jumbo Jobs.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
I really enjoy the hands-on experience that I gain through this internship. I am also made to feel like a member of the team at this internship. When I attend State House meetings, I am encouraged and pushed to participate. Furthermore, I really enjoy the legislative research I get to do, because it really helps shape the priorities that the hospital will focus on in the upcoming legislative season. Working in a hospital, it is also nice to see the clinical side of public health since I can work with clinicians to further legislative priorities.

What do you find challenging?
The time commitment is the single most difficult thing about this internship. 40 hours a week for three months makes your summer feel non-existent especially factoring in commute time, but the experience I am gaining far outweighs any issues this time requirement creates.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
The one piece of advice I would give is to make your own opportunities and take an active role in the internship. Yes, you are an intern so by nature you know less then everybody and are here to learn, but that does not mean that your opinion is not valued or needed. Speak up in meetings, where appropriate, and seek out opportunities to further your own goals. I followed up with some of the doctors I met so I could shadow them in a clinical setting. I also positioned myself so that I could procure another internship at the hospital.

About the Organization
Boston Children’s Hospital: Office of Government Relations
Boston, MA

Boston Children's Hospital's Office of Government Relations works with policy decision-makers at the local, state, and national levels to uphold the hospital's mission of providing exceptional clinical care, research, and training for pediatric providers. We work to develop sustainable and systemic solutions to child health concerns, such as asthma, obesity, child development and mental health. We are proud of our many partnerships with community organizations that advocate on behalf of children.