Maine Medical Center Research Institute | www.mmcri.org

- Susannah Daggett (Child Development, 2016)
- Research Assistant
- Full-time, 40 hours per week
- Paid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
I was paired with a principal investigator (PI) and worked on his research projects involving psychology, education, risk communication, and patient outcomes. My tasks included searching and compiling existing literature, helping write and prepare papers for submission, and programming surveys for data collection.

How did you find your internship?
I found this internship through a basic google search. However, MMC is also a teaching hospital affiliated with Tufts Medical School, so there is a LOT of overlap in doctors, professors, and researchers between the two institutions (networking!).

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
The PIs have weekly lectures to share their work and network with the interns. I had a choice in projects I wanted to work on and got to co-author a few papers which was an awesome learning experience. There are also free social events for the interns, like a lobster bake and a white-water rafting trip!

What do you find challenging?
It was intimidating at first to work with the doctors and PIs, so you have to get used to speaking up and trusting your own ideas. I sometimes felt that I was getting more out of the program than I was contributing; this was a good thing because I was learning so much, but I also didn’t want to be a burden to the team.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
I’d urge anyone who is interested in medicine, biomedical engineering, bench research, psychology, or public health to apply - you'll be paired with a PI based on your interests. The application deadline is January 15th and requires recommendations from professors, so ask them before winter break!

About the Organization
Maine Medical Center Research Institute
Portland, ME

The Maine Medical Center Research Institute supports and encourages a broad spectrum of research at Maine Medical Center ranging from basic laboratory-based research through the translational research, which works to apply basic discoveries to medical problems, to clinical research, which studies the direct application of new drugs, devices and treatment protocols to patients, to health services research which seeks to use research methods to help improve and evaluate health care delivery programs and new technologies.