What do you do as an intern at this organization?
New Sector Alliance places fellows in host site nonprofits where fellows have a specific project or role. New Sector also provides fellows with trainings throughout the summer that teach fellows leadership and professional skills. Fellows also meet every other week with learning teams, and are placed with a professional mentor in the social sector. My host site is Thrive in 5, a nonprofit that works to get children under 5 kindergarten-ready.

How did you find your internship?
I saw it on a top ten list of fellowships.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
I like how New Sector sets you up with a specific project that is very meaningful to the host site organization. My main project this summer is to make a training and handbook for the people we hire to do child development screening in Boston. This is different than other internships I have had because I feel like a real employee and I am very motivated to do my work because I know how important it is to Thrive in 5. I like that I work on my project independently, with periodic check-ins with my supervisor. I am proud of the work I have done so far, and by the end of the summer I will have a tangible product (the handbook and training) that is all my own work and will be extremely valuable to the organization.

What do you find challenging?
The time commitment of the fellowship is more than I am used to. It was an adjustment to be working 40 hours a week, and on top of that there is additional prep work for the trainings, and meetings outside of business hours every other week with learning teams and with a mentor.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
There are 2 application deadlines, an early one in December and the regular one in March. It is an intense application process that involves essays and multiple interviews. Once you are selected for the fellowship there are additional interviews to place you with a host site. I applied on a whim and I didn’t really think I had a chance of getting the fellowship, so I encourage anyone to apply if they are interested!

About the Organization
New Sector Alliance
Boston, MA (also in San Francisco and Chicago)

The New Sector Summer Fellowship program is an intensive 11-week program for current and recent undergraduate students and graduate students who are committed to the social sector. Fellows are selected from a highly competitive pool and serve in a cohort of 25 fellows with organizations in Boston, San Francisco and Chicago areas. Fellows serve full-time to strengthen nonprofit and community organizations, while engaging in intensive professional development activities to strengthen their skills for immediate and future impact.