

ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE EMPOWER CENTER INTERNSHIP FALL 2025

Sanctuary for Families is New York's leading service provider and advocate for survivors of domestic violence, sex trafficking, and related forms of gender violence. Sanctuary works to end gender violence through three key areas: direct service; outreach, education and training; and systems-change advocacy. Every year, Sanctuary empowers thousands of adults and children to move from fear and abuse to safety and stability, transforming lives through a comprehensive range of services.

The EMPOWER Center and Anti-Trafficking Initiative are looking for one 2L or 3L law student as an intern for the Fall 2025 term. The intern will assist with direct representation in family law, immigration, and criminal-legal cases on behalf of survivors of commercial sexual exploitation.

This internship has options for both virtual and/or in-person work. If requested, the intern will be provided with their own desk at our main office. The position entails a commitment of at least 10 hours per week. We will work with students to fulfill any externship requirements. The position is unpaid; we will provide all necessary information and documentation for students who seek to secure outside funding.

Qualifications:

The team seeks a motivated individual who enjoys having dynamic and varied projects across multiple issue areas. This internship will include work on several different tasks throughout each week with opportunities to attend court, client meetings, and stakeholder conferences.

Applicants should possess strong interpersonal, analytical, and writing skills, and a demonstrated interest in combating gender-based violence. Coursework in family law, experience working with trafficking survivors, and proficiency in a foreign language are preferred but not required.

In-person candidates should expect to attend court in Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, and/or Queens, as well as meetings based in Manhattan. Remote candidates will be invited to join virtual court appearances and virtual meetings.

Responsibilities May Include:

- Under the supervision of an attorney, prepare petitions and other filings in family offense, custody, visitation, divorce, guardianship and other family court or matrimonial matters;
- Under the supervision of an attorney, prepare immigration applications such as T Visas, U Visas, and Asylum applications, including writing affidavits;
- Help with the preparation of witnesses and materials for trial;
- Attend family court and criminal proceedings;
- Under the supervision of an attorney, and if a candidate has completed two years of law school, appear on the record in family court order of protection proceedings;
- Educate clients about their legal rights and remedies;
- Attend meetings with clients in the office and in various courthouses;
- Engage in legal advocacy with other stakeholders, in particular related to commercial sexual exploitation;
- Provide memorandums of law across various subjects, including but not limited to family law, immigration, and criminal law.

To Apply:

Send a resume and cover letter to volunteer@sffny.org and ahertzberg@sffny.org by September 12, 2025.