

HOPE CHRISTIAN CENTER 

SUMMER INTERNSHIP

OVERVIEW

The aim of the Hope Christian Center Summer Internship is to provide men who desire to teach and preach God's Word an opportunity to engage in daily face-to-face ministry with men who have struggled with drug and alcohol addictions (or are seeking freedom from other life-controlling issues), to grow in teaching the Bible in a context that requires clarity and simplicity, and to experience life in a small inner-city church committed to the gospel.

WHAT IS HOPE CHRISTIAN CENTER?

Hope Christian Center is “a residential discipleship program for men with life controlling problems.” More specifically, Hope is a house in the Bronx where men (up to 15 at a time) from all sorts of backgrounds and with various kinds of life-controlling or family-damaging addictions and hang-ups are given a place to live, eat, and learn about Christ from pastors and Christian teachers. Though some call Hope Center a “drug rehab program,” it would be more accurate to describe it as a strictly structured Bible school and counseling center (see Appendix A for more specifics about the program).

OPPORTUNITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

The Hope Summer Internship lasts 6 to 8 weeks (to be determined during interview process) and involves a wide range of ministry opportunities (to one intern each summer). The intern will maintain a consistent ‘core’ ministry to the men of Hope Center, while at the same time benefitting from more occasional opportunities to teach, serve, and worship alongside the members of the Bronx Household of Faith (BHOF), a closely affiliated local church. On the flipside, the Summer Internship provides both the men of Hope and the members of BHOF the opportunity to be encouraged and challenged by the unique gifts and insights of a Christian brother from another church.

Among other things, the HCC Summer Intern will have the opportunity to:

@ Hope Center

- Conduct one-on-one interviews of incoming HCC students (see Appendix B)
- Plan and lead morning chapels (half-hour devotionals, 2x weekly)
- Plan and teach a two-week course on a book of Scripture (8 sessions total)
- Participate in various classes and activities alongside HCC students
- Conduct one-on-one follow-up interviews with students in the later phases of the program

@ The Bronx Household of Faith

- Teach two sessions of Bible class to students at BHOF's school for at-risk middle schoolers
- Plan and share a 5-minute (informal) exhortation to prayer at a midweek prayer meeting
- Preach for a Sunday morning service
- Participate in BHOF's Vacation Bible School program, a week-long outreach to kids in the immediate neighborhood

QUALIFICATIONS

The Hope Christian Center Summer Internship will be most beneficial to someone actively pursuing growth in godliness, ready to encounter challenging situations, and willing to be flexible and proactive. The application process is intended to help applicants and Hope Center's leadership think through the demands of the position in terms of the following criteria: character, competency, and compatibility.

CHARACTER

Required essays

- (1) How do you hope to benefit from being at Hope Christian Center? (1 full page)
- (2) What do you think you have in common with the men who come to Hope? (2 full pages)

Application

[Click here](#) for online application, or email jordanroberts@hopecenterny.org to request a paper copy. Please submit application, essays, and references by Feb 1st, 2021.

References

Please have reference letters from each of the following emailed to the above address or mailed to

Hope Christian Center
P.O. Box 12
Bronx, NY 10453

- (1) Church leader
- (2) Friend
- (3) Relative

COMPETENCY

Please include with your application one of the following:

- (1) Sample sermon manuscript, or
- (2) Sample paper/class assignment which includes a significant element of *application*

COMPATIBILITY

Qualified applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview with Jack, the director of Hope Christian Center, in order to assess compatibility and to discuss ways the internship might be adjusted to suit the needs and gifts of the applicant.

"QUARTERS"

Single men will share a room with men at HCC or live with a host family. Married men with families are also welcome to apply, and housing arrangements will be pursued based on family size, etc.

SCHEDULE

Because of the unique nature of Hope Center, the timing of various aspects of the internship are necessarily subject to change. The benefit of this is that the internship itself is relatively flexible and can be adjusted to suit the various strengths and specific availability of the intern. Below is an extremely detailed sample schedule of the first week of the internship to give potential interns a general idea of what to expect. The next page contains a possible weekly progression.

WEEK 1

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6 AM Staff prayer	8:30 AM Morning chapel	8 AM Visit Hope Academy	8:30 AM Morning chapel	8:30 AM Breakfast with Pastor Hall	7 AM BHOE leaders' study	9:30 AM Sunday School
7 AM Breakfast with students	10 AM Observe group studies class	10 AM Observe group studies class	10 AM Observe group studies class	10 AM Observe group studies class	9 AM "New York City Christian Athletic League"	11 AM Worship service
8 AM Orientation with assistant director	11 AM Observe Bible class	11 AM Observe Bible class	11 AM Observe Bible class	11 AM Observe Bible class		1:30 PM (Optional) games, etc. with Hope students
8:30 Morning chapel	12 PM Lunch/recreation with students	12 PM Lunch/recreation with students	12 PM Lunch/recreation with students	12 PM Lunch/recreation with students	12 PM Lunch with BHOE family	5 PM Dinner with BHOE member or service at church of choice
10 AM Orientation with director	1 PM Prayer or free time	1 PM Prayer or free time	1 PM Prayer or free time	1 PM Prayer or free time	Afternoon Free	
11 AM Observe Bible class	1:30 PM Interview 1 st phase student	1:30 PM Interview with 2 nd phase students	1:30 PM Interview 1 st phase student	1:30 PM Interview 1 st phase student		
12 PM Lunch/recreation with students	3 PM Free/study time	5:30 PM Dinner with host family	2:30 PM Free/study time	2:30 PM Weekly debrief /planning meeting		
1 PM Prayer or free time	5 PM Dinner with director's family	7:30 PM BHOE prayer meeting	5:00 Dinner with students	3 PM Free		
1:30 PM Furniture refinishing with students	7 PM Times Square Church		7:00 "Transformed" (BHOE outreach to teen boys) or free time	5:30 Dinner with host family		
4:30-5 PM Dinner with students				7 PM "Battalion" (BHOE Bible study for teen boys) or Salem Church with HCC		

WEEK 2

- Lead 3 chapels
- Plan following two weeks' Bible classes
- Visit Hope Academy again; discuss next week's lesson with principal

WEEK 3

- Teach Bible class at Hope Academy
- Lead 2 chapels
- Teach Bible class (4x)
- Interview/pray with 2nd/3rd phase students
- Lead inductive Bible study or Ed Welch's *Crossroads* study with 2nd/3rd phase students
- Prepare sermon; preach at BHOF

WEEK 4

- Preaching debrief
- Teach Bible class at Hope Academy
- Lead 2 chapels
- Teach Bible class (4x)
- Attend Hope night classes/church visits

WEEK 5 (VBS)

- Lead morning chapels (2X)
- Plan for/participate in BHOF VBS (5 afternoons)

WEEK 6

- Lead 3 chapels
- Follow-up Interviews w. men interviewed in weeks 1-2
- Final debrief

APPENDIX A: MISSION, VISION, PROGRAM

MISSION

To present the whole counsel of God through daily Bible classes and church services, and apply its truth in work situations, conflict resolution, personal and family counseling, while coaching a man as he progresses from the street to a stable Christian lifestyle.

VISION

To see men with life-controlling problems become mature men of God, being faithful in their responsibilities as husbands, fathers, sons, employees and church members.

PROGRAM

Hope Christian Center is a residential discipleship program for men 18 years and older. It provides a structured, supportive routine of instruction, study, work, and fellowship for the purpose of introducing men to genuine knowledge of the living God through Jesus Christ and equipping them to live in reliance on him.

Three Phases

In the first phase, lasting four months, men attend four hours of chapel and Bible classes in the morning and refinish furniture in the afternoons.

The second phase, lasting one month, includes Bible classes in the mornings, volunteering at other ministries and helping at Hope as needed.

Having demonstrated readiness for employment or school, a student enters the third phase. During these four months, he obtains employment, saves money for renting a room/apartment and connects with a local church.

Graduation

After demonstrating faithfulness for the next year in his walk with the Lord, his family responsibilities, his church and his employment, a man is considered a graduate of Hope Christian Center.

APPENDIX B: NEW STUDENT INTERVIEW

Because Hope Christian Center operates on the conviction that the crucial question for each man who enters the program is about his relationship to Christ, everything done here revolves around helping men think through their specific stories, sins, and struggles as they relate to God and his Word. Men encounter the truth that the glory of God, the words of Scripture, and the gospel in particular provide the only sane framework for understanding their place in God's world and the only ground for lasting hope.

To that end, Summer Interns are encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to hear from students about their lives and to engage the men with biblical wisdom and gospel-hope. This "survey" is given orally to incoming students as a means to facilitating interaction between interns and new students.

Hope Christian Center Student Questionnaire

1. Why did you come to Hope?
2. What has been your experience with religion?
3. Have you ever been baptized in water?
4. Have you ever been a member of a church?
5. Have you ever been under church discipline?
6. What would you say to someone who asked you how to get to heaven?
7. What would you say to God if you died and when you stood before him he asked you, "Why should I accept you into heaven?"
8. Do you think the Bible is mostly true, somewhat true, or completely true?

9. How much of the Bible have you read?

10. Do you think if people are sincere in what they believe, even if they aren't Christians, that God will take that into consideration when they stand before him?

11. What do you think makes it difficult for you to live like a Christian?

12. What is the hardest thing in the Bible for you to accept?

13. Do you think God has been fair to you? Why?

14. What do you think you need to see happen before you can truly be a Christian?

15. Is it important to go to church? Why or why not?

16. Do you think God will take the way other people mistreated you into consideration when he judges you one day?

17. How can a person know God will accept him into heaven?

18. If you died tonight, what do you think would happen to you?

19. What do you need to make you happy?

20. What do you think are your chances of living well after leaving Hope?

CONTACT

For more information regarding the Hope Christian Center Internship:

Jack Roberts, Director

hope@hopecenterny.org

718-295-0998 (Ask for Jack Roberts)

For more information about Hope Christian Center in general:

www.hopecenterny.org

718-295-0998 (Ask for David Mapes, Assistant Director)