

400 Fairfax Road, Apt F44
Blacksburg, VA 24060
571-643-8763
mariams7@vt.edu

MARIAM SHELTON

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Mariam Shelton, and I am currently a first year Master of Public Health candidate at Virginia Tech, specializing in both Infectious Diseases Public Health Education. I am submitting my application to National Women's Health Network for a possible health policy or advocacy internship, because I am passionate health policy, specifically with women's health issues, such as domestic abuse, human trafficking, and reproductive/LGBTQIA+ rights.

It is no secret there is a drastic disparity in women and children's health in comparison to men's: we have seen increased gender-based violence on college campuses, excessive TRAP laws or tampon taxes across the country, a rise in defunding Planned Parenthood clinics, millions of women and children being internationally trafficked into sex slavery, and much more. There is constant oppression targeted towards women and children – especially upon immigrants and people of color – and a lack of policy to protect them from such. Consequently, the basic medical needs, health education, and justice for millions of people in this country are not being adequately met. In the wake of the new President and Vice President-Elects, now more than ever do we need to develop policies and programs to provide for women and children, as well as advocate for the rights of the marginalized community members who deserve a positive, healthy environment.

It is my goal to not only utilize my present public health knowledge and skills, but to gain more hands-on experience in the field to further my educational and career goals. Based on my academic, professional, and personal background, I believe I would make a strong candidate as an intern for the National Women's Health Network in the summer of 2017. I greatly believe in the organization's mission to promote federal policies and health education to meet women's needs and improve their quality of life. I am eager for an opportunity to contribute to an organization as vital as NWHN, and work alongside reputable professionals to reach those goals.

My resume is also attached to this email, and I hope you will consider me for the position. I look forward to hearing from you!

Best regards,
Mariam Shelton