Spring 2020 Internships

**Tyler Caron** is a senior business management major who interned at Gift and Thrift thrift store in Harrisonburg. His intern experience provided opportunities for learn how the nonprofit organization operates and learn about both the nonprofit and business side of things. “This experience enhanced my existing skills,’ says Tyler. He stated that the internship allowed him to build on things he learned in both his major and the Nonprofit Studies minor. He was able to see real-life examples of things talked about in class, such as volunteers, public relations, the mission, and much more. This internship made him more knowledgeable about not only Gift & Thrift, but how nonprofit organizations operate. “I'm fortunate that I could be a part of this work and the mission and learned so much from this. I think the whole experience was worthwhile and encourages not only nonprofit minors to be a part of it, but anyone interested in the ideas of nonprofits or volunteering,” said Tyler.

**Lindsey Kozlowski** is a senior who interned Vine and Fig, a local affiliate of New Community Project. Her internship left her feeling better equipped to enter the working world. One of her highlights of working with Vine and Fig was the relationships she developed with the people working on site and with individuals who were staying in the resident housing. “I cherish every conversation and have many takeaways from my interactions and lessons learned from others in a working environment, says Lindsey. She also felt her character grew from working in the garden and restoring the tiny home. She went on to note hoe some tasks can seem tedious, “I used various tools throughout my time working at Vine and Fig. If you are not equipped with the right tools, you may not able to accomplish it. The same can be true in other areas of life.”

**Austin Luke**, a junior, interned at Parents’ Place of Maryland in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. His class schedule allowed him to be there on Mondays and Fridays. Austin, a Public Policy and Administration major, was able to take part in multiple projects that tested his knowledge of nonprofit principles, leadership, and governance while solidifying the importance of inter-governmental relationships and advocacy. He built upon existing skills and learned new skills that will help throughout his education and career. He says principles from NPS 300 and NPS 320 gave him the foundation to work well within the nonprofit organization, and principles from his major classes, helped to tie in the relationship of PPMD’s work and his own contributions to the organization. The experience demonstrated how nonprofits provide essential services.