



Urban Internship Program



Ayesha Khan

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Developing Literacy
San Francisco, California, 94104
Attn: Developing Literacy Hiring Manager

18th April, 2011

Dear Mr. Irfan Ali:

I am writing to express my strong interest in the Development Analyst position with Developing Literacy. As someone who is passionate about improving the education and welfare of impoverished South Asian communities, I was delighted to find a job posting that suited my academic background and interests so well. I believe that my experience in writing, research, and the non-profit sector make me a unique candidate for this role, and nothing would thrill me more than contributing my talents and skills to it.

At San Francisco State University, I studied Political Science with an area focus on South Asia, inspired by my own experiences traveling to the region and witnessing its circumstances firsthand. As a student, I learned much about the histories, culture, politics, and social issues of South Asia, and am very eager to put my education to practical use to better the living conditions of the poor in those areas. I am currently a researcher at Your Credit, a startup company that allows users to take greater control of their credit reports. My study of the credit and microfinance industries aids in executive decisions on our web application's global scope. These analyses of the microfinance and lending industries have drawn on my education, but have also sparked a deep interest in how they impact worldwide poverty alleviation, inspiring me to further pursue a career in the non-profit and development sector.

In addition to my research experience, I have also done social change work with the Bay Area Leaders and the Young Women for Empowerment. At Bay Area Leaders, I researched policies created regarding California's public education system and presented my research in PowerPoint slides, email digests to mailing lists, and the company's weekly newsletter. Through my work with Young Women for Empowerment, an organization that empowers girls to create social change in their communities, my action team created a media press kit on volunteerism and its positive effects upon youth that was sent to various Bay Area TV stations, resulting in interviews that appeared on ABC 7 and CBS 5. I also spoke on behalf of the organization at various fundraising, networking, and other social events before hundreds of CEOs, politicians, educators, and other stakeholders. Through my involvements with the BAL and YWE, I learned firsthand of the social and economic issues that affected the Bay Area, while becoming more articulate in my verbal and communication skills.

As a South Asian who is passionate about improving the education of children in poverty, I think very highly of Developing Literacy's programs and would like nothing more than the opportunity to join your team. My knowledge and skill sets combine perfectly for the Development Analyst position, and I feel very strongly that I would be extremely successful in this role. I also see that this position would afford me the space to continue to learn, thrive and grow in an environment suited to my interests.

Sincerely,

Ayesha Khan