

Expanding Knowledge: Fall 2021 Intern Profiles

NICOLE FIELDS

16-17 YEAR OLD INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Why did you choose to join the Internship Program?

I really wanted to pick another internship after doing the Tribal Safety one.

What program (Financial Empowerment/Tribal Sovereignty/Cultural Awareness/Tribal Safety/Serrano Language Revitalization Program) did you choose to intern with and why?

I chose the Serrano Language Revitalization Program or SLRP. The Serrano language has been a big part of my life ever since I started learning it at two years old. When I learned there was going to be a language revitalization program, I thought it would be a cool opportunity to teach younger kids what I've been learning. I also wanted to share the language and spread it to more of my family so I can speak it to more than just two people.

During the internship I helped with lesson planning and created pictures that can be seen on the walls of the classrooms. In addition, I wrote children's stories and translated them into the Serrano language and also did transcripts for recorded stories.

Why should the Tribal Community participate in the Tribal Internship Program?

I think the Tribal Community should participate in the SLRP because a lot of more people should learn Serrano. There's probably only a handful that have a good solid understanding of the language. I feel like it would be nice for everyone to learn.

What is one or two valuable things you have learned in your internship?

I received a lot of teaching experience from this. I learned how to handle certain situations and find out how kids' minds work. I also learned different ways to teach kids as well as grammar and sentence structure when it comes to writing and translating.

I really want to go into teaching when I graduate high school. I am hoping to return and become a full-time SLRP employee or use it as a place to provide hours I might need while in college.