PICS 2019
Human Rights Campaign

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‘21
The Organization

This summer I worked within the foundation of the Human Rights Campaign Organization with the Children, Youth and Families team. The Human Rights Campaign Organization consists of three subsidiary organizations: the HRC Foundation, the HRC 501c4, and the HRC PAC. The Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit that works to change public perception of the LGBTQ community, improve societal inclusion of LGBTQ people, and eliminate non-legal barriers to LGBTQ equality. In other words, the foundation works for change outside of the courtroom or congress. The 501c4 acts as HRC’s lobbying wing while the PAC directly works to elect or oppose candidates on the basis of the voting records and past statements relating to LGBTQ people or issues.
The Mission

I also learned a lot more about the rights of LGBTQ people in general and in the world of adoption, parenting, and social services. I found it important and interesting to learn about these matters for my own personal life. In some areas I was astounded in how far our community, thanks in no small part to HRC, has come, yet there were several different instances in which I was horrified to see how far we still must go.
My main job included copy editing training documents designed to familiarize foster care, adoption, and social services professionals with LGBTQ-specific needs, concerns, and best practices so as to improve outcomes for LGBTQ people in out of home care. In addition to this, I worked on a series of databases that the team uses to record and contact adoption agencies, state departments of health and human services, and business partners. My last task was to compile a list of LGBTQ and Trans-specific youth conferences for HRC to partner with or fund.
The group of interns working this summer became quite close. We ate lunch together everyday and quickly began hanging out everyday after work. The other interns on my floor and I will surely be close for years to come.