2018 Upstate Institute Summer Field School Fellowship in the Adirondacks

**Title:** The factors of generational poverty in the Adirondacks

**Community Partner:** Family YMCA of the Glens Falls Area

*A literature review and research project in Glens Falls, NY for a student with research methods skills and an interest in community development and nonprofit work.*

**Project Description:**
Generational poverty has been identified as an increasing issue in the Y’s service area by foundations including the Glens Falls Foundation, local school districts and non-profit organizations. The Glens Falls Foundation has invested over $60,000 to support programs. Area school districts have spoken on this topic at different events and non-profit organizations are providing related programs.

The Y would like a Fellow to research factors of generational poverty in the Y’s service area: Warren, Washington and Northern Saratoga counties, through published studies and other related means, both regional and national. After identifying these factors, the Fellow will show how they relate to the Y’s service area.

**About the Community Partner:**
For nearly 130 years, the Y has strengthened our community by putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. With over 9,000 members (a third of which are youth up to 18) the Y brings families closer together, encourages good health, and fosters connections through fitness, sports, fun, and shared interests. The Y impacts approximately 19,500 people in the community by helping to improve their health and overall well-being or by giving back and providing to their neighbors. The Y serves the entire community and is open to everyone. In 2016, $367,000 was provided in financial assistance to people who otherwise would have faced economic barriers to participate.

The programs offered in the service area range from youth enrichment programming in a preschool readiness programs for 2 year olds, child care programming which includes afterschool care and summer camp, wellness programming for adults and seniors and educational programs including parenting classes. The Y offers over 300 program each seasonal session which meets identified community needs.

**Required Skills:**
A student well-suited for a Summer Field School Fellowship with the Y will have skills, experience or interest in survey design, research, and public speaking.

**Logistics:**
This is a full-time paid research position (35 hours per week) to last approximately 10 weeks, conducted under the joint supervision of the Upstate Institute and the Family YMCA of the Glens Falls Area at the Y’s facility. The Fellow will be supervised by Kristen Flynn, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator, with additional support from Brian Bearor, CEO. Field School Fellows receive a research stipend of $4500. The cost of transportation will be covered by the Upstate Institute, but a Fellow will need a U.S. drivers’ license to complete this work. Housing will also be provided and paid for by the Upstate Institute.