

A Perfect Score

At A Chance In Life, we value progress over perfection. We know we can't solve the education gap in every country today - so we work, child by child, to provide schooling and vocational training in the most marginalized communities across the globe. We knew we couldn't help every person affected by the pandemic this year in Ethiopia, India, Latin America and Uganda - but with the support of our donors and partners, we managed to provide emergency food supplies to over 10,000 children and family members.

Every once in awhile, however....it's nice to be perfect! We are thrilled and honored to announce that we have been awarded a perfect score of 100 by Charity Navigator, the largest charity evaluator in the United States. Fewer than 1% of ranked charities receive a perfect score, which Charity Navigator determines based on a nonprofit's financial responsibility, accountability and transparency in their work. This year, that places us among the top 70 out of 160,000 evaluated nonprofits and among the top 22 nonprofits in our sector of human services!

We are grateful for the trust of our supporters and work tirelessly with our program partners to always be 100% worthy of it. When you give to A Chance In Life, you can give with the confidence that every dollar is put to the best possible use to serve at-risk youth around the world.

Thank you for being a part of our mission and our community. We are proud to celebrate this accomplishment with all of you!



Gabriele Delmonaco
President/Executive Director





As part of our expanding efforts to engage with and serve young people in New York City, A Chance In Life is proud to be part of New York's Work, Learn & Grow youth employment program. We are currently mentoring eight public high school students as interns, and we're grateful for their help serving marginalized kids around the world.

After participating in workshops in communications, development, negotiation and lateral thinking, our interns are now working to create a marketing plan to promote ACIL's Sponsorship Program and raise support for at-risk children across the globe. Flip to the final page of this newsletter to meet three of our rock star interns and hear their perspectives on the program!

We're grateful to the members of the ACIL community who have generously donated their time to help make this program a success. A number of our board members and partners have led presentations on helpful topics such as:

Career Readiness

ACIL Board Chairman Rob Iommazzo, co-founder and Managing Partner of SEBA International, met with interns over Zoom to share career tips based on his own experience. He emphasized the skills that one can learn from entry-level and service jobs. "Working in the hospitality space, successfully, prepares you to bob, weave, and work with all different types of personalities. It is incredibly valuable."

Tim Tynan, ACIL Board member and former CEO of Bank of America Merchant Services, spoke of the challenges and rewards of working in an international setting and the advantages of having a 'diversity of thinking' on any team. In response to our interns' questions about work-life balance, he advised, "The most important thing anybody can do in life is understand what their priorities are, and to focus your time and energy on the things that are most important. That doesn't mean completely dropping one thing or the other ... it's a balancing act."



Financial Literacy

A Chance In Life recognizes financial literacy as an essential component of a quality education. For years, we've worked with our partner programs to provide financial literacy training to young people abroad. Now, with the help of our newest supporter, Azora Capital, we're excited to offer these services to our interns here in NYC. Founder and CIO Ravi Chopra gave the first of three financial literacy talks and taught how "the magical power of compounding" can be harnessed by investing even a small amount at a young age.



"As someone who has spent the last 20 years studying and investing in financial services companies, I fully appreciate how opaque and intimidating financial products can be to the average American. I feel passionately that personal finance should be taught in school, to help avoid the poor financial decisions that many Americans unwittingly make later in life.

We at Azora Capital are excited to partner with ACIL to help educate their interns on critical financial concepts and help set them on a positive financial trajectory as they graduate high school."

Ravi Chopra, Founder and CIO of Azora Capital
(Pictured above during his presentation.)



Celebrating Paula Cangialosi's Legacy

Paula Cangialosi was a decades-long supporter of A Chance In Life and an extraordinary humanitarian who achieved so much for vulnerable young people during her lifetime. ACIL staff, board members and supporters gathered on her birthday, February 3, to share memories of Paula and hear about the incredible impact her Memorial Scholarship has had in the past year (pictured top left). In 2020, the scholarship was awarded to She Unit Uganda in Kampala, Uganda, to provide vocational training in cosmetology, hairstyling and manicuring to young women and single mothers (pictured top right). We are proud to announce that She Unit Uganda will also receive Paula's Scholarship in 2021 to expand their program to 300 young women.

The full video of the event and more information on the Paula Cangialosi Memorial Scholarship can be found at www.achanceinlife.org/paula.

"I know [Paula] is not here with us, but I'd like to say thank you so much. I know you are in a better place, and I know you are watching us, watching the girls ... thank you so much for the opportunity you gave me, that you gave us. You saved families, you saved young girls from early marriages ... Thank you so much, Madame Paula."

Christine Namusaazi, Founder and Director of She Unit Uganda

ACIL in the news! After 76 years of navigating the crises at-risk children face, we are proud to serve as a thought leader in the many discussions about education during the pandemic. Our President and Executive Director, Gabriele Delmonaco, has been featured in several articles in the past few months sharing our perspective on how to best serve young people in light of the challenges they face today. We've included a few highlights below.



"As executive director of A Chance In Life ... I've seen education take children from the streets to fulfilling careers. It can continue to have that power if government and business leaders take steps to close the digital divide and prioritize access for all, including vulnerable youth."

As COVID-19 closes schools again, education loss may hurt millions of children for years, USA Today



"[We] allow children to take responsibility for their lives and the lives of those living in their community while learning important concepts, like how society works, how decisions are made democratically and most importantly, how to make financial decisions."

Will The Pandemic Teach American Kids Financial Literacy?, Ozy Media

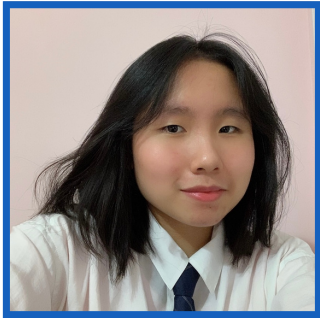


"[In the post-pandemic work place], there is a sense of urgency to develop skills pertinent to a dynamic work environment. Skills like remote proficiency, emotional intelligence, conflict resolution and lateral thinking to solve problems will reign supreme."

5 Ways To Be A Better Mentor— And Get A Return On Your Investment, Forbes



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR INTERNS



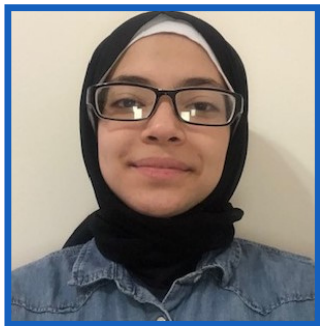
Amy Lin
*Student at Staten Island
Technical High School,
A Chance In Life Intern*

Which elements of A Chance In Life's mission do you most connect with?

Self-government, because I like how it gives children their own voice. Voice is something I really value, especially as someone coming from a minority group, because everyone deserves to live a meaningful life and have a say in things. I also feel the international element is one I've really connected with, because I get to meet and work with people who are different from me. Especially in times of COVID when everyone is at home, it's great to build these bonds.

What skills do you feel have been particularly useful in this internship?

My skills in art and design were really useful, especially when we had to create an advertisement. That was a really enjoyable task for me, because I could create something from scratch and go anywhere I wanted to with it.



Malak Abdelhakim
*Student at Staten Island
Technical High School,
A Chance In Life Intern*

Are there elements of self-government that you think would work well in your own school or community?

I feel it would work well in schools, because adults tend to focus so much on academics that they don't mention everyday stuff like nutrition or financial literacy. If students were in charge, we'd make sure those topics were included alongside academic subjects.

What advice would you offer to next year's interns?

Don't be afraid to throw out ideas, even just random ideas. Even if it's not a good one, it can still lead to other ideas or give others something to build on. For example, someone last week suggested an idea for a video showcasing the life of a child at one of ACIL's partner programs (which would have taken too long), but we reworked it so the video showed how much someone spends in a day when they could donate that money instead.



Rachel Yang
*Student at Staten Island
Technical High School,
A Chance In Life Intern*

What do you feel you've learned from the internship so far?

Aside from [our main focus of] marketing, I've learned more about the workforce itself and how to work with people outside my classmates - working with a company team is so different than working on a school project. I've also developed my time management skills to keep on top of things, which has been really helpful with the marketing project we're doing. My public speaking and communications skills have also been useful, and I've improved them throughout the program.

What role do you think your generation has to play in building a world in which every child is given a chance in life?

We're aware of a lot more issues and have more resources, especially with technology. We can be very passionate and spread the message about a cause really successfully.