

Hallie Quinn Brown

INTERN APPLICATION

Centered in social justice, CHAT is a nonprofit that provides life-changing speech therapy to those with few—if any—other options. CHAT's staff is united by our dedication to "communication justice," our initiatives and advocacy to effect change for under-resourced and under-represented children for whom communication differences and disorders contribute to inequitable treatment. As part of this work, CHAT is working to increase the number of BIPOC individuals in the field of speech-language pathology, including through the creation of our Hallie Quinn Brown (HQB) Internship.

We have named our internship for Brown, a Black woman from the 19th century who was an elocutionist committed to providing access to education and literacy to Black students; specifically, she was dedicated to the teaching and use of public speaking as a tool to help Black individuals and women advocate for social transformation. As an educator and an activist, Brown is someone to admire and to emulate within the field of speech-language pathology, which desperately needs greater representation of BIPOC individuals—unacceptably, only 8% of speech-language pathologists (SLPs) are BIPOC (and only 3% are Black). This is a systemic issue that goes far beyond the field of speech-language pathology and CHAT, but which we feel we need to address and combat however possible for our small (but mighty) organization.

The HQB Internship is intended for people of color who wish to apply to graduate school in speech-language pathology. Selected applicants will serve as aides for CHAT's 2025 in-person summer programs focusing on literacy and executive functioning/life skills, or will gain clinical experience alongside SLPs in our clinic/out in the field at community partner sites. This internship includes a stipend of at least \$1000 (we are working hard to secure additional funding to increase that amount), mentorship from experienced SLPs, and hard to find clinical experience to aid with graduate school applications—all with the goal of helping more BIPOC individuals to enter the field of speech-language pathology and increasing representation. **CHAT's 2025 summer programs will have rolling start dates from June through early July.** All HQB interns will participate in at least one of our sessions in person, and all will need to participate in one-two training days in June. At the end of the internship, all HQB interns will draft a written reflection on their experience so that we can continue to improve the program.



APPLY AT: www.ChatWithUs.org/HQBapp