

ERICKA FRANCOIS

| Mount Vernon, NY | Francois.ericka@gmail.com | [LinkedIn Profile](#)

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY:

Dynamic communications professional with over 5 years of experience in social policy, (foster) youth advocacy, and digital media strategy. Proven ability to secure public funding through targeted campaigns, develop innovative communication plans, and produce impactful publications. Bilingual in English and Haitian Creole.

SKILLS & ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **Awards:** NYC City Council Citation, Fair Futures Award for Youth Campaign Leadership (2019).
- **Publications:** Produced 24 publications, including a co-published investigative report on child welfare.
- **Technical Skills:** Social media analytics, content creation, cross-departmental communications.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Communications Coordinator | The Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) | Remote | Jan 2023 - Present

- Upholding CSSP branding and messaging in all digital materials; identifying strategies to boost social media presence.
- Writing newsletters, web copy, and social media content supporting organizational initiatives.
- Compiling monthly analytics reports on digital media, tracking growth and engagement benchmarks.
- Collaborating across departments to ensure unified communications and support other teams as needed.

Youth Advisory Board Coordinator | Fair Futures Coalition | New York, NY | Hybrid | May 2020 - Sep 2022

- Led a 16-member advisory board advocating for \$50M in public funding for NYC Fair Futures foster care programs.
- Secured \$30M for a pioneering initiative providing professional coaches for foster youth.
- Moderated public rallies with NYC officials and collaborated with media and philanthropic partners.

Advisory Council Member & Current Board Member | Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) | New York, NY | Jun 2019 - Aug 2020

- Collaborated with stakeholders to develop youth-focused workshops and policy recommendations.
- Identified barriers for youth aging out of foster care and contributed to improved service solutions.

INTERNSHIPS:

Employee Engagement Specialist Assistant | Heartshare St. Vincent's Services | New York, NY | Mar 2018 - Jun 2018

- Organized monthly engagement activities to foster community and improve employee satisfaction.

Student Ambassador | Fostering Youth Success Alliance (FYSA) | New York, NY | Sep 2017 - May 2019

- Advocated for effective policies to improve outcomes for foster youth, and engaged with lawmakers, and peers.

Brian Donovan Fellow | **The Imprint** | New York, NY | Jun 2019 - Jan 2020

- Developed an investigative report on psychotropic medication in foster care, co-published by The Imprint and Norwood News.
- Analyzed child welfare data and interviewed key stakeholders to support findings.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Journalism (B.S.) | State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz | May 2020