

SARAH FUHRMAN

▪ SARAH.FUHRMAN@GMAIL.COM ▪ +1 517 420 7838 ▪

SUMMARY

Attorney and humanitarian advocacy and policy specialist with more than 10 years of professional experience, including more than two years of field experience in Afghanistan, DRC, Jordan, India, Iraq, Kenya, Mexico, and Thailand. Demonstrated talent for collaborating, multi-tasking, and delivering high-quality work under pressure and in stressful environments.

EDUCATION

- **LL.M., International Law, with merit:** University College of London (UCL), degree completed 2015
 - Recipient of the Sir Frederick Pollack Scholarship for the entering North American student with the highest GPA.
- **J.D., Law, Magna Cum Laude:** Thomas M. Cooley Law School, degree completed 2012
 - Recipient of an academic honors scholarship and the Dawn Beachnau Award, given to the member of the law review who made the most significant contribution to the publication during their tenure.
- **Bachelor of Arts, Political Science:** Kalamazoo College, degree completed 2007
 - Recipient of an academic honors scholarship and a grant to fund thesis research.

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Senior Manager, Humanitarian Policy & Advocacy, July 2021–Ongoing CARE USA, Washington, DC

- Coordinate and act as focal point for all of CARE USA's humanitarian policy and advocacy work.
- Support CARE's Afghanistan and Ethiopia country offices by developing advocacy strategies, messages, and facilitating intra-CARE information management systems.
 - Deployed to CARE's Kabul, Afghanistan, office in July 2021 to provide advocacy, legal, and programmatic support.
- Represent CARE on specific humanitarian issues of concern during meetings and conferences with donors, NGOs, and the UN; provide authoritative advice, guidance, and information on CARE positions and make recommendations to the appropriate officials to formulate humanitarian policies and strategies.
- Drive thought leadership in the humanitarian space by leading high-profile research efforts, including conceptualizing products; providing financial and programmatic oversight of consultants for policy and research projects; and researching, drafting, and disseminating products to key stakeholders.
- Manage the revision of CARE International's Civil-Military Engagement policy.

Humanitarian Policy Specialist, January 2020–July 2021 CARE USA, Washington, DC

- Anticipated the organization's needs regarding developments in humanitarian affairs and prepared analyses, briefings, memos, and talking points for high-level officials as required.
- Advanced CARE's reputation as a thought leader by researching and writing high-level reports on gender inequality in humanitarian crises and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls. Gave interviews on findings to major news outlets, including Devex, The Guardian, and Reuters.
- Convened and coordinated the CARE International Safeguarding Humanitarian Space Community of Practice to connect CARE advocacy, operations, and program staff. Disseminated CARE policy guidance on civil-military relations to field staff. Led efforts to ensure that all CARE country offices and implementing partners apply the humanitarian principles in their interactions with armed groups.
- Co-chaired InterAction's Protection of Civilians working group (ongoing). Facilitated and engaged in member meetings with the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). Composed joint NGO feedback to DoD on issues such as the application of the forthcoming policy on civilian harm to large-scale combat operations and the interim ex-gratia policy. The working group's efforts were highlighted in a recent report by ODI-HPN: https://cdn.odi.org/media/documents/Advocacy_IP_Collaborative_advocacy_web.pdf.

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Senior Information Officer, January 2016–September 2019

USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), Washington, D.C.

- Collaborated with OFDA and USAID Office of Food for Peace (FFP) programs counterparts in D.C. and field offices to identify policy priorities and develop advocacy strategies for humanitarian responses.
- Prepared briefing materials, memos, and talking points for senior USAID leadership on humanitarian emergencies, including those in Iraq, Kenya, and Yemen. Drafted and distributed flash updates on developing situations – such as the offensives on Libya's capital city of Tripoli and Yemen's Al Hudaydah city – for high-level officials.
- Worked with OFDA press officers to draft and edit talking points, press releases, and social media material on emergencies including the complex crisis in DRC and flooding in Kenya.
- Identified and liaised with OFDA, U.S. Government (USG) interagency, and external NGO, UN, and government focal points. Developed and maintained working relationships with colleagues to foster information gathering, analysis, and dissemination.
- Provided expert analytical and advisory support for OFDA and different USG branches – including Congress, the National Security Council, and the White House – on a wide range of humanitarian issues for the planning, development, and execution of U.S. policy objectives.
- Critically analyzed humanitarian crises, coordination challenges, and response efforts to inform USG policy. Developed a tool to collate, track, and highlight emerging trends in humanitarian emergencies. Undertook research, including evaluation and integration of information, from a variety of sources.
- Communicated analyses throughout OFDA, the USG interagency, and to the public through periodic advocacy messaging and reporting as well as through diplomatic cables. Internal reports were circulated to more than 500 readers while external reports were publicly available.
- Served as key source of information on humanitarian issues and resource to federal agencies regarding the USG's advocacy and policy strategy on deployments to DRC, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, and Mexico.
- Supported the recruitment and induction of more than 10 junior information officers. Provided direct and remote training and mentoring to junior officers to build capacity.

Humanitarian Protection, Gender, and Disability (PGD) Team Specialist, September–December 2018

USAID/OFDA, Washington, D.C.

- Presented analytical and advisory support on a wide range of humanitarian issues for the planning, development, and execution of USG policy objectives as related to protection and gender equality.
- Contributed to the development of the USAID-wide Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policy.
- Participated in interagency forums, including the GBV and Women, Peace, and Security working groups. Supported the implementation of OFDA's commitments under the Call to Action on Protection from Gender-Based Violence. Collaborated with colleagues to carry out PGD advocacy activities.
- Drafted various written documents, including briefing documents and policy guidelines. Wrote keynote address for a high-level USAID official's World Bank speech on gender-based violence in conflict settings and implications for humanitarian and development assistance.
- Prepared periodic reports and other documents, including OFDA input for the FY 2018 USAID Performance Plans and Reports, a congressionally mandated analysis of all USAID and Department of State entities implementing foreign assistance programs.
- Provided technical guidance on humanitarian protection programming in accordance with OFDA guidelines and international standards to OFDA and FFP response divisions, implementing partners, and USG counterparts. Ensured that protection concerns were adequately addressed and integrated across humanitarian programs.
- Reviewed more than 25 project proposals to ensure implementing partners met OFDA guidelines for gender and protection mainstreaming, accountability to affected populations, and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

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Research & Policy Intern, June–July 2015

Freedom from Torture, London, England

- Researched and drafted internal memos on the protection concerns refugees in the UK face.
- Recommended policy adjustments to improve UK asylum procedures for torture victims.

Website Project Manager & Researcher, January–August 2014

Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights, Boston, MA

- Researched specific topics by finding, evaluating, and integrating information from a variety of sources. Developed and maintained resources on specific topics and policy-related issues, including feminist critiques of transitional justice mechanisms, women's participation in post-conflict peace negotiations, and UN peacekeeping missions.
- Provided strategic reporting on UN peacekeeping efforts in sub-Saharan Africa for the annual report of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace & Security.
- Managed the development and launch of the organization's new website. Site launched to positive reception during the International Studies Association Conference on March 26, 2014; available at www.genderandsecurity.org.
- Disseminated organization's mission across all types of media – including Facebook, Twitter, and the new website – by working with the social media team to draft content and create visual aids, generating 23% growth in Facebook likes.
- Advanced Consortium advocacy efforts by collaborating with colleagues and the University of Massachusetts–Boston community. Organized nearly 10 speaking engagements by academics and NGO representatives.
- Facilitated the recruitment and induction of at least 10 interns.

Researcher and Writer, April 2006–January 2007

Political Science Department, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI

- Conducted analytical research that led to country-level policy recommendations.
- Performed field research and interviewed INGO and local NGO representatives in Khao Lak, Thailand, June–August 2006.
- Reviewed literature on humanitarian architecture, disaster assistance, and INGO coordination.
- Wrote thesis on INGO and NGO coordination in the humanitarian response to the Indian Ocean tsunami in southern Thailand.

Donor Reporting Officer, June–August 2006

We Love Thailand, Khao Lak, Thailand

- Improved donor relations by drafting a bi-annual donor report and program success stories.
- Supported donor visit program by organizing and facilitating at least 5 donor site visits.

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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- "The First Step to Addressing Conflict-Induced Hunger." *InterAction*, 13 December 2021. <https://www.interaction.org/blog/the-first-step-to-addressing-conflict-induced-hunger/>.
- "How U.S. Sanctions Make it Harder for Afghan Children to Get an Education." *Just Security*, 23 November 2021. <https://www.justsecurity.org/79324/how-u-s-sanctions-make-it-harder-for-afghan-children-to-get-an-education/>.
- "Afghans Need More Than Solidarity." *Just Security*, 25 August 2021. <https://www.justsecurity.org/77977/afghans-need-more-than-solidarity/>.
- "'Sometimes We Don't Even Eat': How Conflict and COVID-10 Are Pushing Millions of People to the Brink." *CARE USA*, 17 November 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/democratic-republic-congo/sometimes-we-don-t-even-eat-how-conflict-and-covid-19-are-pushing>.
- "Building Forward: Creating a More Equitable, Gender-Just, Inclusive, and Sustainable World." *CARE International*, 1 October 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/building-forward-creating-more-equitable-gender-just-inclusive-and-sustainable-world>.
- "Left Out and Left Behind: Ignoring Women Will Prevent Us From Solving the Hunger Crisis." *CARE USA*, 18 August 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/LeftOutandLeftBehind.pdf>.
- "Where Are the Women? The Conspicuous Absence of Women in COVID-19 Response Teams and Plans, and Why We Need Them." *CARE International*, 9 June 2020. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/where-are-women-conspicuous-absence-women-covid-19-response-teams-and-plans-and-why-we>.
- "Gendered Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic for Policies and Programmes in Humanitarian Settings." *BMJ Global Health*, 14 May 2020. https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/5/e002624?int_source=trendmd&int_medium=cpc&int_campaign=usage-042019.
- "Gender Implications of COVID-19 Outbreaks in Development and Humanitarian Settings." *CARE International*, 16 March 2020. https://insights.careinternational.org.uk/media/k2/attachments/CARE_Gender-implications-of-COVID-19_Full-Report_March-2020.pdf.
- "USAID/OFDA Success Story: Supporting Returnees in the DRC." *USAID/OFDA*, July 2019. www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/07.23.19_USAID-DCHA_Success_Story_-_Supporting_Returnees_in_the_DRC.pdf.
- "OFDA Teamwork Saves Lives After Disasters." *USAID/OFDA*, November 2017. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PA00TBF1.pdf.
- "USAID/OFDA Yemen Fact Sheet #9." *USAID/OFDA*, 13 July 2018. www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1866/yemen_ce_fs_07-13-2018.pdf.
- "USAID/OFDA Success Story: Assessing Earthquake-Affected Buildings in Mexico City." *USAID/OFDA*, 29 September 2017. www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/why-it-matters/assessing-earthquake.
- "Adapting to a Complex Humanitarian Landscape." *USAID/OFDA*, November 2016. https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pbaah987.pdf.
- "Do African-Americans Have the Right to Internal Self-Determination?" *LSE Human Rights Blog*, 16 March 2015. <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/humanrights/2015/03/16/do-african-americans-have-the-right-to-internal-self-determination>.