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Social Work Internship Site Overview

ACGC, a trauma-informed organization, is a premier outpatient mental health counseling agency, founded over 65 years ago, that provides evidence-based therapy, psychological assessments and psychiatric evaluations to children and their families. We are made up of a multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, psychiatric nurses, family therapists, professional counselors, and social workers.

We accept advanced graduate students in the fields of psychology, marriage and family therapy, social work and professional counseling during their final year of graduate school. At a minimum, students should possess the following before applying to the Center: at least one course in family, individual, group therapy; some experience in psychosocial assessment; and some course work related to children and adolescents. Prospective students should have previous internship/practicum or work experience using psychotherapy skills.

General Placement Information: ACGC offers two clinical placement social work students – Clinical Counseling Placement and Infant and Early Childhood (IEC) Clinical Placement. Both tracks require students carry a caseload of individual, family and group therapy clients. However, the IEC track has a smaller caseload of direct clients as the student will also be providing services to the local childcare centers in addition to providing individual, family and group therapy.

During your time here, whether you are selected for a Clinical Counseling Placement or an Early Childhood Clinical placement, you will develop a deep understanding of how to work with children ranging in age from two to 17, and their families. You will have an opportunity to provide individual, family as well as group therapy, in a supportive, clinically rich environment. You will learn about theoretical modalities including: trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy (TF-CBT), solution focused therapy (SFT), structural family therapy, parent-child interaction therapy (PCIT), child and family traumatic stress intervention (CFTSI) and others.

Additionally, students are offered weekly one-on-one supervision and will also attend a two hour per week Student Seminar, which includes students from other disciplines. ACGC offers trainings which often include topics such as: motivational interviewing, TF-CBT, PCIT, safety planning, parent coaching, treating non-suicidal self-injury, working with immigrant families, counseling from a cultural humility perspective, using self-disclosure in therapy, race-based trauma, use of medications to support therapy, treating anxiety, and interventions for depression. **These trainings are valued at over \$1,500.** Additionally, you will participate in Interdisciplinary Case Staffing Meetings where cases are presented by staff and interns.

Students are accepted in the Spring and Summer for a Fall start placement. Students are expected to commit a minimum of 2 semesters to the internship (Fall and Spring). There is an extended internship option where students will commit to a three-semester placement (Fall, Spring and Summer) with the majority of their direct hours starting in the Spring. Students must commit to the Center for 15-20 hours/week for at least two semesters.

IEC Clinical Placement Information: The Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Project (IEC) was created as a direct response to the high number of child expulsions from child development centers. The purpose of the Project is to help decrease expulsions in centers and to enhance the social and emotional development of children ages 0-5. The primary focus of the IEC placement is to provide consultation to staff and parents in child development centers

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that serve high-need families. Interns will collaborate with early childhood staff and families in order to prevent challenging behavior and to enhance the social and emotional development of the children in the center. You will gain specialized knowledge in infant and early childhood mental health and learn to provide multiple levels of intervention in a unique setting.

Below are some of ACGC's requirements which vary based on placement.

Clinical Counseling Placement

- Carry caseload of 6-10 clients (caseload varies by school program requirements) – **flexible schedule available, but some evening availability is required.** The Center is open M-Th 8-8; Fri 8- 6pm.
- Co-facilitate groups – schedule varies (required as available)
- Attend Student Orientation (typically one day the last week of August)
- Attend “All Staff Meeting” – 1st Thursday of each month from 11am-noon
- Attend “Interdisciplinary Case Staffings” – 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month from 10-11 am
- Attend Student Seminar – every Thursday from 12:30-2:30 pm
- Participate in four sessions of the Walk-In Clinic on Tuesdays or Fridays

IEC Clinical Placement

- Carry caseload of 3 clients onsite – **flexible schedule available, but some evening availability is recommended.** Center is open M-Th 8-8; Fri 8-6 PM
- Serve up to 2 child development center with 6-7 hours of consultation/week – **Required schedule of two mornings and one afternoon per week**
- Provide one staff or parent training at assigned child development center
- Co-facilitate groups – schedule varies (required as available)
- Attend Student Orientation (typically one day the last week of August)
- Attend All-Staff Meeting – 1st Thursday of each month from 11 AM-noon
- Attend “Interdisciplinary Case Staffings” – 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month from 10-11 am
- Attend Student Seminar – every Thursday from 12:30-2:30 PM
- Participate in four sessions of the Walk-In Clinic on Tuesdays or Fridays.

If you would like to be considered for an interview with ACGC, please email the following documents to internships@austinchildguidance.org.

1. Professional/Academic Resume
2. Cover Letter
3. Two ACGC Recommendation Forms completed by two separate professional references