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www.austinchildguidance.org

Counseling Practicum 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 practicum or work experience using psychotherapy skills.

Clinical Counseling Placement Information: During your time here, 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.

Students are offered weekly one-on-one supervision and will also attend a two hour per week Student Seminar, which includes interns 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). Students must commit to the Center for 15-20 hours/week. Because of the volume of requests we receive, we ask that you send an e-mail to inquire and/or submit applications. Lastly, below are some of ACGC's placement requirements of students.

Counseling Practicum Placement Requirements

- Co-facilitate groups – schedule varies (required as available)
- 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.
- 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 Staffing" – 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