Magee-Women’s Hospital of UPMC
Social Work Field Placement Description

Goal: To provide graduate level social work students with a broad based clinical experience in hospital social work practice with a focus on women’s health.

Magee-Women’s Hospital of UPMC is an acute care facility providing tertiary care medical services to both women and men from the tri-state area. Although the mission of Magee is to provide services focused on women’s health, Magee also provides both medical and surgical services in a wide variety of specialties to both men and women. Social work staff members are assigned to patient care units in the hospital that provide specialty to care patients and families in those areas.

Magee delivers over 10,000 babies each year, has an 87 bed neonatal intensive care unit and provides state of the art cancer care to women with both breast and gynecological cancer. Magee is a Center of Excellence for Bariatric Surgery and has a Bone and Joint Center providing orthopedic surgery to both men and women. Magee also provides inpatient care to geriatric medicine patients and is the designated inpatient site for patients from the Benedum Geriatric Center.

Magee Social Workers are part of a larger Care Management Department within the hospital. They work collaboratively with other disciplines within the hospital and outpatient setting as part of the treatment team to achieve successful outcomes for patients and families.

Social Work field placements at Magee are available to second year or advanced standing students interested in general hospital social work practice. Students rotate through three distinct rotations during their year in placement – those areas being Medical-Surgical, Obstetrics and Newborn Care, and the Outpatient Clinic. Students work directly with social workers assigned in each area of coverage and meet weekly with the field instructor. Weekly supervision is provided and students are assigned weekly readings regarding different subject areas applicable to areas of practice in hospital social work.

Students are provided with a variety of clinical experiences working on psychosocial and behavioral health issues with patients and families receiving medical treatment at Magee. Social Workers provide their expertise in psychosocial areas of practice such as domestic violence, pregnancy loss, substance abuse, care transitions and discharge planning, postpartum depression and other behavioral health issues, child abuse, adoption, ethics, reproductive technology, pregnancy options, cancer care, intensive/critical care, palliative care and other areas of practice.