SPHS CARE Center Internship Program

Target Audience:

- The target population for an SPHS CARE Center intern are students who are currently in an undergraduate, graduate and/or doctorate level program at an accredited school of learning, college or university. The majority of students are studying in the field of human services. Most are earning hours towards a clinical concentration of study. There are several locations to which an intern could be placed. They include, Outpatient Behavioral Health in Washington or Greene County, ACT in Washington, Crisis in Washington and CTT in Greene County.

Program Objectives:

- The internship program is designed to aid scholastic entities in shaping and developing the future workforce. By creating a culture conducive for the expansion of learning, our internship program allows for cultural competency, quality assurance, regulatory standards and high quality evidence based practices. By following the overall mission of the agency, the internship program looks to build upon the knowledge and experience gained in the classroom by putting it into every day practice. In doing so, the students will gain professionalism, community relationships through programmatic resources and intrinsic satisfaction of making a difference in a priority population.

Structure of the Program:

- The following components are standard for the Internship Program. Depending on needs of the student, there may be additional items that will be a part of your experience. Each is unique and individualized to meet the needs of the student:
  o Component 1: Interview and acceptance
    ▪ The student will have an interview with CARE Center personnel who will then determine acceptance to the internship program.
    ▪ Once the determination is made, the student will be notified and made aware of who their internship supervisor will be.
    ▪ From there an agreed upon internship schedule will be designed and a start date will be assigned.
Component 2: Supervision
- Each intern has a specific supervisor that they will report to throughout the time they are with the agency. This point person will be a qualified staff member who will be responsible for direct and indirect supervision, observation and reporting for the intern. They will meet regularly with the intern.
- In addition to individual supervision, the student will have group supervision to cover broad topic discussion such as evidence based intervention, peer to peer collaboration and coordination of services for clients.

Component 3: Observation and training
- Throughout the internship stay at the CARE Center, the student will have designated times to sit with practicing clinicians and counselors for shadowing and observation. With that, they will have time to debrief and interact with a variety of clinical personnel in order to see real world evidence based practices.
- Additional training is at times required for students in the internship program. As a trauma informed agency, we take pride in the quality of work that we do and want all personnel associated with the agency to have the best preparation possible in serving our clients. Training is scheduled in advance and discussed with the student to avoid conflict of schedule.

Component 4: Direct Therapeutic Service Practice
- Upon training, ongoing supervision and collaboration with peers, each intern is afforded the opportunity to practice the skills learned thus far. This could be through screening and assessment, group facilitation and/or individual therapy sessions.
- The intern who is approved for direct service would be given a manageable caseload in which they would review regularly with their internship supervisor along with the program supervisor and the clinical team.
- As we know internships are not everlasting, we take great care and caution when assigning and transitioning clients as to be sure that there is strong continuity of care and minimal to no disruption in their treatment episode.
Component 5: Reporting and Feedback

- Throughout the internship process, feedback will be given to the intern in a timely and professional manner. We believe in constructive coaching and peer review. This is done regularly and frequently with the internship supervisor, program supervisor and clinical team.
- As we understand the importance of shaping our future workforce, we work closely with scholastic entities in order to communicate honestly and candidly about the progress of each student. This is done regularly and according to the educational program’s requirements.

Component 6: Completion and Exit

- Students who are elected to the internship program are afforded the opportunity to have all hours completed within the CARE Center.
- At the time of completion, the student is debriefed with the internship supervisor, program supervisor and at times peers or administrative personnel about their experience.
- All paperwork and documentation will be submitted to the field supervisor from the educational facility as according to programmatic request.