The role of the Counselor on the acute medical detoxification unit is engagement. The Counselors manage the dynamic of the therapeutic milieu, provide initial engagement sessions, individual motivational interviews, and facilitate group therapy sessions and family sessions via conference call.

The adult patients on the unit are end stage addiction with a co-occurring medical condition that requires twenty four hour medical management of the detoxification. The students become a member of a multidisciplinary treatment team that works closely together in order to yield a positive outcome that is conducive to significant lifestyle change.

Students will have a direct practice experience that focuses on integrated treatment utilizing community reinforcement approach, stages of change, motivational interviewing, cognitive behavior therapy, 12 step fellowship, SMART Recovery, peer support specialists, community case management, gender based mentoring, and harnessing of natural supports.