St. Margaret Hospital  (UPMC)

Agency Description:  UPMC is the premier health system in western Pennsylvania and one of the most renowned academic medical centers in the United States. Today, with 43,000 employees, UPMC comprises 19 hospitals, and a network of other care sites across western Pennsylvania and throughout the world: doctors’ offices, cancer centers, outpatient treatment centers, specialized imaging and surgery facilities, in-home care, rehabilitation sites, behavioral health care, and nursing homes.

Type of Student:  Second Year/Advanced Standing MSW

Site Description:  UPMC St. Margaret is a 249-bed acute care and teaching hospital situated on a 21-acre campus near Aspinwall. It begins its second century of service with renewed dedication to more than 250,000 residents of northeastern Allegheny County and the Alle-Kiski Valley, providing residents convenient access to the area’s finest physicians and health services. UPMC St. Margaret is a Magnet® designated hospital. Magnet status is the highest international recognition for nursing excellence and leadership.

Two areas of placement are offered at St. Margaret: General Medical/Surgical unit with a focus in Geriatrics, Family Practice Medicine, Orthopedic Surgery, and General Surgery. There is also an adult Inpatient Acute Rehabilitation Unit through UPMC Rehabilitation Institute. Students will gain experience working collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams including physicians, nurses, and physical/occupational/speech therapists. Psychosocial aspects of patient medical, physical and psychosocial care will be a focal point. You will develop brief intervention skills and supportive counseling around issues of traumatic events, chronic illness, drug and alcohol assessments with focus on brief intervention and referral process. The student will be involved in discharge planning for patients and assisting both the patients and families in the adaptation to illness and lifestyle adjustments.