

Missouri State University Practicum Site Questionnaire

Name of site CASP-Community Alternative Sentencing Program

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Contact Person Terri Perry/Executive Director

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Your Site

Description of the activities that occur at your site:

We supervise misdemeanor probation clients and community service clients for the court systems of Greene and the surrounding counties. We average about 3,000 clients per year.

Description of practicum students' duties at your site:

We can utilize both bachelor and master level students at our agency. However, currently master level students would not be supervised by a supervisor with a master's degree. In addition, we do not currently have any individual or group sessions for students.

In the past, we have had our master level students work directly with a case load of clients who are experiencing difficult life situations and help them to achieve the goals of their specific probation case with the court.

For the bachelor level student, they work directly with the clients in registering for services, scheduling at various agencies and court appearances as directed. These students will get direct client contact with a diverse population of clients that have a range of offenses from littering to vehicular manslaughter.

In addition, students will be appearing in court and learn the court systems throughout the county and state.

Type of population with which students would be working (e.g., adults, physically challenged, cognitively challenged, etc.):

Adult clients who have a criminal history background that ranges from traffic offenses to violent attacks, we have a wide range of clients. Many clients have mental health issues unrecognized and/or diagnosed and also chemical dependence issues along with lack of personal responsibility for their specific actions.

Our Students

Undergraduates

Our undergraduate students typically are juniors and seniors with 17-35 credit hours in Psychology. There are exceptions. If you have any special requirements for students who apply at your practicum site, please describe them.

These students would most likely not carry a very large case load as the clients can be pretty demanding. We would use them in the office to help schedule clients, answer client questions and that type of work – I do not anticipate they would do home visits/studies or work site visits. We would prefer students who either have experience in the criminal justice field or who are working toward that type of degree. Those who have identified that they can work with this very challenging population and who do not require a lot of supervision.

Graduate Students

Our graduate students are students at the end of their first year or sometime during their second year in the clinical track of our graduate psychology program. These students need direct service contact with clients, and also need weekly supervision from a licensed mental health professional. Is your site interested in working with our graduate students?

Hours, Pay, and Commitment

Days and time of days on which you need practicum students: 7:30-4:30 Monday-Friday

Is this a paid practicum? Yes _____ No X

If yes, what is pay rate? _____

What length of commitment (e.g., semester, three months, six months), do you expect from the student?

We would want at least a semester from the students as it takes a while for them to get trained on the court system and our database.

Application Process

What is the preferred application process (e.g., email/mail resume/schedule an appointment)?

They would send a resume to me at tperry@caspspringfieldmo.org and then we would set up an appointment. We do an interview, check references and then run a criminal record check prior to the student coming on board.

Please provide any other information that would be useful in helping our students to make more informed choices.

We work with a very difficult population and have anywhere from 30-50 clients walk in a day. We have a fast paced environment which requires excellent computer skills along with the ability to multi-task and keep on top of deadlines.

We report to court daily and must update judges on cases with accuracy and efficiency. Students must be professional in appearance, confident in their public speaking skill and their people skills. We do have students appear in court and testify if they were directly in contact with clients. This can be intimidating to some students, but we see this as a vital learning experience for anyone who wants to go into the criminal justice field.

Students will be allowed to expand their experience based upon their demonstrated abilities. Students must be able to commit to a specific schedule.

Thank You!

Revised November 15, 2016

Thank you for your help in working with our students.

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