

**Children's Mental Health Services**

**Belleville, Ontario**

Year 1 Practicum

Dates: January 10- May 31, 2024

**Please provide a description of the practicum site and student activities:**

CMHS is accredited with the Canadian Centre for Accreditation. Children's Mental Health Services is staffed by Child and Youth Workers and professionally regulated Child and Family Therapists. Our clinicians are either Registered Psychotherapists or Registered Social Workers. Our staff are experienced in providing evidence-based treatment to children, youth, and families. CMHS is funded through the Ministry of Health and was identified as the Lead Agency for Children's Mental Health Services, overseeing programs and services across Hastings, Northumberland and Prince Edward Counties

Summary Reporting to the Community Services Manager responsible of the respective program, the Child and Family Therapist provides client centred child, youth and family intervention services to young people, their families, and groups with mental health needs. Mental Health services delivered by the Child & Family Therapist to their communities may include: assessment, counselling, therapy, case management, crisis response, support to youth in the justice system, community development and psycho-educational activities. Key responsibilities Assessment & Therapy - Conducts assessments, ensures comprehensive treatment plans are developed and delivered to children, youth, and their families and provides individual, family, and group therapy. Community Services Programs - Engages in the implementation of community services programs to achieve client goals and works with the Community Services Manager to uphold community services programs in an effective and efficient manner. May be required to clinically support Child & Youth Workers in the development of multi-dimensional (comprehensive) treatment plans for children, youth, and families. Client Advocacy - Fosters the development of an integrated service system for children and their families by being a strong local advocate on their behalf. Provides approved community development and education activities that are responsive to the needs of the various communities and provides approved in-service training around children's mental health services to community groups, school personnel and parents. Research and documentation - Acts as a resource to the Community Services Manager they report to by preparing background information on topics related to children's mental health when requested or by providing information on any community needs and/or initiatives related to the delivery of children's mental health services and the promotion of an integrated service system. Required skills • Strong written and verbal communication skills. • Strong organizational skills and capacity to meet deadlines. • Proficient with the use of computers, programs, and software. • Ability to work independently and as a team member to achieve service goals. • Resourcefulness and flexibility to meet the needs of clients/families within the service.

**Practicum Requirements:**

- Covid Vaccinations
- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Driver's License
- Use of Own Car
- Travel by public transportation between home visits, or satellite offices, or community meetings, etc.
- Comfort working with the population being served
- Comprehensive report writing and documentation:

**Does your practicum require any previous experience? If yes, please specify.**

No, it does not require previous experience. It has been helpful if the student does have experience working with children in some context, i.e., camp counsellor, swimming instructor, CYW, as they understand the challenges children can face.

**Please indicate whether this practicum will be in-person, remote or hybrid.**

The practicum will be in person. Although we do provide an opportunity for staff to do a hybrid this opportunity is only available after they complete a 6-month probation. We believe that in person communication and support provides the best opportunity for people to orient to the role of therapist and assists with their clinical growth.

**Please indicate whether this practicum will involve direct work or a mix of direct and indirect.**

The work will primarily be providing direct therapy; however, they may assist the agency with any research projects that may be occurring that assists with the development of services.

**Number of practicums offered?**

2 opportunities are available.

**Field Instructor(s)' name and credentials (BSW and/or MSW)**

Nancy Hamilton, MSW, RSW

**When would you like to receive student applications?**

As soon as possible so that the student and I can discuss the placement and determine goodness of fit. The focus of the practicum is developing therapeutic approach with attention to the alliance and the strengths that children, youth, and families possess to help them achieve their goals.

**Do you require a resume? Or resume and cover letter?**

A resume is required with a short cover letter.

**Accessibility Considerations:**

- Will the student have access to a private space for notes or computer use? Yes
- Are there breaks between clients/patients/meetings? Yes

- Is the practicum considered fast-paced? Medium
- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? Low
- Is the site wheelchair accessible? No
- What are the physical demands of the practicum? Minimum physical demands, primarily the demands on emotional as will be assisting children, youth, and caregivers who struggle with a variety of problems.
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? Although we have an elevator the building site does not have automatic doors to enter. This is an issue being addressed with the landlord and may be resolved by January 2024.

Students registered with University of Toronto Accessibility Services may receive appropriate accommodations for practicum settings. To register: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/accessibility-services/> or call 416-978-8060

**If you are interested in this practicum, please send a cover letter and resume to [miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca](mailto:miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca) by 4 pm on October 2, 2023. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.**