



Talk It Out Counselling Clinic, FIFSW

Remote/Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work

Year 1 Practicum

Dates: January 10- May 31, 2024

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

Get ready for an incredible opportunity to have a meaningful impact on the lives of others! As a student in this practicum, you'll have the chance to directly connect with clients through: 1) virtual counseling services, and 2) innovative, community-based interventions that can be delivered virtually or in person.

But that's not all - you'll also get to collaborate with a range of community organizations, including Albion Neighborhood Services, Black Daddies Club, Christie Ossington Neighbourhood Centre, Jane Finch Centre, LOFT, Parkdale Community Legal Services, and TAIBU Community Health Centre, just to name a few. We are also creating new initiatives such as "Talk It Out, Work It Out" with UofT's Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education and Baycrest's Kimel Family Centre for Brain Health & Wellness.

Imagine the impact you'll have as you provide individual counseling services through video therapy or phone, supporting individuals who face multiple challenges and find their path to wellness. And if you're craving in-person interactions, this practicum also provides in-person elements such as conducting one-off workshops and ongoing group sessions with seniors and other community residents.

What truly sets this opportunity apart is our focus on serving communities that face health and equity challenges, as well as Black and other racialized communities in the Greater Toronto Area. By joining our team, you'll be at the forefront of promoting equality and making a lasting impact on these communities.

While prior experience in mental health, distress centers, or working with our target populations is a plus, we're also looking for self-directed individuals who can thrive both in a team and independently. So, if you're ready to take on this exciting and rewarding challenge, don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to make a difference in the lives of others!

This practicum primarily focuses on direct practice. Students will:

1. Carry a caseload of clients; leading intake, assessment and counselling sessions
2. Facilitate in person and virtual workshops and group programming to community residents and agency staff
3. Attend weekly team meetings for discussion of their cases and processing in the large group
4. Participate in learning opportunities such as orientation, weekly supervisions (individual and group supervision in alternate weeks), case conferences, and in-service training
5. Complete assigned readings to complement their work and their learning in classes

In addition, **students will be involved in various indirect practice initiatives**, including but not limited to, working with community partners to create new initiatives, participating in community advocacy, and assisting with the Clinic's administrative tasks.

Practicum Requirements:

- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Preference for candidates who are members of the BIPOC communities and 2SLGBTQ+
- **The Clinic's operational hours are Wednesday & Thursday 12:00pm – 8:00pm; Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm.**

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

While not a requirement, past counselling, peer-support experiences, lived experience as a racialized individual, and/or experience working with racialized communities are an asset.

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

Remote with hybrid component. The Clinic operates virtually, however Wednesdays are an optional in-person day and some of the community groups/programs may be in person. You will also have opportunities to provide in-person group programming or workshops at our community partner's locations.

This site offers practicum 3 days a week throughout the entire practicum. Students who start in January will finish around early June 2024. The Clinic's operational hours are: Wednesday & Thursday 12:00pm – 8:00pm; Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm.

The first two weeks of practicum will be student orientation. Attendance is required 9:00am to 5:00pm Wednesday to Friday.

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

Both

Number of practicums offered?

6

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

Amina Hussain, MSW PhD Candidate

Vi Phan, MSW

Shawnette Thompson, BSW, MSW

Yu Lung, MSW

Lin Fang, MSW PhD

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

Resume and Cover letter

Accessibility Considerations:

- Will the student have access to a private space for notes or computer use? No
 - Most of the work is performed remotely, students must be able to access private spaces with reliable internet access.

- Are there breaks between clients/patients/meetings? Yes
 - Students are responsible for planning their breaks as the practicum is virtual. We ask students not to schedule clients back to back.
- Is the practicum considered fast-paced? Medium
- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? Low
 - Students will mostly conduct practicum in their own work place.
- Is the site wheelchair accessible? Yes
- What are the physical demands of the practicum?
 - Given that the practicum opportunity is primarily virtual, students should expect long periods of time spent on screens with cameras on:
 - in sessions
 - in team meetings
 - trainings
 - individual supervision
 - in person attendance for some workshops and group programming at our community partner sites (e.g., Jane/Finch area, Scarborough, etc.)
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of?
 - Students need to complete **all chart notes and reports on a timely fashion** for clients assigned to them, as this is part of professional and ethical conduct, and accountability to client welfare. While we will do our best to accommodate individual student needs, we are unable to support accommodations that exempt students from this requirement.

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 by 4 pm on September 28, 2023. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.