

Victim Services Toronto Neighbourhood Victim Advocate Program

40 College Street, Toronto, ON M5G 2J3

Year 2 Practicum

September 2024-April 2025

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

Victim Services Toronto (VST) provides trauma-informed support and advocacy in the moment for any person in Toronto who has experienced crime or sudden tragedy. We work to prevent violence through community engagement. Our vision is a thriving community where people are safe, supported and empowered.

Neighbourhood Victim Advocates are co-located within 5 Toronto Police Service (TPS) Divisions and provide intensive crisis intervention and case management services to victims of major crimes and sudden tragedy. This is an in-person placement/practicum opportunity and the student will be based out of 23 Division (Kipling & Finch). Students will participate in practical training and direct practice activities working side by side advocates & the housing specialist to provide short-term case coordination and crisis intervention services. Students will receive referrals from internal/external programs and community partners, conduct short and long-term needs assessments resulting from a crime, safety assessment/planning, advocate and assist clients in accessing and navigating health, social services, and justice systems, assessing eligibility and completing housing applications and provide practical assistance to clients over the phone and face to face.

Students will have the opportunity to participate in indirect practice activities such as resource development, research, and various internal committees.

Practicum Requirements. Click on all the boxes that apply.

- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Driver's License
- Comfort working with the population being served
- Comprehensive report writing and documentation

Other requirements:

- Mature
- Proficient computer skills
- Ability to work in a fast-paced environment and multi-task.
- Ability to take initiative in the learning process.
- Ability to work independently and in a team environment.
- Knowledge of Toronto community resources
- Second language an asset.

Fields(s) of this Practicum:

Mental Health and Health

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

Experience working directly with clients is preferable. Knowledge of diverse communities and gender-based violence an asset. Demonstrated ability to apply anti-oppressive, trauma informed, strength based frameworks to practice

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

In-person

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

Direct, but option to include indirect work depending on student's interest

Number of practicums offered? 1

Field Instructor(s)' name and credentials: Alyson Joseph & Jacqueline Thorsen, MSW, RSW

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? Fast
- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? Medium
- Is the site wheelchair accessible? Yes
- What are the physical demands of the practicum? N/A
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? N/A

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

If you are interested in this practicum, apply by completing the online application available [here](#) and emailing your resume and cover letter to Jacqueline Thorsen, Manager of Students, Volunteers, & Compliance at Jacqueline.t@vstoronto.com. The application deadline is Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 5pm. Please ensure the subject line of your email includes "Application for Anti-Human Trafficking Programs/Neighbourhood Victim Advocate Student Placement"

Please notify miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca that you have submitted an application.