

**Canadian Hearing Services  
Connect Mental Health Program**

Year 2 Practicum

September 2024 – April 2025

**Practicum Description**

The Connect Mental Health Student is responsible to screen, assess, and provide ongoing client therapy, counselling, and case management to culturally Deaf, deafened, and hard of hearing individuals. The incumbent will work closely with Counselling team members to educate, consult, and build partnerships with service providers and consumers regarding Mental Health and issues related to culturally Deaf, deafened, and hard of hearing communities. The incumbent may screen, assess, and provide intervention/treatment to clients with substance abuse issues. The role will also collaborate with mainstream mental health agencies and professionals on the provision of mental health treatment to eligible clients and provide cultural sensitivity training and orientation. Informal research, program development (i.e. groups), and report writing may also be part of their role.

**Learning opportunities summary**

- Exposure to Deaf culture
- Psychosocial assessment
- Care plan development
- Individual counselling
- Group counselling (subject to availability)
- Informal research – literature reviews
- Program development – counselling group planning
- Case management
- AODA/accessibility advocacy
- Peer consultation and team meetings
- Collaboration with other CHS departments – audiology, general support, employment services, hearing care counselling
- Working with ASL interpreters
- ASL 101 course

**Practicum Requirements**

- Immunizations per PHA Guidelines
- Covid Vaccinations
- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Comfort working with the population being served
- Comprehensive report writing and documentation

**Fields of Study**

Mental Health and Health, and Social Work in Gerontology

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

Prefer students with ASL, Deaf culture, and/or psychotherapy experience and/or interest.

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

Remote with possible in-person experiences (in office) depending on client needs.

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

Direct and indirect

**Number of practicums offered?**

1

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

Katherine Bridge – MSW, RSW

Melissa Smith – MA, MS, RSW

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

Just resume

**Accessibility Considerations:**

- Will the student have access to a private space for notes or computer use? Yes if in office
- 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? Yes
- What are the physical demands of the practicum? None
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? None

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, please send a resume to [miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca](mailto:miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca) by 4 pm on April 2, 2024. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.**