

Homewood Health, Eating Disorders Program**150 Delhi St, Guelph, Ontario, N1E 6K9**

Year 2 Practicum

September 2024 – April 2025

Practicum Description

Homewood Health Centre is a 304-bed addiction and mental health hospital located in Guelph, ON. The year 2 practicum placement is offered in the Eating Disorders Program, a 21-bed unit within the hospital. With a focus on normalization of eating and activity, and interruption of eating disorder symptoms, patients are able to create a life with meaning, and receive care in a community of peers and professionals who fully understand the complexities of eating disorders and the process of recovery. Within a multidisciplinary team (psychiatrist, nurse practitioner, nursing, social work, occupational therapist, recreation therapist, dietician and nutrition services); the placement offers an opportunity to review the admission and intake process, review collateral material provided as part of the assessment and formulation phase of treatment and to assist the team with welcoming patients into the program. The placement will include shadowing and eventually co-facilitating psychoeducation and process groups and participating in meal support therapy; the most important intervention on the unit (training will be provided). The program is group based with some family and individual sessions. Modalities utilized are CBT-E, DBT, ACT and MI with meal support, recreation therapy and art, music and horticultural therapy. In the latter part of treatment, patients attend body image group and exposure therapy is utilized to assist patients in working through their food and behaviour hierarchies, often in the community.

Students will attend flash rounds daily, weekly with the multidisciplinary team and also weekly with patients and the multidisciplinary team. They will be given an opportunity to contribute to the discussion and present findings from their own learning and literature reviews.

Students will be given the opportunity to attend grand rounds and to access training materials offered through Professional Practice.

Practicum Requirements

- Immunizations per PHA Guidelines
- Covid Vaccinations
- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Comfort working with the population being served
- Other requirements:
 - The practicum can be completed during the following hours: 7 am – 3 pm, 8 am – 4 pm, 9 am – 5 pm or 10 am – 6 pm.
 - Comfort eating with patients is necessary for the placement. We can accommodate vegetarian diets
 - Vegan diets can not be accommodated on the unit

This practicum is suitable for students in Mental Health and Health or Children and their Families fields of studies. Note, the placement is working with clients 16 years of age and older.

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

An awareness of eating disorders and the ways in which it affects health and mental health.

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

The placement is in person; hybrid could be arranged 1 day per week.

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

This placement is direct practice, students will spend the majority of their time on the unit with patients, in group or meal support therapy.

Field Instructor: Joanna Anderson 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? Yes but if there is anxiety regarding pace we can modify
- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? No
- Is the site wheelchair accessible? Yes
- What are the physical demands of the practicum? Sitting in group, moving around the hospital to attend groups/meetings /grand rounds. Eating meals with patients and documentation.
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? The hospital is wheelchair accessible and could accommodate different abilities/neurodivergent individuals

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 cover letter and resume to miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca by March 28, 2024. Applications will be forwarded on to the site. Note: Your cover letter must outline learning goals and acknowledgement that the placement is direct practice with patients on an inpatient unit.