

Family Service Toronto, Violence Against Women & Seniors and Caregivers Support Service

Locations: 355 Church St & 1527 Victoria Park Ave

Year 2 Practicum

September 2024 – April 2025

Practicum Description

This will be a joint practicum for the Violence Against Women and Seniors and Caregivers Support Service Programs.

The aim of Family Service Toronto's Violence against Women (VAW) program is to promote non-violence and to work towards the eventual elimination of violence against women. The VAW Program assists women-identified people who have experienced abuse during the course of their lives. Abuse may have occurred in childhood, during a past relationship, or it may be an ongoing concern in a current relationship.

The Seniors and Caregivers Support Service (SCSS) Unit at Family Service Toronto provides social work services to older people and caregivers. Our work includes counselling, group work, advocacy, training and educational sessions on a variety of topics such as aging and memory loss, anger and guilt, how to access community resources, abuse of older adults, etc.

In this practicum, students will have an opportunity to work with women-identified folks who have experienced violence, and senior clients who have experienced violence in their lives. Students will be able to practice clinical skills from a lifespan perspective, noticing the different challenges that clients may experience through life and the intersectionality that impact client's well-beings.

During this practicum, student will have the opportunity to work with clients through single sessions, ongoing 8-12 session counselling, and potential group session work. Students may also be involved in completing research or group planning for their ongoing learning and program needs.

The practicum will be located predominantly at 355 Church street location, and occasionally if needed at the 1527 Victoria Park Avenue location. As Family Service Toronto is a multi-site organization, occasional travel to different locations may be required based on trainings opportunities.

Practicum Requirements

- Police Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check
- 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
- Language (specify in field below)
- Other requirements: As our clients come from diverse communities, being able to communicate and provide services in a second language is an asset.

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

Yes, we require knowledge and previous practical experience in working with clients from marginalized communities.

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

This practicum would be a hybrid practicum.

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

This practicum would involve a mix of direct and indirect work, mostly involving direct client work, and indirect work such as group/workshop planning, or research to enhance current service delivery and student's learning about the sector.

Number of practicums offered? Minimum 1, maximum 2

Field Instructor(s)' name and credentials (BSW and/or MSW) Nicole Chow (RP) and Zenia Castanos (MSW)

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

FST will require a resume and cover letter. And students to prepare 2 reference check contacts to be sent to interviewers should they become a potential candidate.

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. This will be most of the time depending on how the student creates their schedule
- 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? No
- Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? If there are any accessibility accommodations needed for the interview, please let us know ahead of time and we will do our best to accommodate.

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 alexi.sparaggis@utoronto.ca by 4 pm on April 30, 2024. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.