

Missouri State University Practicum Site Questionnaire

Name of site The Child Advocacy Center Inc.

Address 1033 East Walnut Street

City, State Zip Springfield, MO 65806

Phone 417-831-2327

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Contact Person Wendy Brazeal

Email wendy@childadvocacycenter.org

Website address www.childadvocacycenter.org

Your Site

Description of the activities that occur at your site:

The Child Advocacy Center's mission is to provide a child-friendly environment that reduces the stress on children who may have been victims of abuse. Our center offers objective forensic interviews and sensitive medical exams, and our services are conducted in order to provide necessary evaluation for determining appropriate interventions for children. We serve children ages 0-17 (and sometimes older, if developmentally appropriate) and their families. We also assist Law Enforcement, Juvenile Office, Children's Division, etc. in their investigations of child abuse allegations. At our facility, the child's needs ALWAYS come first.

Description of practicum students' duties at your site:

Duties will vary, but typically will include; shadowing staff members (administrative assistant, medical assistant, child advocate, forensic interviewers, etc.) and assisting in day-to-day tasks (answering phones, sitting with children while their caregivers participate in meetings, cleaning, etc.). Most students will be able to watch forensic interviews from a closed circuit television, participate/sit in on pre- and post-meetings with families and attend multidisciplinary team case reviews on site and off site. There may be opportunities to attend court hearings with the forensic interviewers as well. Tasks will vary depending on individual characteristics and needs of the intern as well as needs of the families we serve.

Type of population with which students would be working (e.g., adults, adolescents, children, physically challenged, cognitively challenged, etc.):

We serve children ages 0-17 (and sometimes adults if they are developmentally delayed and better served by our facility) who are alleged victims or witnesses of sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, child exploitation, drug endangerment, etc. There are some children who present with various psychological disorders and developmental concerns. Adult caregivers of the children may be a population that students will work with. Students may also have the opportunity to interact with professionals from other agencies, including; Children's Division, Law Enforcement, Juvenile Office, Prosecutor's Office, etc.

Our Students

Undergraduates

Our undergraduate students typically are juniors and seniors with 17-35 credit hours in Psychology. There are exceptions. If you have any special requirements for students who apply at your practicum site, please describe them.

Undergraduates are welcome at our facility. Although we prefer juniors and seniors, we will consider all undergraduate students.

Graduate Students

Our graduate students are students at the end of their first year or sometime during their second year in the clinical track of our graduate psychology program. These students need direct service contact with clients, and also need weekly supervision from a licensed mental health professional. Is your site interested in working with our graduate students?

At this time, students are able to have limited direct service contact hours with our clients. These contacts are not made in a therapeutic setting.

Hours, Pay, and Commitment

Days and time of days on which you need practicum students:

Is this a paid practicum? Yes _____ No X

If yes, what is pay rate? _____

What length of commitment (e.g., semester, three months, six months), do you expect from the student?

Due to the amount of training required, a semester would be the most beneficial to our agency as well as the students.

Application Process

What is the preferred application process (e.g., email/mail resume/schedule an appointment)?

Please email Jennifer Leek at jennifer@childadvocacycenter.org Students are asked to email a letter of interest as well as a resume. Due to the confidentiality of our services, we require appointments (if a student drops by, he/she will likely be asked to leave and schedule an appointment).

Please provide any other information that would be useful in helping our students to make more informed choices.

Thank You!

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Thank you for your help in working with our students.

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