



1120 Randall Court • Geneva, IL 60134 • (630) 232-1070 • (630) 232-1471 fax

## Site Information Sheet For Advanced Graduate Level Internships

### 1. Ideal Applicants for Our Agency.

We are seeking students from all of the related disciplines of family therapy, psychology and social work. Our ideal applicant seeks a future focus in the field of working with children, adolescents and their families. Our internship training program is much more than an internship and is truly a training experience. We have 3-4 graduate internship positions each year and we have a team approach to how we serve our clients. The site supervisor is with the intern team on Tuesday from 1-9 pm during which we consult together about the work we are doing with our clients and then live supervision is conducted throughout the evening. For this reason one of the days of internship must be on Tuesday. Additional days/hours for internship must also occur during the evening hours on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday. Our internship training program is a rich think tank and interns are able to hone clinical skill through this richly collaborative experience. The one year commitment enables us to transition cases from the previous intern group and get students on the march to obtain client contact hours. Many of our former interns have also been able to combine their practicum with their internship during this time frame. Our agency focus is to not pathologize people and to seek solutions within the family itself that begins with good family assessment and to seek farther reaching solutions that can create systemic change. Within this approach there is ample opportunity to engage other approaches that can include, but are not limited to, evidence based treatment. Due to our high value for developing a positive therapeutic alliance with our clients we are seeking students who enjoy and value the uniqueness that all people bring to therapy. We especially enjoy students that know how to have fun and enjoy laughter with their peers, and clients, about the benign absurdity of life. Students that have prior experience with children and adolescents in some form and have had prior interviewing experiences are valued. Please note that our commitment to internship is one year and goes from mid May to mid May of the following year during which interns more than satisfy hourly requirements. We accept resumes in November and December and interviews take place in December and early January of each year.

### 2. Philosophy of Supervision

As an experienced therapist my perspective on supervision is of similar form to my perspective on therapy itself. Good counseling generally develops out of a positive relationship between therapist and client and to a great extent this involves a therapist who is able to extend real compassion and empathy while bringing to the forefront the unique strengths and capabilities that each client brings to the process of therapy. In this sense, supervision involves supervisor and intern developing a positive trust that enables a safe environment where one can honestly explore feelings toward working with a variety of clients and presenting issues. The process of becoming an accomplished therapist requires knowing oneself in the process and good supervision involves creating a safe context to explore the evolving person of the therapist. This is the aspect of supervision that I look forward to and value the most. After 35 plus years as a marriage and family therapist and social worker, my general approach is deeply rooted in systemic perspective and I feel that I can equip interns with a multitude of theoretical ideas and intervention strategies to build their repertoire. I also feel privileged to do this in an agency that has a long history of commitment to training. The agency enables me to spend an entire day each week to provide consultation via group and live supervision. Our facility was built with this in mind, and has one way mirrors and digital recording capability which enables us to have multiple opportunities to review and develop helpful ways of working with our clients. I also believe that training and live supervision should be a positive experience for our clients and our promise to them is that they, not just experience





1120 Randall Court • Geneva, IL 60134 • (630) 232-1070 • (630) 232-1471 fax

consultation and feedback from our intern team, but that they feel our enthusiasm and hope for them through the process.

### 3. Research Opportunities

Many of our former students have been involved in research in the past and we are constantly involved in measuring outcomes to the many groups and programs that we conduct each year as well as outcomes to therapy itself. To learn more about the many programs offered by the agency please check out our website at [www.tricityfamilyservices.org](http://www.tricityfamilyservices.org). Our clinical team routinely evaluates the progress of treatment via client and therapist completed questionnaires. Therapists do formalized treatment planning and do qualitative review via a formal appreciative inquiry every 3 months while our clients are in treatment. We value students that will be readily engaged in helping us in our effort to define for ourselves, our clients and our funders, that our therapeutic work shows measurable and meaningful change.

Gregory D. Watson LMFT, LCSW, ACSW  
Sr. Clinician/Consultant – Coordinator of Graduate Training

