



Children's Advocacy Center

Together...breaking the silence, healing the hurt.

Prevention Education and Community Outreach Internship

Harmony Home Children's Advocacy Center (HHCAC) is a trauma-informed, non-profit agency that focuses on bringing a light to the darkness, providing a safe place for children to break the silence of abuse and to start healing. Harmony Home would like to offer a 120-hour internship for prevention education and community outreach within the center. This internship is intended for students with majors in social work, teaching, marketing/communications, or other related fields and who have a strong desire to make our community a better place.

Each intern will spend time working within three areas of prevention education department: Planning and prepping for HHCAC community events (50 hours). Attending partner agencies' community events (20 hours), and facilitation and creation of curriculum within the school systems and community. (50 hours).

Mission

The mission of Harmony Home Children's Advocacy Center (HHCAC) is to lessen the trauma and heal the hurt of abuse to children and their families through interviewing, therapy, victim services, investigation, and prosecution and to prevent child abuse through education and community awareness.

Vision

Every child is free from abuse and lives in a safe and stable environment.

Values

Honesty, respect towards families and professionals, high ethical standards.

Goals

The primary goal of all Children's Advocacy Centers is to ensure that children are not further victimized by the intervention systems designed to protect them. HHCAC is dedicated to the development and provision of:

- A comprehensive multidisciplinary, developmentally, and culturally appropriate, evidence-based response to the needs of children and their families.
- A neutral, child-friendly facility where forensic interviews and coordinated case planning can be conducted.
- Trauma- focused, evidence-supported medical and mental health treatment and a wide variety of victim services.

- Effective and coordinated case-management efforts based on open communication, information sharing, and collaborative decision-making.
- Comprehensive case tracking that monitors investigative, prosecutorial, child protection, medical, mental health, and victim advocacy services so that no child is left behind.
- More effective prosecution of child abuse cases.
- Cross- disciplinary and cross-cultural training as well as a discipline-specific continuing education that enhances professional practice.
- Promote child abuse prevention efforts through evidence-based curriculums, community training, and events.

Confidentiality

HHCAC follows all state and federal confidentiality laws. It is imperative that identifying information discussed between HHCAC, and partner agencies not be divulged to any unauthorized person. Client and family confidentiality must be maintained at all stages and by all parties involved in the client's care. Each Intern will be expected to sign a confidentiality contract.

Qualifications

Because Harmony Home is a safe place for children to be able to share their stories, Harmony Home requires that all prospective interns submit to a criminal and DFPS background check. All interns will complete required training at orientation and throughout the semester including, Darkness to Light, Confidence in Reporting, HIPPA, etc. Each intern should be in their final semester before graduating with their Associates, Bachelor's, or Master's degree.

Application

All prospective interns must complete an internship application, submit a resume and two references, and participate in the interview process. During the semester, the Intern will be under the supervision of Amanda Allen, Prevention Education and Community Outreach Director.

Applications are due one month before the start of the semester.

- Fall; July 15
- Spring; December 15
- Summer May 15.

Course Work within the Internship

Planning and Prepping for HHCAC Community Events; 50 hours

The Prevention Department is dedicated to the development, planning, and execution of community events and activities focused on spreading prevention education and awareness regarding child abuse. This includes effectively organizing events, engaging with the community, and disseminating vital information about child abuse prevention to increase community-wide understanding of child abuse factors such as how to identify, respond, react, report, and prevent child abuse.

Working with the Prevention Department; the Intern will

- a. Understand the fundamental concepts of child abuse prevention and awareness.
- b. Learn how to plan, organize, and execute community events while reaching all goals set out and remaining within budget restrictions.
- c. Develop strategies for effective communication and collaboration with diverse communities and stakeholders.
- d. Create effective materials and messaging for prevention education and awareness.
- e. Identify and engage target audiences in marketing and promoting events through digital and traditional strategies.
- f. Evaluate the impact of community events on child abuse prevention awareness to improve future planning efforts.
- g. Assist in the planning, coordination, and execution of planned Prevention events including CHIC Conference, Champions for Children Conference, January Sex Trafficking Initiatives, April Activities, and Party in the Parking Lot.

Attending Partner Agencies' Community Events; 20 hours

The Prevention Department regularly participates in and attends local community health fairs and professional meetings to enhance working relationships, disseminate information, educate the public, and advocate for children and families.

Working with various Prevention Specialists and Partnering Agencies; the Intern will

- a. Gain experience in participating in community events and meetings.
- b. Assist Prevention staff with set up and managing resource booths at various community events to distribute materials and engage with the community and partnering agencies.
- c. Understand and convey the dynamics and implications of child abuse within the community.
- d. Effectively communicate and educate the public on child abuse prevention and the significance of early intervention.
- e. Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of the resources and support programs provided by Harmony Home CAC.
- f. Develop and enhance communication and interpersonal skills.
- g. Collect feedback from event participants to improve future outreach and educational efforts.
- h. Uphold and further build relationships with community partners and stakeholders by accompanying Prevention staff to local community coalitions and professional meetings.

Creation and Facilitation of Curriculum; 50 hours

The Prevention Department is dedicated to reducing abuse in all seven counties served, remain proactive, and improve outcomes for all community members by providing evidence-based child abuse prevention education and additional community support as part of HHCAC's mission.

Working with the Prevention Department; the Intern will

- a. Gain valuable insight through researching the complexities of child abuse, its prevention strategies, and effective educational approaches.
- b. Understand the various forms of child abuse and their impact on children's physical, emotional, and psychological well-being.
- c. Explore the underlying causes and risk factors associated with child abuse and neglect.
- d. Learn evidence-based strategies and language for preventing child abuse at individual, family, and community levels.
- e. Assist in the development of age-appropriate educational materials and curricula for children and adults.
- i. Gain experience in delivering engaging and interactive child abuse prevention workshops and presentations.
- j. Reflect on personal values, biases, and assumptions related to child abuse prevention and develop cultural competence in addressing diverse needs and perspectives.
- k. Through a combination of research, curriculum development, and practical experience, interns will develop the skills necessary to effectively educate diverse audiences on child abuse prevention.
- l. Assist Prevention staff with the facilitation of evidence-based trainings such as Darkness to Light and Child Safety Matters and other trainings such as Gaining Confidence in Reporting.

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