



Social work & counseling internship placement opportunities Summer 2008 through Fall 2009 semesters

Center CARE at the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center 3-31-08

Center CARE integrates substance abuse recovery, relapse and prevention, mental health, and HIV and AIDS prevention and treatment resources within an LGBT community center location. Over the last 20-years, Center CARE has worked to recognize, formalize and transfer a body of LGBT-community generated practice knowledge that is generated through evidence-based models and is relevant to individual, group and community level interventions. Center CARE practice goals include::

- *We perceive LGBT-identities as normative and work with participants to develop a healthy and un-conflicted self concept*
- *We emphasize positive role models where participants adopt the behaviors of those who are similar and respected*
- *We focus on reducing isolation*
- *We develop community-level interventions that enhance LGBT-identified spaces to reduce or prevent substance abuse and the risk of HIV infection among the LGBT communities*
- *We engage and appeal to an inclusive LGBT community including partners, family, allies and hidden LGBT populations, such as youth, immigrants, and the elderly*
- *We utilize a harm reduction approach, emphasizing a “stages of change” methodology*

Center CARE programming addresses:

- Gender identity (Gender Identity Project)
- Grief and bereavement services
- HIV and AIDS support and prevention
- Immigrant support
- LBT cancer support and prevention (Lesbian Cancer Initiative)
- Mental health supportive services
- Smoking Cessation (LGBT SmokeFree Project)
- Substance abuse prevention and harm reduction services
- Substance abuse recovery (Center CARE Recovery)

Center CARE social work internship opportunities include:

Center CARE is proud to offer educational opportunities social work and counseling students seeking to work with the LGBT communities.

- Administration/Social Enterprise Administration
- Advanced Clinical Social Work Practice
- Advanced Generalist Practice and Programming
- Casework
- Community Organizing
- Group Work
- Policy/Policy Practice

Center CARE hours and field placement information:

- Center CARE is seeking interns for the summer through fall 2008



- Center CARE also has opportunities for the winter – summer 2009 semesters
- Center CARE is open Monday - Friday from 10am – 6pm and offers groups on Monday - Thursday evenings from 6 – 9pm
- Prospective interns will need to have some weeknight evening and weekend availability
- Placement requires ability to flex field days to fit program hours – interns are expected to be onsite and attend the weekly Monday 2 – 3pm Center CARE staff meeting, as well as Monday morning trainings
- Center CARE offers a combination of short-term individual, group and community interventions to its clients
- Center CARE has a supportive staff of about 17 full and part-time people, 8 to 10 social work and counseling interns, 2 to 3 peer interns and 12 to 16 peer educators and peer-professional stipend workers

Center CARE: Center CARE interns provide one-on-one sessions with individuals and couples for intake, assessment, counseling and referral and do follow-up encounters in person or by telephone, as necessary; lead or co-lead therapeutic and/pr psycho-educational support groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender clients including recovery maintenance, health and mental health promotion, and HIV concerns at on- and off-site locations; and respond to telephone inquiries, screen potential clients of Center CARE mental health and social services programs and make appropriate referrals to programs within and outside the Center.

- MSW casework and group work interns typically carry a caseload of 6 to 10 individual/couples clients (less for group work specialists) and 1 support group (more for group specialists)
- Interns will offer administrative and operations support (varies by program and placement option) including: document all client sessions and follow-up encounters and provide other written documentation of program activities and proposals, as necessary; participate in weekly general staff meetings, regular team and Center CARE and meetings; and participate in program-relevant training workshops and seminars.

Other possible Center CARE student activities: Interns have the opportunity to participate in developing off-site outreach strategies, support groups, and community and professional training programs for providers and consumers; assist in planning and development of mental health and social services activities, groups, and workshops, including the production of outreach and educational materials; and assist in the development and implementation of process and outcome evaluations.

Center CARE also offers the following branded/program specific internships:

Gender Identity Project (GIP): The Gender Identity Project works to foster the healthy development of transgender and gender non-conforming people, partners, family and community. Through the delivery of a range of transgender-driven supportive services, advocacy, outreach, education and capacity-building, the GIP creates a safe and productive atmosphere for community-building, wellness and self-care, and leadership development.

- The GIP intern is responsible for offering services to transgender and gender non-conforming individuals, partners and family members, around HIV prevention, support and education. This is achieved through community organizing, individual and group counseling and outreach. Interns will have the opportunity to engage in clinical social work as well as in various aspects of program development, policy, outreach and implementation.

Lesbian Cancer Initiative (LCI): The Lesbian Cancer Initiative offers a continuum of cancer-related services to lesbians, bisexual women, transgender people and their caregivers, partners and loved-



ones. These services include support, prevention/outreach activities, educational events and LBT cultural competency training for cancer-care providers.

- The LCI intern is responsible for offering cancer-related supportive and prevention services to lesbians, bisexual women, transgender people and their caregivers, partners and loved-ones. The LCI intern will have the opportunity to engage in clinical social work as well as in various aspects of program development, policy, outreach and implementation.

LGBT SmokeFree Project (SFP): The SmokeFree Project provides smoking cessation and relapse prevention services to LGBT people, people living with HIV, people in recovery from other substances, and people living with mental illness. THE SFP offers peer-based individual and group interventions that are designed to explore ambivalence, increase motivation, and remove barriers to quitting smoking.

- The SmokeFree Project intern will have the opportunity to be involved in a wide range of clinical and administrative tasks. After being trained in our motivational curriculum, the intern will have to opportunity to co-facilitate the workshops, support groups, and program “reunions,” as well as see clients on an individual basis. Interns will also get to assist in the development of new group interventions, create promotional materials for groups and events, and help with data collection and analysis. In addition, the SmokeFree Project participates in many outreach efforts.