

CENTER FOR HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES



Alameda County
Health Care Services Agency

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HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY

School-Based/School-Linked Behavioral Health and Wellness Training Program

*Internships for social work and
counseling graduate level students, and
post-graduate associates.*

As a county program, CHSC (Center for Healthy Schools and Communities) is uniquely positioned in schools. Our access and knowledge of school systems provides an invaluable experience to an intern who is considering working with youth and families in schools, and beyond. We value empowering families and youth, growing the capacity of communities to affect change, and building strategic partnerships that link health and education institutions to achieve equity.

Our goal is to pass along skills, knowledge, and tools, to the next generation of counselors and social workers to further enhance school based/linked behavioral health and wellness services and systems. In choosing intern site placements, we prioritize the learning opportunities and experiences for interns, and aim to find the best match for the site. We believe that an internship should be a rich and fulfilling experience, where interns can focus on their learning and professional growth. We are committed to ensuring that interns feel supported in exploring new areas, asking many questions, and accepting new challenges. We support interns in exploring not just their current work, but the behavioral health and wellness field as a whole and the values that led them to this work.

What does a CHSC intern do?

- As a clinical direct-service intern, one would provide behavioral health services to youth and families at school-site or at the REACH Ashland Youth Center. Services include: individual therapy, case-management, social-emotional wellness groups, classroom push-in support, youth development groups, and milieu support (REACH). Interns may also pair up with CHSC clinicians to provide caregiver workshops, and mental health consultation/training for school-based staff
- As a macro-level intern, one would take on projects that directly engage and strengthen systems of behavioral health supports and build capacity to meet the behavioral health needs of students. For example, you may participate in program evaluation, support with program development, or engage in designing capacity building frameworks. Projects vary based on current goals and initiatives. *We also welcome interns who are seeking a combined clinical direct service/macro placement*

What is the application and program timeline, and does CHSC offer a stipend?

- Training program aligns with the public-school calendar. Orientation is the first week of September and the program runs through end of May the following year
- Submit resume and letter of interest at any time
- Screening and interviews begin in February, with offers made by April
- We offer a \$5000/year stipend for those who are not already receiving a placement related stipend (i.e., MHSA, CalSWEC, IBH). Bilingual candidates receive an additional \$500

What support and training does a CHSC intern receive?

- Weekly supervision (individual, triadic, and/or group) by a highly experienced clinically licensed CHSC staff member
- Monthly Skill-Building and Consultation Group, facilitated by CHSC staff
- Monthly clinically focused training, facilitated by CHSC staff and county partners
- Hands-on system and capacity building training with experienced CHSC staff, and opportunities to partner with school districts and community-based organizations

What are the internship requirements and preferences?

- Interns must be enrolled in a master's level program with a university that currently has an established agreement with CHSC, or have obtained their master's degree and be registered with the Board of Behavioral Sciences as an Associate
- Second-year MSW or MFT students preferred but will consider first-year candidates with experience in the field
- We are currently unable to host interns seeking LPCC hours (Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor)
- Previous experience working with children/youth and their families is preferred
- Candidates from diverse communities encouraged to apply: Black, Indigenous, and/or POC, Bilingual, LGBTQI+

**For questions and/or to submit your resume
and letter of interest, please email:
CHSCinternship@acgov.org**