

# Sarah's Inn Internship Program

**Thank you for your interest in the Internship Program at Sarah's Inn. The information provided in this document will help you determine if a Sarah's Internship is right for you and which of our programs would be the best placement for you.**

Sarah's Inn is committed to community partnerships; and part of that commitment is to the next generation of advocates and activists. Our program exists to broaden the work we do with clients and community members and to provide leadership and supervision opportunities for staff. Our program is open to Bachelor's and Master's level students who can **commit to at least 16 hours of service per week** and are available on varying schedules, year-round. Sarah's Inn's primary service hours are 8am-9pm, Mondays-Fridays. Students with a fluency in Spanish and prior experience working/volunteering in social services are preferred. All Internships with Sarah's inn are unpaid.

## **What you can expect from a Sarah's Inn Internship Placement:**

- ✓ We are committed to enhancing the skills and knowledge necessary for our students to respond to victims of domestic violence and communities dealing with domestic violence within their chosen profession.
- ✓ Our supervisors have years of experience in their areas of expertise as well as supervising staff and students. Students will benefit from group and individual supervision as well as team and program meetings.
- ✓ Students are provided with extensive training and orientation; including the Domestic Violence Advocacy Training (the 40-hour).
- ✓ Students will be reimbursed for off-site travel and parking.
- ✓ Students will have the opportunity to engage with staff at all levels, to learn about small non-profit management, and to be part of a dynamic agency team within a healthy culture.

***"After my first supervision session – I knew I had chosen not only the right career for me, but the best possible placement that will help me succeed in that career – Thank You!"***  
***- former Intern Student***

## **Internships are offered in each of our program areas:**

### **Advocacy & Counseling Program:**

A placement with our **Advocacy & Counseling Program** is ideal for students in Social Work, Counseling, and Human Services programs who are looking forward to careers providing direct services to clients in community-based settings.

The **Advocacy & Counseling Program** provides services for families affected by domestic violence in order to safely navigate crisis, effectively process trauma, and ensure self-



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sufficiency. Within Intervention, the Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP) also provides services that hold perpetrators accountable and teach skills for non-violent living.

Students will:

- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and counseling skills, both in-person via our 24-hour crisis line and intake process
- ✓ Provide weekly evening group counseling co-facilitation for children, teens, and/or adult support and education groups and pre-school trauma-informed play groups.
- ✓ Advocacy services to clients around issues of resources and stabilization, i.e. housing/shelter, legal, food, education - assisting clients in navigating the complex social service arena
- ✓ Use evidence-based practice counseling modalities and ways they can be used in DV counseling. Including but not limited to ACT, DBT, TF-CBT, CPP, MI and ARC
- ✓ Provide individual counseling services to children, teens, and adults impacted by domestic violence; short term and long term
- ✓ Work with a broad demographic of clients individually and in a group setting
- ✓ Advanced-standing and second year students will be afforded the opportunity to dive deeper into clinical work; such as play therapy with children and trauma focused group counseling, as well as school-based counseling to elementary and/or high school age students
- ✓ Provide individual counseling to children and families; short term and long term
- ✓ Participate in weekly individual, group supervision, and department meetings
- ✓ Attend at least one community outreach event where you will talk about the agency's services and also learn about other community programs.

## **Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP):**

A placement with **PAIP** is ideal for students in Social Work, Counseling, Human Services, and Criminal Justice programs who are looking forward to careers providing direct services to clients in community-based settings.

**PAIP** provides group services to men who have used abusive or controlling behaviors with an intimate partner. The purpose of the cognitive-behavioral change interventions is to hold participants accountable for their behaviors, teach skills for non-violent living, and increase the safety of victims and their children.

Students will:

- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and counseling skills, both in-person and via our PAIP crisis line
- ✓ Learn and practice co-facilitation skills
- ✓ Provide weekly psycho-educational counseling to court mandated, DCFS involved, and voluntary participants who have engaged in abusive and controlling behaviors
- ✓ Observe and learn how to conduct intake assessments with potential clients assessing their appropriateness for the program



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- ✓ Conduct orientation workshops to introduce the program to new clients
- ✓ Develop a deeper understanding of the interaction between trauma and intimate partner violence
- ✓ Ensure professional relationships with clients to create an atmosphere of accountability, responsibility and support
- ✓ Confront and educate participants on potential offensive behavior, actions, and language

## **Advocacy & Counseling Program & Partner Abuse Intervention Program (PAIP):**

A placement with our **Advocacy & Counseling and PAIP** is ideal for students interested in working in **both** Survivors Perpetrator services. This is a program is a good fit for Social Work (micro and mezzo programs), Counseling, Human Services, and Criminal Justice programs who are looking forward to careers providing direct services to clients in community-based settings. "Please note: since this internship is a dual role working in 2 different programs, please review the list below for what the student will do/learn/participate in within each department.

Students will:

- ✓ Work with two different departments and teams, attend two team meetings
- ✓ Spend internship hours split between PAIP work and Advocacy and Counseling work.
- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and counseling skills, both in-person and via our PAIP crisis line
- ✓ Learn and practice co-facilitation skills
- ✓ Provide weekly psycho-educational counseling to court mandated, DCFS involved, and voluntary participants who have engaged in abusive and controlling behaviors
- ✓ Observe and learn how to conduct intake assessments with potential clients assessing their appropriateness for the program
- ✓ Conduct orientation workshops to introduce the program to new clients
- ✓ Develop a deeper understanding of the interaction between trauma and intimate partner violence
- ✓ Ensure professional relationships with clients to create an atmosphere of accountability, responsibility and support
- ✓ Confront and educate participants on potential offensive behavior, actions, and language
- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and counseling skills, both in-person via our 24-hour crisis line and intake process
- ✓ Provide weekly evening group counseling co-facilitation for children, teens, and/or adult support and education groups and pre-school trauma-informed play groups.
- ✓ Advocacy services to clients around issues of resources and stabilization, i.e. housing/shelter, legal, food, education - assisting clients in navigating the complex social service arena



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- ✓ Use evidence-based practice counseling modalities and ways they can be used in DV counseling. Including but not limited to ACT, DBT, TF-CBT, CPP, MI and ARC
- ✓ Provide individual counseling services to children, teens, and adults impacted by domestic violence; short term and long term
- ✓ Work with a broad demographic of clients individually and in a group setting
- ✓ Advanced-standing and second year students will be afforded the opportunity to dive deeper into clinical work; such as play therapy with children and trauma focused group counseling, as well as school-based counseling to elementary and/or high school age students
- ✓ Participate in weekly individual, group supervision, and department meetings
- ✓ Attend at least one community outreach event where you will talk about the agency's services and also learn about other community programs.

## **Housing – Safe Bridge Program**

A placement with our Housing – Safe Bridge Program Internship is ideal for 2<sup>nd</sup> year students in Social Work, Counseling, and Human Services programs who are looking forward to careers providing direct services to clients in community-based settings.

The Safe Bridge Program helps survivors of domestic violence and their families access housing through the Coordinated Entry waiting list in suburban Cook County. Through this program we also support clients who are housed through this program with safety planning, connection to resources, and providing emotional support.

Students will:

- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and counseling skills, both in-person via our 24-hour crisis line and intake process
- ✓ Meet individually with clients in the Safe Bridge Program to assess needs related to domestic violence, including safety planning, resource connection, and emotional support
- ✓ Develop, coordinate, and lead workshops for clients in the Safe Bridge Program
- ✓ Advocacy services to clients around issues of resources and stabilization, i.e. housing/shelter, legal, food, education - assisting clients in navigating the complex social service arena
- ✓ Work with a broad demographic of clients individually
- ✓ Participate in weekly individual, group supervision, and department meetings
- ✓ Attend at least one community outreach event where you will talk about the agency's services and also learn about other community programs.
- ✓ Learn and provide housing supportive services to Sarah's Inn clients

## **Legal Advocacy Program:**

A placement with our **Legal Advocacy Program** is ideal for students in Social Work, Counseling, Human Services, and Criminal Justice programs who are looking forward to careers providing direct services to clients in community-based and legal-based settings; as well as those interested in systems-based advocacy.



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The **Legal Advocacy Program** provides services for families affected by domestic violence in order to safely navigate crisis, effectively process trauma, and ensure self-sufficiency. Within Intervention, the Legal Advocacy Program works directly with domestic violence victims, at one of our two partner courthouses, who are seeking the services/support of the criminal justice system; in particular obtaining an Order of Protection.

Students will:

- ✓ Learn and practice crisis intervention and advocacy skills; including completing service intakes with clients and providing individual advocacy
- ✓ Work with a broad demographic of clients individually
- ✓ Assist clients in navigating the complex legal system; including completing legal documents, case consultations with attorneys and other legal systems employees, advocating for clients in the courtroom, advocating for clients with attorneys and law enforcement, and partnering with a variety of other legal services providers who also assist the clients of Sarah's Inn
- ✓ Attend weekly individual supervision with field supervisor to guide in learning and reflection
- ✓ Students may also have the opportunity to attend community/coalition building meetings within the legal system

## **Training and Education Program:**

A placement in our **Training and Education Program** is ideal for students in Social Work, Social Justice, Criminal Justice, and Gender Studies programs who are looking forward to careers in systems advocacy, community engagement, and training/facilitation.

The **Training and Education Program** maximizes reach by creating a network of skilled bystanders to appropriately intervene as first responders and community advocates. Sarah's Inn is a certified training site through the Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professionals, Inc. and a leader in providing domestic violence education and training.

Students will have an opportunity to:

- ✓ Develop training curriculum
- ✓ Learn and practice public speaking skills
- ✓ Learn and practice training facilitation skills
- ✓ Participate in institutional advocacy
- ✓ Develop content for and record episodes of the Sarah's Inn Podcast
- ✓ Represent Sarah's Inn and engage community members at outreach events

## **Together Strong Prevention Program:**



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A placement in our **Together Strong Prevention Program** is ideal for students in Social Work, Social Justice, Criminal Justice, Gender Studies, or Public Health programs who are looking forward to careers in education, prevention, and systems advocacy.

The **Together Strong Prevention Program** provides educational programming for youth in order to prevent future relationship violence. Programming takes place in the classroom during school hours. The goal of this program is to educate and engage youth so that they will pursue non-violence and cultivate healthy relationships throughout their lives. All of our prevention programming aligns with the Illinois Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) standards, and promotes anti-bullying, consent, and healthy relationship development. The schools we serve have diverse socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and faith populations.

Students will have an opportunity to:

- ✓ Develop curriculum
  - ✓ Learn and practice classroom management skills
  - ✓ Facilitate deeper learning through our Youth Committee
  - ✓ Interact with education stakeholders, such as teachers, parents, and administrators
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**To apply for an internship** please submit an [Internship Inquiry Form](#); along with your cover letter and resume to our Internship Team, at [internships@sarahsinn.org](mailto:internships@sarahsinn.org). You will be contacted within five business days if you are selected to move forward through the interview process.

Please see website and Internship Inquiry Form for information about dates of placement.

