

Child Life Intern



Position: Child Life Intern
Reports to: Child Life Supervisor
Status: Internship-Unpaid
Revised Date: 05/2015

ChicagoCAC interns are expected to perform their job duties and act in a manner consistent with the Core Values of the organization.

Overview

The objective of the Child Life Program is to make a child's experience visiting ChicagoCAC less stressful and more empowering through child-directed play. Child Life interns provide a therapeutic and trauma-informed environment that builds trust, relieves anxiety, and ensures that children are in the most appropriate state emotionally to participate in their forensic interview or mental health appointment. Child Life interns are in a unique position to observe concerning behavior and make recommendations to crisis screening staff. Child Life interns meet with the Child Life Supervisor on a regular basis to ensure internship requirements are being met. *ChicagoCAC Child Life internship currently does not qualify for those seeking certification as a Child Life Specialist.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Provide trauma-informed care to clients and their families during child abuse investigations and therapy appointments.
- Facilitate child-directed play and socialization.
- Observe and monitor child behavior and emotional responses, providing behavioral intervention and support as needed.
- Communicate significant information obtained from the child to the MDT team members; communicate behavioral changes to therapist.
- Ensure the safety and comfort of children in your care.
- Promote positive self-esteem, independence and empowerment.
- Arrange for provision of food and/or snacks to children receiving Child Life services.
- Contact the appropriate staff member in crisis situations.
- Complete daily cleaning duties in Child Life spaces.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Discretion

Child Life Interns have a low-level range of discretion and independent decision-making.

Relationships

Child Life Specialists work closely with the Child Life and Transportation Supervisor, Child Life Specialists, Mental Health, Advocacy, and Forensic Interviewing teams.

Child Life Specialist

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Qualifications

- Currently enrolled in an undergraduate program, pursuing degrees in psychology, early childhood education or development, or other closely related field.
- Experience working with multiple children at a time.
- Excellent oral communications skills.
- Bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred, but not required.

Please note: Interns are required to participate in ChicagoCAC orientation prior to starting placement.

To Apply

Send resume and cover letter to Intern@ChicagoCAC.org with “Child Life Internship” as the subject. Full year, semester, and summer internships are available. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Acknowledgement

I have read and understand the expectation outlined in my job description:

Intern

Date

Supervisor

Date