



CRISIS SUPPORT SERVICES

of Alameda County

Thank you for your interest in clinical training with Crisis Support Services of Alameda County (CSS). Certified by the American Association of Suicidology, CSS offers a variety of counseling services to the community including: individual, couples, family and group counseling for children, adults and older adults. The Grief Program serves the bereaved, particularly those grieving sudden, traumatic deaths. The Older Adult Counseling Program provides counseling services to home-bound older adults in North and Central Alameda County. Older adults who are able to come on-site are provided services in our North Oakland Office. The agency provides school based counseling to children elementary through high school. In addition to face-to-face counseling, CSS responds to nearly 60,000 calls per year on our 24-hour telephone crisis lines. Clients served by each of these programs represent a broad spectrum in terms of age, ethnicity, and socio-economic backgrounds.

Responsibilities of interns include assessment, diagnosis, and development of treatment plans for individuals, couples, and families with the utilization of supervision. Registered Associates are responsible for a minimum of 12 face to face client hours per week while trainees are responsible for a minimum of 6 face to face client hours per week. In addition, everyone will do one 4-hour shift on the agency's 24-hour telephone crisis line each week, and one weekend shift per month for a total of 64 shifts each year. Interns will also attend weekly individual supervision and, or weekly group supervision as assigned. It is also a requirement that interns complete didactic trainings and follow all record keeping protocols established by the agency. Thanks to a grant from the Thomas J. Long Foundation, CSS is able to offer a small stipend to counselors serving in-home older adult clients.

Our internship is fairly demanding and incorporates the following:

- 100 hours of didactic and experiential training
- Weekend seminars in conjunction with one-on-one crisis line training
- Group and Individual supervision
- Comprehensive printed training materials

These elements provide a unique and highly regarded training program.

The Agency's supervisors come from richly varied clinical backgrounds. CSS offers ongoing training and supervision of the supervisors. Given the Program's distinct clinical settings, a variety of treatment modalities are utilized which are contingent upon the specific needs of the client(s), the individual supervisor's orientation and the intern's areas of interest.

CSS is looking for persons who are level-headed in crisis situations, committed to personal and professional growth, have had or are in their own therapy, can work independently, are reliable, responsible and recognize their own limitations as counselors. Interns who successfully complete our program gain valuable skills that will serve them for their entire professional lives.

To apply for our training program, please complete and submit the following application, letters of recommendation and resume with cover letter.

TRAINING PROGRAM APPLICATION

Applicant's Name Home phone
Address Business phone
City Zip Email
Best time to reach you

EDUCATION:

Highest Level Completed: Degree in Progress:
School Where Completed: School of Current Enrollment:
Date Degree Conferred: Planned Graduation Date:

Minimum number of weekly practicum hours your school requires you to perform:

Maximum number of weekly practicum hours your school allows you to perform:

Number of Face to face practice hours your school requires for graduation:

Number of practice hours you have currently completed:

Your Board & Registration #:

Present occupation: Number of hours you work per week:

Employer Employer's Phone #

Employer's address

Describe any past clinical work

Special skills or certificates

Language(s) Spoken

Do you have access to an automobile? Yes No Auto insurance? Yes No

Desired start date: January or September

Group supervision availability: (All counselors must attend one group; please rank your choices using the drop down menu.)

Tuesday 9:00am – 10:50 am

Wednesday 11:00 am – 12:50 pm

Tuesday 11:00 am – 12:50 pm

In addition to working on the crisis lines, which is mandatory, you may participate in our other counseling programs. Please indicate those of your interest. You may choose more than one:

Grief counseling Older Adult Counseling School Based Counseling Co-facilitate Groups

What drew you to the mental health field?

Why are you interested in our program at this time?

What are your goals as an intern with Crisis Support Services?

Describe your previous experience with supervision (pros and cons).

What kind of client would be the most difficult for you to work with and why?

CSS works with a range of clinical topics that can be hard for many to talk about. CSS values individuals who have lived experience related to mental health challenges and suicide.

- Does the idea of talking to a person who is suicidal scare you? **Yes** **No**
- Would it bother you to read or think about sudden/traumatic death? **Yes** **No**

Signature of Applicant

Date

**CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT
AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HIPAA COMPLIANCE**

I agree to hold in confidence all information regarding callers and clients of Crisis Support Services of Alameda County ("CSS"). I will not violate the confidential relationships between and among CSS, its volunteers, Board of Trustees, staff, and callers and clients. I will maintain privacy regulations under the umbrella of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). I will not remove from the offices of CSS any written client records or any other information without the explicit consent of the Executive Director.

I accept full responsibility for maintaining the confidential and private nature of all client records and information. This applies to all forms of communications including phone conversations, emails, faxing, and social media technology. Social media technology includes, but is not limited to Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, etc. I understand that I am personally liable for any violation of this agreement. Violation of the law concerning confidentiality subjects the person releasing the information to a minimum of five hundred dollars (\$500) in civil damages, as set forth in Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5350.

California law requires that certain information regarding child or elder abuse, potential violence and/or homicidal threats to others be reported to mandated agencies. As a result of our compliance with these requirements, or in response to a court order or search warrant, it is possible that client/volunteer conversations may become a part of some other agency's records.

If compelled or mandated to provide information about a client, CSS will attempt to keep the last names of volunteers private and not release them with the records. In no case will the last name of a volunteer be released for a judicial purpose without first informing the volunteer of the request.

Section 215 of the Patriot Act precludes counselors from informing clients regarding requests for and the release of records requested by the FBI.

Print Name

Signature

Date

List the names, addresses and phone numbers of two persons who are well acquainted with your clinical work (clinical supervisors, professors, volunteer supervisors or employers). Do not provide the names of friends, acquaintances or relatives.

Name:

Title:

Relationship to you:

Address:

Phone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

The above-listed persons have agreed to provide a Letter of Reference for you (see form attached) and are willing to discuss your qualifications. Yes No

Name:

Title:

Relationship to you:

Address:

Phone Number(s): _____

Email: _____

The above-listed persons have agreed to provide a Letter of Reference for you (see form attached) and are willing to discuss your qualifications. Yes No

LETTER OF REFERENCE

(Applicants: Please furnish a copy of this form to each of your references)

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Reference: _____

As part of the application process for the Clinical Training Program of Crisis Support Services of Alameda County (CSS), applicants are asked to supply letters of reference from at least two professional associates. These letters are used to help assess the applicant's qualifications for the program.

Please complete this form by describing the following items:

1. The agency or organization with which you and the applicant are/were affiliated and, if applicable, the type of mental health services provided.
2. The nature and extent of your contact with the applicant, including frequency and amount of time, kinds of cases, etc.
3. Applicants relation to peers.
4. Applicants relation to authority figures.
5. Applicants independence and self-sufficiency.
6. Clinical strengths.
7. Areas needing development.
8. Some estimate of how the applicant compares with others of his/her background and training (e.g., fair, good, very good, or outstanding).
9. Specific comments that would help us decide whether the applicant is an appropriate candidate for our Clinical Training Program.

Signature

Phone Number

Date

Thank you for your assistance. Letters of Reference are confidential and will not be disclosed to the applicant. This Letter of Reference should be sent directly to Devah DeFusco, LMFT c/o Crisis Support Services, P.O. Box 3120, Oakland CA 94609