Internship Opportunities
About

Oaklawn is the leading provider of mental health and addiction services in Elkhart, South Bend and the surrounding communities of northern Indiana. We serve 30,000 children, adolescents and adults annually through treatment that spans the continuum of care.

Our Internship Program
Oaklawn interns have a unique opportunity to gain comprehensive experience at an award-winning community mental health center. Our program takes you from the 30,000-foot view of social systems, policy-making and funding all the way to providing services to our clients under the supervision of our expert clinical staff. We do this in three key ways:

1. Observation and shadowing
2. Organizational and professional training
3. Hands-on experience

Whether you’re completing your graduate work with a chosen specialty or you’re a bachelor-level student still searching for the right fit, Oaklawn’s internship program provides invaluable experience that supports your professional goals.
Interns get an up-close look at Oaklawn’s mental health and addiction services, including:

- Individual skills training, care facilitation and therapy, both in office and community-based
- Group services ranging from maintenance groups to intensive outpatient programs
- Family therapy and family support groups
- Peer navigation and peer support groups, consumer advisory boards
- Clubhouse services
- Access Center, where first calls are fielded
- Tours of inpatient and residential services
- On-call assessments at community hospitals
- Multi-disciplinary staffings
- Prevention services in camps, schools and youth development organizations
- Child and family team processes for service planning
- Community meetings with criminal/juvenile justice, DCS, vocational rehabilitation, landlords, schools (IEPs, student assistance programs), etc.

Interns will also learn about health administration, operations and systems work through:

- Meeting with Oaklawn’s CEO to talk about governance, organizational structure, funding, partners, the community mental health system, advocacy, etc.
- Oaklawn committee meetings that address regulatory standards, policy development, program development, clinical practice review, orientation and training, performance improvement, safety, trauma-informed care, etc.
- Community-level meetings addressing issues such as criminal justice diversion, integrated care, emergency room overcrowding, Medication Assisted Treatment and the opioid epidemic, drug courts, access to mental health care, etc.
- State-level meetings with the Indiana Council of Community Mental Health Centers sub-committees, Systems of Care, DCS, etc.
Training

*Interns will participate in robust trainings on a multitude of real-world topics.*

Training opportunities include:
- Oaklawn new-hire training on topics such as treatment planning, confidentiality, trauma-informed care, common diagnoses, clinical documentation, de-escalation techniques and more.
- Hundreds of online learning courses on mental health and addiction available through Relias Learning.
- Department of Child Services trainings.
- Community-wide trainings hosted by Oaklawn featuring national leaders on a variety of topics.
Hands-on experience

At the individual/community level
Interns will work alongside our expert staff to develop skills in:
• Care facilitation (bachelor or first-year master’s students)
• Skills training—individual, family, group (bachelor or first-year master’s students)
• Therapy—individual, family, group (second-year master’s students, with some group therapy open to bachelor or first-year master’s level)

Interns also gain experience in:
• Risk assessment
• Safety planning
• Cycle of care (screening, assessment, treatment, termination)
• Person-centered treatment planning and treatment plan review process
• Documentation of services
• Community resources
• Psychotropic medications
• Engaging families

• Cultural competency
• Professionalism
• Developing and tracking outcomes
• Clinical supervision, ethics, boundaries, best practices, quality
• Evidence-based practices, including exposure to and possible training in Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Focused CBT, EMDR, Parent-Child Interactional Therapy, Seeking Safety, Illness Management Recovery (IMR), Integrated Dual Diagnosis Treatment (IDDT) and others.
Hands-on experience

At the community, state and national level, interns will work alongside experienced administrative staff to develop skills in:

• Partnership building
• Program implementation, development and evaluation
• Grant research, writing, outcome monitoring
• Policy development and implementation
• Implementation of audit recommendations/plans of correction
• Advocacy efforts for mental health and addictions services
• Recruitment and addressing the mental health work force shortage
• Implementation and monitoring of the Four Disciplines of Execution, strategies for goal-focused operations within the organization.

*These opportunities are open to master’s students, with some skill areas open to bachelor students.
Apply to our program!

Submit your application for our internship program at WWW.OAKLAWNJOBS.ORG/INTERN

For questions or more information, call Oaklawn’s HR department at 574-283-1234, ext. 4226 or email HUMANRESOURCES@OAKLAWN.ORG