

# Student Placement Opportunity Template: Options Program

Application deadline: Sunday May 20, 2018

## KEY DEATILS

### Ideal start date, days and hours of placement:

- Fall 2018 with flexible start date;
- 2-3 days a week preferred, generally 9 to 5pm;
- Work requires some travel in the city for home visits. A car is an asset but not a requirement.

### Description

#### Name of Program or Service:

The Options program operates within an anti-oppressive framework and is committed to building inclusive communities by working in partnership with individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities, and their families, friends and communities, community organizations, developmental service agencies, generic agencies, and relevant systemic and community networks. The mandate of this program is to empower Options clients and their families through interventions that support person-directed, goal-oriented planning, service coordination, circles of care facilitation, and self-advocacy. The Options team works collaboratively with clients and their families to support them to accomplish mutually agreed upon goals.

This is a direct service opportunity and the student/intern will work closely with Options clients and their families, in-person (home visits and office setting) and over the phone to provide support, service coordination, resource facilitation and advocacy in order to enhance healthy family dynamics, community participation, housing opportunities, access to various funding sources, as well as other relevant systemic and community supports. Responsibilities will primarily include biopsychosocial assessments and formulations, person-directed planning, supportive counseling, conflict management, psychosocial education, advocacy and referrals to community resources, collateral service coordination, circles of support, accessing housing and available funding sources, and budgeting and goal setting. Additional responsibilities will include attendance at team meetings, preparing documentation and maintaining client records, and performing other duties as required. The student will be encouraged to identify their learning goals and share possible strategies to achieve them during the course of the placement.

### Requirements

#### Skills that student **must** possess:

- Enrolled in a Bachelor or Masters program related to social work;
- Good documentation and organizational skills;
- Ability to sensitively and professionally respond to clients' needs in a respectful and non-judgemental manner;
- Critical thinking skills, open mindedness and willingness to learn and self reflect;
- Commitment to ideals of inclusion.

#### Skills that would be an asset:

- Knowledge of the developmental services sector and community- based resources in Toronto;
- experience working with individuals with a developmental/intellectual disability and/or in the social service sector;
- Good computer skills (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access);
- Ability to work within a fast-paced environment;
- valid drivers licence and access to a vehicle

**Client Population:** Adults with developmental disabilities

### Student Responsibilities:

- X Individual Supportive Counselling (not therapeutic counselling)
- X Family Supportive Counselling (not therapeutic counselling)
- X Community Work
- X Home Visits
- X Administrative Work
- X Other, please specify: Information and Referral; Telephone supportive listening

### Does this placement require...

- X Criminal Record Check
- X Vulnerable Sector Search
- \_\_ Driver's License
- \_\_ Use of own Car
- \_\_ Evening Attendance
- If yes, when?

### Location of Placement:

- \_X\_ 128A Sterling Road
- \_X\_ Other, please specify: *Travel within Toronto to various locations (home visits and community settings)*

**Supervisor:** Amy Steele, MSW from University of Toronto.

### Field Instructors' Supervisory Style and Areas of Expertise/Interest:

Amy has 7 years' experience as a social worker with adults with developmental disabilities and additional experience in social and developmental service fields. She uses an "open door" supervision policy: weekly supervision meetings with follow up. Specific interest in anti-oppressive practice and narrative approaches