

Why Consider a School-Based Internship?

If you're reading this, chances are you're looking for an internship. Obviously, there are a lot of questions to ask. What's the best placement? Who's going to provide the best supervision? The best training, diverse opportunities? Where can I acquire the most hours toward licensing? Will my internship experience be transferrable to my area of interest or specialization? All good questions.

For the past 26 years, Outreach Concern Inc. has provided answers to those questions interns pose and more. We are one of the largest non-profit, school-based counseling programs in the nation. Our services have been incorporated in over 800 elementary, middle and high schools working with 500,000 children and families and provided training and supervision for over 9,000 interns. In short, we've been around for a while.

With that said, let's look at what an internship with Outreach Concern is all about. First, we are a school-based counseling program. If your initial response is "Well, I don't want to work in a school, deal with kids and grades", let me give you a different perspective on school-based counseling. If your future plans include private practice, community mental health, or maybe someday starting your own agency, the experience you'll receive in a school-based internship working with children, adolescents and families will help you meet those goals. Yes, we focus on student performance but the major areas you'll be exposed to will provide you the experience and skills your future endeavors require and more.

In a school-based counseling setting, you're working with a wide range of mental health, social, emotional, behavioral and performance issues. You're dealing with various single-parent, blended and foster families, exposed to child abuse, domestic violence, self-harm, substance abuse as well as issues that impact academic performance such as learning disabilities, ADHD, Autism and developmental issues. Your day is busy and exciting and you'll be part of a team that has a huge impact on the clientele they work with.

You'll work closely with children and families as well as psychiatrists, psychologists, medical practitioners, social workers and various clinical support services to further support the continuity of care of the students you work with.

A school-based internship provides you a highly diverse clientele, culturally and socioeconomically, producing various challenges that impact success and progress throughout the crucial developmental stages of childhood through adolescence.

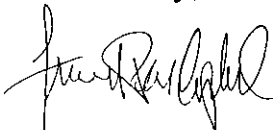
Today, kids bring more to school than their books, pencils and iPads. Often, their emotional backpacks are stuffed with family, emotional and circumstantial issues that impact their success and safety. The world they're exposed to, introduces you to a wide range of challenges, crisis, opportunities and unfortunate tragedies they encounter and only a school-based placement can offer you that experience.

So, if you're serious about developing skills working with children, adolescents, and their families, I'm going to suggest you give serious consideration to a school-based counseling internship.

And let me suggest taking a look at Outreach Concern. For a clinician who's serious about a career in the mental health field, an internship with one of the oldest and most successful school-based counseling agencies in the nation is a good place to start. For more information, please visit our website at www.outreachconcern.org or contact us at 714-547-1163.

Thank you for your time, we look forward to the possibility of working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fredrick Capaldi". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Fredrick Capaldi, Ph.D., M.F.T.
President/CEO