

Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital
Marshfield, Wi
Child Life Program



MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN

**Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital
Marshfield Clinic Children's
Practicum Experience**

Child Life Practicum Program Mission Statement:

The Child Life Department at Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital/Marshfield Clinic Children's offers practicum experiences for students in the winter (January) and summer (August) sessions. Generally, the experience is two weeks, full-time, for a total of 80+ hours. Our department is committed to providing a quality learning and training experience for future Child Life Specialists. Through the practicum experience, students are given opportunities to observe and become familiar with the field of Child Life and the hospital setting. This experience, along with others, will provide the student with a knowledge base to continue pursuing a career in Child Life.

Scope of Service:

The Child Life Program provides services to patients between the ages of 0-18 years old within Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital; Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital and Marshfield Clinic Children's, with varied diagnoses. These include, but are not limited to: surgical, orthopedic, oncology, cardiac, GI illnesses, renal, respiratory illnesses, hepatic, neurology, abuse/neglect, psychosocial/emotional complaints including overdose, failure to thrive, traumas, head injuries, spinal cord injuries, neonatal conditions and other various infectious diseases of children. Patients may have additional needs relating to mental retardation, learning disabilities, and emotional or physical handicaps. Child Life also provides services by consult to NICU and children of adult patients that are facing a new diagnosis of cancer or being treated in the ICU, CCU or Palliative Care Unit for a traumatic or life threatening illness.

Components of the Child Life Practicum Program:

The Child Life Practicum Student will complete the following during the course of their 2 week, 80 hour, practicum:

- Complete all health requirements and computer based training orientation prior to starting
- Meet with Child Life Manager for orientation to the program
- Tour Ministry Saint Joseph's Children's Hospital, Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital and Marshfield Clinic Children's
- Tour of the Ronald McDonald House

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- Complete assigned readings given by Child Life Manager
- Complete an electronic journal entry to reflect on each days experience to be handed in to supervisor at the end of each week. Please complete at the end of each day while impressions, behaviors and incidents are still fresh in your mind.
- Meet at least 3 times a week with Child Life Manager to discuss observations.
- Participate in in-services offered to enhance professional development.
- Observe and shadow CCLS's/CTRS's for one week inpatient and one week outpatient.
- Provide appropriate play opportunities to patients in inpatient and outpatient settings.
- Observe preparation, coping and documentation throughout practicum experience.
- Observe statistics and evaluation methods during practicum.
- Observe daily group sessions with CCLS. (Afternoon Activity Sessions, Toddler Group and Teen Night)
- Complete one Activity Plan weekly and facilitate one activity group weekly with CCLS.
- Complete one inpatient Developmental Assessment with CCLS guidance.
- Complete one outpatient Developmental Assessment with CCLS guidance.
- Learn how to read and navigate through patient medical chart and CMR (Combined Medical Records)
- Attendance at multidisciplinary rounds with CCLS
- Observe Music Therapist's role
- Observe and learn about daily responsibilities of Child Life staff in addition to patient care
- Additional responsibilities as assigned
- Complete a self reflective evaluation paper upon completion of the practicum to reflect on experience and share thoughts and insights regarding experience. Follow Self Reflective Evaluation Outline.

Expectations of Practicum Students:

- To become familiar with the hospital and clinic settings
- To understand the importance of family centered care
- To understand the importance of cultural diversity
- To demonstrate knowledge of the importance of therapeutic play and successfully carry out play interventions
- To be able to identify factors that affect a child's ability to cope with illness/hospitalization
- To observe and become knowledgeable in medical play
- To observe and become knowledgeable with various forms of preparation
- To have exposure to a variety of charting methods

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- Ability to identify coping techniques to be utilized by a variety of age groups and developmental levels
- To gain a knowledge of a variety of procedures through observation
- To demonstrate professionalism throughout the experience
- To maintain confidentiality, safety and infection control guidelines throughout experience
- To be able to reflect and evaluate experience

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