

Department of Family Therapy

Guidelines for Supplementary Camp Programs

Camps provide comfort, hope and healing to children and families affected by grief, addictions, Maxillofacial conditions, and trauma. The programs address the critical needs of children experiencing powerful, overwhelming and often confusing emotions associated with the death of someone close to them, or substance abuse in their family, or other traumatic experiences.

Camps eligible for student participation are associated with a nonprofit 501(c)3 and are usually bereavement or trauma-related in nature. Their goals are to transform the lives of children who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, or legal guardian, or to support a better life for those experiencing other issues. The free camps include confidence building programs, therapeutic/support sessions with exercises that are age-based and that break the emotional isolation that grief and trauma often bring.

Camp participation is offered to any student in good standing, who has completed a minimum of two internal practicums. This includes current masters students, and doctorate students who have completed internal practicums in their master's program.

Students may earn clinical hours for one camp per term. Volunteer staff training sessions are not considered treatment and no clinical hours are earned, except that the training involves parents or children during the training sessions.

The maximum number of clinical hours that can be earned for any camp during a term is 50. Therefore, volunteers should check with the camp supervisors to determine how best to earn those clinical hours. Hours exceeding 50 will not be counted. Supplementary Field Placement forms (*contracts*) are required and may be submitted along with Client Contact Forms after completing the camp.

Supervision is required, but student volunteers can be supervised by any licensed mental health professional during the event who will certify the student's hours. Students must also be willing to assist the camp sponsors with other duties as assigned, beyond the support and therapy-related exercises. Note that camp opportunities are not primary internship sites, and are not based on established contractual relationships with the Department of Family Therapy. Rules are set by camp officials and all volunteers are expected to comply and perform with the highest professionalism.

For any other questions regarding camp participation, please speak with the Department of Family Therapy Internship Coordinator at (954) 262-3072.

Effective Date: 2/2021