

County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

Student Professional Development Program

Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Oversight Unit Stakeholder & Engagement—Community Based Organization Development

What discipline? (Macro Social Work)

☒ Internship/☐ Practicum Specialization:
(List services or populations)

DMH Agency:	Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Oversight Unit Stakeholder & Engagement – Community Based Organization Development	
DMH Agency Address:	510 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90020 22 floor	Service Area Countywide
DMH Agency Liaison:	Claudia Fierro, LCSW	
New or Returning:	X ☐ New ☐ Returning	
Liaison Email Address:	cvfierro@dmh.lacounty.gov	
Liaison Phone Number:	213-615-9261	
Liaison Fax Number:		
Agency ADA accessible	x ☐ Yes ☐ No If “No” identify:	

Student Requirements:

How many positions will you have?	2
Beginning and ending dates:	Fall 2026

Student Schedule: Tuesday through Friday

Please indicate days and times students should be available to provide services, including mandatory staff meetings (SM), training seminars (TR), supervision (SUP), etc.

Monday	
Tuesday	X
Wednesday	
Thursday	X
Friday	

Total hours expected to be worked per week:	16 (8 hrs per day)
Number of direct client hours per week anticipated:	Varies
Expected average consumer caseload:	Zero

What cultural groups typically received services at your site?	ALL
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Description of Site: *(Please describe the type of Agency setting and services offered)*

The site is administrative in nature. BHSA involves diverse community members to assist in developing the county's integrated behavioral health and substance abuse plan. The integrated plan is developed by DMH hosting various community meetings with diverse underserved community members and stakeholders. Community members/stakeholders offer input on: 1) service priorities 2) service and support gaps 2) budget 3) planning strategies, etc. The site is for someone interested in macro social work. Working on large scale community and systemic issues. It also entails program development, such as creating and overseeing behavioral health initiatives that are a priority to the needs of Los Angeles County constituents.

Target population and types of services provided: *(please check all that apply)*

☐ Individuals	☐ Psychoeducational groups (e.g. Parenting)
☐ Groups	☒ Community Outreach
☐ Families	☐ Brief treatment to mid-term treatment
☒ Children & Adolescents	☐ Long term treatment
☒ Adults	☐ Crisis Intervention
☒ Older Adults	☐ Screening and Assessment
☐ Court/Probation referred	☐ Psych Testing (For psychology students only)
☒ Consultation/Liaison	☐ Other (specify):

What are the most frequent diagnostic categories of your client population?

Chronic mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, bipolar, etc.

What specific (perhaps unique) training opportunities do students have at your agency?

Group facilitation skills, learning about the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), community events for social planning, among other program development skills.

What evidence based practices or theoretical orientations will students be exposed to at this site?

Social action, social planning, and system theory

Do students have the opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary team environment that includes those with lived experience?

Yes, students will be interacting with peer specialists and staff with lived experience.

List locations where students will be providing services **other than agency?**

Community meetings are virtual or offsite in the community (countywide).

Does your agency allow students to videotape and/or audiotape clients for the purpose of presenting cases in their academic classes? Yes ☐ No ☒

None

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Supervision:

What types of supervision will be provided for the students and what is the licensure/discipline of the supervisor? Please specify below.

Type	Hours Per Week	On Site Supervisor Degree/Discipline
Individual:	1 hour per week	Master in Social Work - LCSW
Group:		

What is the minimum ratio of supervision to client contact hours?

Does your agency require a particular range of previous experience or specific prerequisite coursework? *If so, please explain.*

Comfortable working with groups in the community.

Agency Application Process

Mandatory requirements: *Only students from academic institutions who have a current affiliation agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health may be extended a placement opportunity. All students are processed through Human Resources Bureau. All prospective interns must obtain live scan clearance. All interns are required to complete a mandatory HIPAA Compliance and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training (for line staff) as part as the terms of their internship.*

DMH Staff/Field Instructor completing this form:

Claudia Fierro, LCSW

Title: Health Program Analyst II

Email: _cvfierro@dmh.lacounty.gov

Date: 8/11/2026

Program Manager: Dr. Darlesh Horn, DPA, Division Chief

District Chief: Kalene Gilbert, LCSW, Program Manager IV

X ☐ Both Program Manager and Chief agree to students accepted at this site.

Electronic Signature: _____

Date: _____