

IPHER
**Interprofessional Health
 Education and Research**

Interprofessional Student Placements at Forensic Rehab Unit, Regional Mental Health Care, St. Thomas

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TERMS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT:

Fall (Sept.-Dec) Winter (Jan.-Apr.) Spring/Summer (May-Aug.)

TIMES OPEN FOR STUDENT PLACEMENTS:

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Regular work hours are 8 - 4 (I can meet from 12 to 1 during lunch each day or after 4 pm or electronically in evenings) | | | | |



STUDENT SCHEDULING PREFERENCES (daytime, evening, weekend):

Note: With OT C. Heard moving to community Forensic Outreach Service in August 2010 there may be some change in schedule availability

THIS AGENCY IS ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE STUDENTS IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

| PROGRAM | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| Clinical Psychology | X | |
| Education | | X |
| Food and Nutrition | | X |
| Medicine | X | |
| Nursing | X | |
| Occupational Therapy | X | |
| Physiotherapy | | X |
| Pre-professional Students (Health Sciences, Medical Sciences) | | X |
| Social Work | X | |
| Speech Language Pathology | | X |
| Social Service Worker | | X |
| Child and Youth Worker | | X |
| Practical Nurse | X | |
| Personal Support Worker | | X |
| Please Specify | | X |

Total number of students accepted per term: This is variable (usually at least 2 OT students, variable nursing RN or RPN, variable medicine, variable social work)

OTHER REQUIREMENTS NEEDED FOR PLACEMENT (i.e. immunizations, police checks & vehicle):

| REQUIREMENT | MANDATORY (Y/N) | SPECIFICATIONS: |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Vehicle | N | The placement is in St. Thomas so the students need to be able to go to their regular clinical placements, obviously. |
| Immunizations (specify which immunizations are required) | Y | Per placement guidelines for each profession (these policies and requirements are handled between placement coordinators and PPL group prior to any placement, to my knowledge) |
| TB Test (Specify within what time frame – eg. within 1 year of placement) | Y | As above. |
| Police Check | | I am unsure |
| Orientation | Y | This is provided by each professional group. |
| Other: | | |

AGENCY DESCRIPTION:

Who We Are

The Forensic Psychiatry Program at St. Joseph's Regional Mental Health Care (RMHC) St. Thomas provides specialized assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and support services to individuals with mental illness who have come into significant contact with the criminal justice system.

Our Program

Individuals are admitted to the program for court-ordered assessment of fitness to stand trial or criminal responsibility, and the subsequent treatment of those found unfit or not criminally responsible (NCR). Some individuals are transferred directly from other forensic facilities in the province or as ordered by the Ontario Review Board (ORB). Four inpatient units provide unique interventions throughout each individual's journey of recovery.

Our outreach services are provided by an interdisciplinary team who work closely with community based services and agencies across the Southwestern Ontario catchment area to link patients to the appropriate ongoing supports (e.g. ACT teams). The team uses its forensic training and expertise to assist the ORB in determining a patient's readiness for absolute discharge from the forensic system

SERVICES PROVIDED AT AGENCY:

WHAT WE OFFER

The Forensic Program at Regional Mental Health Care, St. Thomas offers both inpatient and outpatient services. The program mission is to enable persons with psychiatric disorders who have been in conflict with the law to improve their functioning so they can be successful and satisfied in the roles and environments of their choice while receiving the support necessary to ensure the safety and security of staff, clients and the public at large.

Inpatients:

Clients who are inpatients of the Forensic Program reside in one of three different units:

- *Forensic Assessment Unit:* 16 beds in a medium secure environment. Services focus on providing consultation and specialized assessments regarding fitness to stand trial, criminal responsibility and sentencing to the Justice System. A multidisciplinary team completes a comprehensive assessment on each client.
- *Forensic Treatment Unit:* 24 beds in medium secure setting providing longer-term treatment and rehabilitation. This unit provides integrated treatment, rehabilitation and support to clients on Ontario Review Board Dispositions. The unit operates under a model of psychosocial rehabilitation. Client privileges are introduced gradually depending on each client's illness status, security needs/risk, and tolerance for less structure.
- *Forensic Rehab Readiness Unit:* 18 bed locked, minimum secure unit with a lower level of security that reflects the improvement in clinical status of the clients and their changing Ontario Review Board Dispositions. Intensive engagement and initial rehabilitation take place on this unit with a focus on developing personal goals and initial steps toward community reintegration.

- *Forensic Rehabilitation Unit:* 22 bed open, minimum secure unit with an even lower level of security that reflects further clinical improvement and also development within the rehabilitation process. More intensive rehabilitation takes place on this unit with a focus on preparation for community reintegration.

Non-Bed Based Services:

The Forensic Outreach Team plays a crucial role in the safe and successful transition of forensic clients back into the community. Intensive rehabilitation efforts continue within the community setting where skill training and ongoing risk assessment and management take place. Once discharged to the community, forensic clients remain on Ontario Review Board dispositions for varying amounts of time. The outreach team provides ongoing forensic monitoring and risk management for these individuals. The team works closely with other community-based agencies across our Southwest Ontario catchment area to link clients with the appropriate ongoing supports (e.g. ACT teams, residential treatment, group homes, Homes for Special Care, etc.). The team uses its forensic knowledge and expertise to assist the Review Board in determining a client's suitability for Absolute Discharge from the forensic system.

Our Team

Interdisciplinary teams of providers from psychiatry, nursing, psychology, social work, spiritual care, nutrition, occupational therapy, therapeutic recreation and vocational rehabilitation provide care and clinical services.