

CORRECTIONS. LLC

Correctional Behavioral Health

PSIMED Corrections Internship and Practicum Opportunities

PSIMED is a West Virginia based behavioral healthcare company that provides psychiatric and behavioral health care within all the West Virginia state prisons and juvenile facilities. PSIMED began working in the justice system in the 1990's and partnered with the state of WV as the state transitioned from a punitive model of correctional care to a model focused more on mental health. PSIMED implemented comprehensive mental health services in the state prison and juvenile detention centers. Since 2022, PSIMED provides all the mental health care for adults in the prisons and jails and for youth in community programs and detention centers.

Within the WV Division of Corrections and Rehabilitation, PSIMED runs three treatment units for criminally justice involved patients. These units include an adult male and female unit for patients with severe mental illness, self-injurious or suicidal behavior, severe behavior problems, and a unit for juveniles with severe behavioral and mental health diagnoses. PSIMED offers comprehensive mental health treatment for patients in all facilities including individual and group therapy, psychoeducation, crisis interventions, medication management, medication assisted treatment of opioid use disorders, and case management with the goals of helping patients pursue positive changes and mental health while in the criminal justice system and helping patients successfully return to their communities. Patients present with a wide range of clinical issues, from substance use, disorders of adjustment and generalized emotional distress to severe mental illness like psychosis

PSIMED offers services and field placement experiences in multiple adult and juvenile settings across the state. Placements are decided based on student interests, program requirements, and travel needs, as well as site needs and supervisory abilities. Each site varies in the type of services offered; in general, students have the opportunity to participate in group therapy and individual therapy addressing common clinical issues such as depression, anxiety, adjustment disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance use, and reentry related issues. Students gain experience in conducting biopsychosocial intakes and evaluating patients for treatment needs. With supervision and support, the students have the chance to conduct crisis evaluations and help implement crisis interventions for patients in distress.

Students are an integral part of the staff at these facilities and work closely with correctional, medical, and mental health staff. Working within a correctional environment, Students can count on numerous clinical hours of face-to-face contact and providing services to many different patients with a wide range of mental health, substance use, medical, and behavioral issues. PSIMED has supervised students from the fields of social work, counseling, criminal justice, nursing, and psychology. There is no vacation offered, but the work schedule is flexible such that during academic holidays and finals weeks students can usually take time off work in coordination with their supervisor. Stipends are dependent on the site and required hours.



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If you are interested in a practicum with PSIMED Corrections please complete the PSIMED Practicum Interest Survey.