

Involving Trinity Students in Your Church or Organization

Trinity Lutheran College has four avenues by which students in the Children, Youth & Family Studies program can volunteer or work in churches and organizations: Service Learning Practicum, CYFS Practicum, Field Experience, and part-time employment. (Other academic programs may have other opportunities and different policies.)

Please note: Our department does not place students in prearranged sites for practicum or internship courses. Rather, we develop a list of possibilities for consideration from which students make connections with organizations based on their gifts and talents, academic interests, learning objectives, development of growth areas, level of commitment required, schedule and availability, etc. Accordingly, the department has far more options available than actual students; therefore, every opportunity presented cannot be filled.

Service Learning Practicum

The Service Learning Practicum (SLP) program is designed as an opportunity for students (generally sophomores) to be actively engaged in service while pursuing college studies. Students earn academic credit for SLP by volunteering in local churches, elementary schools, homeless shelters, nursing homes, parachurch organizations, and other needs-serving agencies.

SLP students volunteer 3-5 hours per week and generally assume *one piece* of a larger program. For instance, a student might work one day a week at a children's tutoring center, lead a weekly high school small group at a church, or assisting with administrative tasks in a nonprofit office setting. SLP students work with a site supervisor who is the manager or coordinator of a larger program; students do not assume the lead role of an entire program.

Students explore options and are assigned to sites (in conversation with an advisor) in September. Students generally serve in the same organization for the entire academic year (late September to mid-December and early February to late May).

If you are interested in serving as a potential SLP site for one of our students, please contact the Center for Community Engagement at (425) 249-4770 or ccesl@tlc.edu.

CYFS Practicum

The CYFS Practicum is much like SLP (described above), but completed by a junior who is in the midst of his/her Children, Youth & Family Studies major. Therefore, the Practicum is offered concurrently with a student's academic studies and provides a "learning lab" as students develop skills in program planning and administration.

The CYFS Practicum is a spring semester course; students generally serve with the organization from early February through mid-May. Practicum sites include churches, parachurch

organizations, recreation facilities, social service agencies, or other nonprofit organizations that serve children, youth or families.

Students volunteer 4-6 hours per week and participate in one or two pieces of a program. For instance, a student might work with a nonprofit participating two days a week in an afterschool tutoring program, or might work with a church and lead a weekly high school Bible study and help plan an overnight retreat. While students might some leadership responsibilities, they still work under the direction of an experienced site supervisor.

If you are interested in serving as a potential CYFS Practicum site for one of our students, please contact Professor Mark Jackson at (425) 249-4721 or mark.jackson@tlc.edu.

Field Experience (Senior Internship)

Students in the Children, Youth & Family Studies program complete a 560-hour supervised internship as apart of their degree requirements. Students complete their Field Experience during Fall Semester of their senior year (early September through mid-December), working 40 hours/week for 14 weeks.

As students receive academic credit for this experience, the focus of the internship is learning and skill development *under the direction and supervision of a full-time professional* in the field. Accordingly, interns *do not* assume sole leadership of a program or ministry and should not be viewed as replacements for a regular staff position.

Housing arrangements are made by sponsoring churches or organizations if more than 20 miles from the college. Stipends are provided at the discretion of the church or organization, in conversation with the intern and the faculty advisor.

Field Experience sites and supervisors must meet established criteria. For more information about the Field Experience program, please contact Professor Mark Jackson at (425) 249-4721 or mark.jackson@tlc.edu.

Posting Employment Opportunities

Churches and organizations interested in employing students in a part-time capacity can post position descriptions with the Children, Youth & Family Center.

The posting service is accessible at www.tlc.edu/community/studentjobs.html. Open positions are available for viewing and there is an opportunity to submit information for review and posting. Please note it generally takes 2-3 business days for postings to appear on our website. The college also posts hard copies of employment opportunities on a job board located in the Campus Center.

Once posted in either or both of these locations, students respond as they are interested; the college does not have a “placement service” for part-time employment. To honor student privacy and federal laws, the college does not provide student contact information to prospective employers.



Children, Youth & Family Studies Department

Practicum and Internship Opportunities Response Form

This information assists the Children, Youth & Family Studies Department in identifying potential churches and organizations to serve as practicum and internship sites. Please note the department maintains a list of possibilities for students to consider, but does not place students in prearranged sites.

Contact Information

Organization Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Position/Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Distance to downtown Everett: _____ miles Estimated travel time: _____ minutes

Type of organization: ☐ Church ☐ Parachurch ☐ Social service agency ☐ School ☐ Other

Service Learning Opportunity

Please list only one ministry/service opportunity per form.

Type of volunteer learning experience:

☐ Service Learning Practicum (sophomores; 3-5 hours/week, fall and spring semesters)

☐ CYFS Practicum (juniors; 5-8 hours/week, spring semester)

☐ Field Experience/Internship (seniors; 40 hours/week, fall semester)

Age group: ☐ Children ☐ Junior High ☐ Senior High ☐ Young Adults ☐ Adults ☐ Families

General responsibilities: _____

Specific gifts and talents desired: _____

Time commitment, schedule, etc.: _____

Remuneration/stipend provided (not required): _____

Return completed form to Professor Mark Jackson at mark.jackson@tlc.edu or at the address below.

Children, Youth & Family Center, 2802 Wetmore Ave., Everett, WA 98201
425.249.4800 | cyfcenter@tlc.edu | www.tlc.edu/cyfcenter