

Dear Agency Contact:

In 2018, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at Georgia Southwestern State University established a degree in Long Term Care Management (LTCM) based on a needs survey completed by healthcare employers. This health sciences degree is interdisciplinary combining knowledge and skills from business, nursing, psychology, sociology and caregiving.

The healthcare workforce must change as the needs of our population change. Statistics remind us that more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease and by 2050, projections are that over 16 million families will be affected. With increasing numbers of chronic illnesses and disabilities across the lifespan, the workforce must be prepared to handle the care issues and needs of these individuals.

The Long Term Care Management degree graduate will be prepared to assist patients and caregivers to transition from hospital to home, to connect to community resources and also manage the care of residents in an institutional setting. The workforce needs of today require a skill set that can only be achieved through an interdisciplinary approach. With our aging demographics and increasing longevity and diversity, workers are needed who have managerial skills, can create and navigate budgets, communicate well with families, and who are compassionate and culturally sensitive.

We are seeking internship experiences for our students and believe that your agency may be a valuable resource for this opportunity. The internship requirement is 180 hours. Guiding the internship experience are broad learning outcomes:

- 1) Evaluate a care management situation considering cultural, psychosocial, and financial influences.
- 2) Discuss management of services within a community agency or institution including hiring personnel, client assessment and care planning social activities, financial payment, and client discharge.
- 3) Analyze how the principles of long-term care are integrated and supported within the environment of both institutionalized and community based settings.
- 4) Apply knowledge of long-term care management within the assigned internship setting.

While every agency has rich learning activities, below are listed some examples:

- Assessment and evaluation of new admissions and current residents/clients
- Experience with care planning, family counseling and planning meetings, staff meetings
- Observe in an interview for a new employee to learn how to conduct an interview as well as how to prepare and present themselves for a future job
- Rotate with various staff within the agency to learn the roles of all employees who play a role in the management of the agency
- Experience the electronic documentation of the agency

If you have interest in providing this experience for the student majoring in Long-Term Care Management, we can sign an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and the ALE (Applied Learning Agreement) or a semester contract for a short arrangement. If you have any questions, my contact information is below.

Sincerely,

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