July 31, 2020

Dear Agency Partners in Field Education,

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a field internship placement for our students. As all of us work through the evolving nature of the impacts of COVID-19, we wanted to update you about the safety protocols we have put in place. We believe that our students and your agency will benefit greatly by engaging in a well-coordinated and meaningful internship that is carefully planned and monitored.

What are we doing to prepare our students for their field placement?
Prior to beginning their field experience our students will:

- Participate in a mandatory safety orientation training for a Safe and Successful Internship that includes a Q & A with a Stony Brook infectious disease specialist.

  The orientation session covers the safety precautions that should be followed for any work taking place face to face and highlights how to keep information safe in the digital environment. The video also provides tips on effective communication in internship/field placement, how to maintain professionalism, and what they should reflect on at the end of the experience. The training video is also accompanied by a resource PDF with additional resource information.

  Upon completion of this session, students will develop awareness of protocols in place, understand professionalism in the internship setting and be aware of communication etiquette. Additionally our students will:

    - Learn about a daily temperature requirement and COVID-19 symptom check
    - Be provided with two washable cloth face masks

    Additionally, safety protocols were covered in the “Ready, Set, Go” Field orientation.

What are we asking our Agency partners to provide to Field Interns?

  We ask that you will provide the Field Interns with the following:
Inform students of your agency’s *Safety Plan* and how they will be required to comply with COVID-19 protocols and related issues such as:

Designate who they contact at the agency if they do not feel well; what the procedures are if they show symptoms and/or have been exposed to COVID-19;

Designate who they should contact if they observe someone not following the agency safety protocols.

We are committed to protecting the health and safety of our students, the community and your constituents, while also meeting academic expectations. Please do not hesitate to contact us for questions or further clarification as we work together to prepare the next generation of social work professionals.

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