

## **2024- 25 Setting Description**

### **Placement Setting: Family Services**

Target Group(s): Families or individuals of any age

#### Nature and Purpose of Service:

*Purpose of service*: To strengthen the family unit, enhance family harmony, improve the capacity of individuals and families in preventing and dealing with problems, and improve quality of life

#### *Nature of work:*

Casework – Individual and family cases

Group work – Therapeutic, social, developmental, educational, parallel, mutual support groups

Mass programme – Developmental, educational, recreational programmes

Outreaching – Road shows, home visits, post-crisis support, public education, etc. for reaching out to potential service users and raising public awareness

Networking – Collaborating with community partners in providing services

Hotlines and enquiries – Particularly for crisis settings, enquiry on social services

### **Nature of Fieldwork Assignments and Learning Opportunities:**

There will be a variety of tasks requiring use of integrated methods, including case management, counselling, risk assessment, crisis intervention, group and mass programmes, etc. Students may also be required to assess clients' needs for community resources and make recommendations/ referrals accordingly.

Typical examples of presenting problems: marital conflicts, parenting difficulties, child neglect and child abuse, emotional/mental disturbance, interpersonal relationship problems, family violence, new arrival adjustment problems, accommodation problems, financial problems, assistance to problem gamblers, ex-offenders and their families.

### **Working Hours:**

- Mostly daytime duties
  - Most Integrated Family Services Centres open for 2 evenings a week till 8 p.m.
  - Shelters/ crisis centres/ child abuse service: daytime and evening; shift duty
- \* Working on weekends or on non-placement days may be required for meeting special or urgent cases as well as running groups and programmes.

### **Special Characteristics/ Requirements:**

For the Family Service setting, especially IFSC & FCPSU, students are required to attend 2 full days during concurrent placement and 5 full days during the summer block placement. Some evening duties would be required.

For crisis settings such as FCPSU, shelters and crisis centres, students are required to be mature and independent. They may need to be interviewed before placement allocation to ensure they are suitable and ready to work in these settings. For shelter and crisis centre, some evening and shift duty might be required.

On top of the recordings submitted to the field supervisor for purpose of supervision and learning, students may need to submit separate recordings according to the requirement of the agency. They are expected to keep updated recordings for the agency, especially for crisis settings and hotline service, and to prepare urgent referral letters and crisis investigation home visits/ outreaching when necessary.

### **Examples of placement settings:**

- **FSC** [For block and concurrent placement]: Integrated Family Service Centre (IFSC); family related services/ projects, e.g. Services for Problem Gamblers, Cancer Patient Support Service, Court Social Work Services, Services for Street Sleepers, Services for Ex-offenders, Foster Services, New Arrivals Services, etc.
- **CISC** [For concurrent placement]: Family and Child Protective Services Unit (FCPSU); service for victims of child abuse, spouse/ cohabitant battering and sexual violence
- **CISC** [For block and concurrent placement]: Shelters for victims of family violence; Family Crisis Support Centre; Suicide Prevention Centre

### **Website of possible placement agencies**

- Social Welfare Department: <http://www.swd.gov.hk/>
- Hong Kong Family Welfare Society: <http://www.hkfws.org.hk>
- Caritas: Family Service/ Family Crisis & Support Centre: <http://family.caritas.org.hk>
- St. James' Settlement: <https://www.sjs.org.hk/>
- Christian Family Service: <https://www.cfsc.org.hk/>
- International Social Service: <https://www.isshk.org/>
- The Hong Kong Catholic Marriage Advisory Council: <https://cmac.org.hk/>
- Suicide Prevention Services: <https://www.sps.org.hk/>
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong: <https://service.elchk.org.hk/>
- Hong Kong Federation of Women Centres: <https://womencentre.org.hk/>
- Hong Kong Children & Youth Services <http://cys.org.hk>

### **Correspondence of Setting Coordinators:**

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