



Mental Health Internship Description

Mission: To ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action, and sustained by community.

Cancer Support Community (CSC) is a national non-profit organization dedicated to providing emotional support, education and hope for people with cancer and their loved ones, free of charge. CSC provides the gold-standard of psychosocial care and is the largest provider in the world of these services for people impacted by cancer. We focus on professionally led support groups, individual short-term counseling, educational workshops and mind/body programs. CSCMT utilizes the Patient Active Concept to help people affected by cancer learn vital skills to regain control, reduce feelings of isolation, and restore hope—regardless of the stage of disease. CSCHQ supports this work with research and program best-practices provided by the Research & Training Institute, and state and federal advocacy efforts in partnership with the Cancer Policy Institute.

Cancer Support Community Montana is one of 41 affiliates of CSC and is headquartered in Bozeman, Montana with Chapters in Bozeman and Missoula. We provide a full range of support programs for people with cancer and their loved ones in a comfortable home-like setting, completely free of charge. The programs are delivered in various formats including in-person, virtual, and a hybrid model. We serve over 700 people annually from all over Montana, and provide over 50 programs each month. In addition to the two Chapters, there are currently six Resource Centers in rural Montana to help deliver services to people who do not have access to our in-person settings.

Practicum Philosophy and Opportunity

Cancer Support Community Montana (CSCMT) has a long history of supporting interns from the university setting to provide hands-on experience as well as valuable support of our programs. As an organization we invest heavily in our team and work hard to ensure that our interns get integrated into the team culture. As a small nonprofit, there is great opportunity to learn about our services, psychosocial support model, medical social work navigation, program development and evaluation, as well as nonprofit business and grant writing. Each experience is unique to the student and can be tailored to their individual career goals. We strive to develop a meaningful relationship with each person. Plenty of training and supervision will be provided in order to reach our collective goals.

Practicum Student Roles and Responsibilities

Cancer Support Community Montana (CSCMT) is seeking 1-2 practicum students to learn and engage in a variety of opportunities to support people impacted by cancer. Student interns will work under the guidance of our Clinical team and Leadership, as well as clinical supervision by university facility. We look for a mix of first-and second-year students to support staff in various elements which may include:

- Mental health support of the five-week Cancer Transitions program
- Mental health support during New Participant Orientation
- Travel Assistance Program intakes, navigation, referrals and support
- Implementation and management of online distress screening
- Participant assessment to determine fit for Support Group participation
- Hosting and facilitation of informal support dinners
- Performing welcome calls and conducting welcome meetings
- Short-term, cancer-related counseling (when appropriate)
- Group facilitation as co-lead
- Program evaluation and needs assessment
- Grant writing
- Developing new programs for participants

Foundational Skills & Interests:

- Ability to establish positive rapport with others
- Interest in working with people impacted by cancer
- Sound judgment regarding the physical and emotional safety of participants
- Capable of both giving and receiving direction
- Organized with impeccable follow-through
- Professionalism including strong verbal and written communication skills
- Openness to collaboration and feedback
- Desire to learn and seek support; willingness to be transparent when limitations surface
- Flexible schedule

Organizational Values

- *Platinum Rule.* Treat others as they want to be treated through honor, respect, and trust.
We communicate with curiosity, grace and compassion while respecting confidentiality.
- *Collaborate.* Cancer Support Community is invested in partnering with all stakeholders to form a comprehensive cancer support model.
- *Participants First.* Our Community is here first for participants as we provide a warm, nurturing, respectful environment that celebrates the people who enter as they seek to improve their quality of life.

- *Sustainability.* Dedicated to sustaining the mission through ethical philanthropy and fiscally responsible decision-making. In doing so, we hold each other up by embracing joy, fun, wellbeing and self-care.
- *Commitment to Team.* Our people are our most important asset and we appreciate unique skills in each person. Each member is committed to the health of the team by testing assumptions and inferences, explaining reasoning and intent, discussing undiscussable issues and being a trustworthy collaborator.

Educational Opportunities and Benefits:

- Immersion in a thriving nonprofit with dedicated staff to ensure excellent programs and support for people impacted by cancer
- An evidence-based approach to providing psychosocial support using an empowerment model based on the work of the CSC Research and Training Institute
- Experience and skills in working with a diverse population to help reduce anxiety and depression while improving quality of life
- Opportunity to build knowledge around the cancer experience and medical navigation
- Exposure to relationships and networking with various community members and agencies through our staff and partnerships
- Opportunity to build competencies in micro and macro level social work practice areas
- Personal growth through constructive feedback, reflective processes, and weekly supervision
- MSW students will receive outside MSW supervision in addition to regular supervision and support from Agency Field Instructors/Task Supervisors

To Apply:

Interested practicum students should send a resume and cover letter to email info@cancersupportmontana.org. Feel free to call with any questions, 406.582.1600.