



Friendly Connections Intern

Program:

As individuals progress through the aging process, their support networks often diminish, resulting in a potential loss of independence and a challenge to maintain connections with available community resources and social interactions. Extensive research consistently highlights the detrimental consequences of loneliness and social isolation on older adults. These conditions have been linked to elevated rates of adverse health outcomes, accelerated cognitive decline, impaired executive functioning, and an increased susceptibility to depression. In addition to the practical support and resources we provide, our friendly visits also serve as a platform for informal counseling and addressing various personal issues faced by our clients. We understand that older adults often encounter challenges related to grief, loss, interpersonal relationships, and family dynamics, which can contribute to a heightened sense of isolation and loneliness within their age group.

Recognizing the importance of mental and emotional well-being, we strive to create a nurturing environment where clients can open up about their concerns and receive compassionate support. By addressing these personal issues, we aim to alleviate the burden of isolation and loneliness, fostering a sense of connection and understanding among our clients. Our program remains committed to ensuring that older adults in Fairfield County have access to the emotional support they need, alongside our practical services.

Supervisor:

Program Supervisor – LPC, LMSW

Intern Requirements:

- Bachelor or Master level Counseling, Social Work, Psychology or Related Field
- Full Time Intern (16 - 21 hours, depending on school program)
- **Full year intern (September-May), half year and summer interns accepted**
- Position is in-person and requires travel in Greenwich and Stamford
- Reliable transportation Internship

Intern Expectations:

- Home Visits: Interns will be responsible for conducting home visits to clients to assess their needs and provide support within the community. Must have valid driver's license and a car.
- Connecting Clients to Community Resources: Interns should actively connect clients to relevant community resources such as support services, healthcare providers, and social programs based on their needs.
- Collaboration with Program Partners: Interns will collaborate with program partners both inside and outside of the agency to ensure holistic support for clients and maximize the resources available to them.
- Group Facilitation: Interns may be involved in facilitating group sessions or workshops as part of the program to promote community engagement and peer support among clients.
- Keeping Timely Electronic Progress Notes: Interns are required to maintain accurate and up-to-date electronic progress notes documenting client interactions, assessments, and progress towards goals.
- Weekly Process Recordings: Interns should prepare weekly process recordings to reflect on their experiences, challenges faced, and lessons learned during their interactions with clients and program activities.
- Interns are expected to use the Evolve system or software to track client information, progress, and program outcomes effectively.
- Supervisor will complete all school documentation as required, including approval of hours, process recordings, etc.