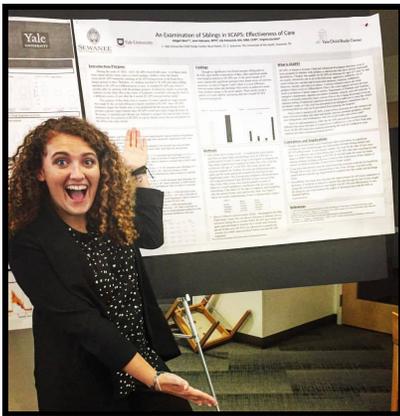


Summer Internship Report 2017

Abbie Warr, C'19

Hometown: Memphis, Tennessee



**Yale Child Study Center
New Haven, Connecticut**

Provide an overview of the organization/research project and a summary of your responsibilities, tasks, and/or projects.

Through my experience interning through the Yale Child Study Center, I had the opportunity to work with IICAPS, Yale's intensive in-home child and adolescent psychiatric service, a clinical program in which clinicians provide in-home care for children and their families who have had intense trauma histories. In addition to shadowing clinicians on home visits and grand rounds, I was able to research the impact of care on families with multiple children in the program. I learned an immense amount through my experience at the Child Study Center and I am so fortunate to attend a school like Sewanee that provides opportunities like this for its students. Dr. Linda Mayes has been an incredible mentor and educator; I will forever cherish this experience as one that aided me in deciding on a career.

During your internship, what did you accomplish or how did you make a difference? In what ways did you grow in your professional and technical skills?

Through the home visits I attended, I was able to counsel a particular child in one family and assist the clinicians with determining what best treatment fit her needs. This gave me insight on what having a career in social work entails and how much of an impact simply listening to a child might have. In addition, my opportunity for independent research allowed me to utilize my statistics and research skills learned through my classes at Sewanee. Having been experienced with SPSS through my research methods Psychology class benefitted me on multiple levels; I was able to execute my project independently, which was impressive to my co-workers.

Describe a problem that you helped to solve at your internship. What skills or knowledge from your education at Sewanee helped you address the problem?

Sewanee has taught me how to be personable with those around me through my work with the civic engagement office. This skill was crucial for the career I was shadowing seeing as it is people centered. I was able to engage with the families I visited on a personal level, something that increased the amount of rapport I built with the family.

In what way were your teamwork skills strengthened?

Having to collaborate with clinicians on treatment approaches was definitely a team effort. Each day, after home visits, we would sit together and discuss what occurred. We then had to determine what treatment would best fit the family as a whole, a tricky process that can only be aided by teamwork.

How did your internship affect your career plans?

I am definitely now considering a career in social work, something that I had not initially considered in my career pursuits. IICAPS has a post bac community fellowship funded through Yale that I am now considering as a potential opportunity for me after Sewanee. I now know that my future career will be with children as this summer offered me many opportunities to mentor children and rationalize with them.

In what ways did your internship cause you to encounter people of different backgrounds from your own? What steps did you take to communicate effectively with such persons? What did you learn from such persons' perspectives?

Most of the population that IICAPS works with is below the poverty line in New Haven, CT and are hindered by substantial trauma histories. The homes that I went into were very unlike the one that I grew up in and at times left me at a loss for words. A concept that I was introduced to during training became a constant reminder this summer... "Everyone is doing the best they can at any given moment." These words were constantly on my mind when going in to see these families and encouraged me to utilize my strength of empathy to obtain a personable relationship with not only the children, but also the mother.

Words of advice for future interns (housing, transportation, etc.)?

East Rock is a great area, also having a car is very helpful if at all possible!

Words of thanks to your internship funding donors:

I am so incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to intern through the Child Study Center. I learned more than words can express and was constantly reminded of how great Sewanee is. Thank you!!