



<b>Job Title:</b>	<b>Child Life Practicum Student</b>
<b>Location:</b>	Mount Gilead, OH
<b>Job Status:</b>	Student
<b>Reports to:</b>	Certified Child Life Specialist
<b>Team/Dept:</b>	Operations/Psychosocial

## Child Life Practicum Student

As the **Child Life Practicum Student**, under the supervision of FHF's full-time certified child life specialist, you will complete a 300-hour, residential clinical child life practicum in both FHF's on-site medical center and throughout camp. In this position, you will have the opportunity to observe the CCLS engage campers with complex medical needs in therapeutic play, procedural education and support, new diagnosis education and processing, grief support interventions, psychosocial response calls, and child life programming. Additionally, you will engage in written and oral assignments, and have ongoing opportunities to execute practicum-level interventions.

Your work will include observing and supporting the CCLS in the ebb and flow between helping campers and their families to navigate some of life's most challenging moments to supporting camper growth and transformation through the camp experience. Creating a trusting environment conducive to validation, growth, and reflection, while obtaining foundational knowledge, skills, and abilities valuable to clinical child life internship entry are some of your top priorities.

This position is an unpaid, largely observational educational experience. Most requirements will take place in-person, however some assignments may be required prior to arrival and following completion of the on-site component. In this role, your best work is achieved when being held to high, but attainable, standards to demonstrate knowledge of child development, gain foundational clinical child life experience, prepare for child life internship opportunities, and support the ongoing mission of FHF.

Above all, as the child life practicum student, you must feel connected to the FHF organizational values: Be All In, Take Initiative, Be Trustworthy, and Have an Attitude of Optimism.

FHF follows the Child Life Practicum Recommended Standards recognized by the Association of Child Life Professionals. For more information about [FHF's validation of these standards, click here.](#)

### Housing / Meals:

As temporary relocation for residency on-site is required (July 10<sup>th</sup> to August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023) for this clinical experience, the child life practicum student at FHF's will be provided with housing and meals free of charge throughout all camp programs. Transportation to and from camp will be the responsibility of the student.

### Department Overview:

The Psychosocial Department, as part of the Operations Team, engages and supports campers and their families to provide an integrated camp experience through medical safety, psychosocial support & dietary adaptations.

### Responsibilities:

- Observe and support CCLS engage campers with complex medical needs in therapeutic play, procedural education and support, new diagnosis education and processing, grief support interventions, psychosocial response calls, challenge by choice sessions (pill swallowing, advancement in autonomous medical care, developmentally appropriate skill advancement, etc;) and child life programming.
- Participate with CCLS in frequent formal and informal check in with counselors, volunteers, and seasonal staff to identify needs and concerns

- Follow CCLS's role in camper placement process, including but not limited to psychosocial evaluation of campers by sessions, communication with families on camper status, follow-up during and after camp sessions
- Observe and support CCLS in the development and implementation of psychosocial programming for campers, caregivers, and families
- Actively participate in child life and camp programming to increase foundational knowledge of child development, internship readiness, components of the child life profession and certification
- Discuss and observe CCLS's role on the Emergency Staffing table and during camper emergency medical / mental health transports
- Plan and execute practicum-level evidence-based, developmentally supportive activities
- Collaborate with medical, psychosocial, and other members of the camp operations team in conjunction with CCLS to support the developmental, psychosocial, and medical needs of campers
- Enhance rapport building skills with campers, caregivers, families, volunteers, and staff members
- Apply child development theory into practice during camper interactions, as well as in written and verbal communication
- Engage in written and verbal assignments including but not limited to; article reviews, goal establishment, journaling, developmental assessments, internship KSA linking, mock interviews, and other assignments deemed appropriate by the supervising CCLS
- Explore ways in which to support the advancement of child life services at FHF's through a practicum-level final project of the student's choosing
- Report any concerns for abuse or neglect to the appropriate authorities
- Reside on-site during camp sessions (housing and meals provided)

#### **Required Skills & Experience:**

- Active academic pursuit of becoming a certified child life specialist (affiliated and unaffiliated students accepted)
- Completion of a minimum of 5 courses in [child life or related topics](#)
- Experience working with children / families (minimum 75 hours of paid or unpaid experience)
- Ability to meet all volunteer requirements prior to start date
- Ability to temporarily relocate (housing and meals included)

#### **Preferred Skills & Experience:**

- Experience volunteering or working in a healthcare setting

#### **Expectations & Requirements for all Flying Horse Farms Staff:**

We live our Values. We are each responsible for knowing our values and nurturing our culture:

- We are All In. We demonstrate a willingness to do what it takes to get the job done, we are supportive and loyal, show up present and ready and we are passionate about "Campers First."
- We have an Attitude of Optimism. We find what is working and make more of that happen, demonstrate adaptability within ambiguity, spread joy and hope and ensure everyone we interact with feels "Welcomed Home."
- We are Trustworthy. We are consistent, dependable, and steady, truthful and operate with transparency, take ownership for our work and "See the Best" in others.
- We Take Initiative. We are driven, work towards goals with fortitude, pay attention to details and find innovative solutions with "Fearless is Free" attitudes.

#### **One Barn:**

- At Flying Horse Farms, we believe in providing opportunity to engage and learn cross departmentally. To demonstrate this and underscore our operating core value of *All In*, every employee at FHF participates in organization-wide and/or cross departmental efforts. While included in all team member position responsibilities is the agreement of "other duties as

assigned” or “not assigned,” we at FHF desire to be All In and agree too and partner on tasks, projects, and teamwork that support the operations and mission of the organization by completing tasks or assignments that may normally fall outside of your job description. Examples of this include but are not limited to fundraising, event assistance, program participation, facilities assistance work, “volunteering/working” for a camp session, and supporting alternative revenue efforts as appropriate. At FHF we fondly refer to this approach as The One Barn.

### How to Apply:

Applicants are encouraged to apply through [Microsoft Forms by clicking here](#). All information is to be submitted virtually. No mailed applications will be accepted.

In alignment with the Association of Child Life Professionals’ Internship Readiness Project, FHF’s does NOT require a resume, cover letter, reference letters / forms, or verification forms of volunteer hours for practicum application. If additional verification or information is needed, FHF’s will reach out to the applicant directly.

- Application requirements to be submitted via Microsoft Forms
  - Personal Information
  - 3 - 6 relevant experiences
  - Essay questions
    - Please describe how a child life specialist contributes to the healthcare experience for patients and their families. (200 words or less)
    - How have you have worked to further your knowledge and awareness of the child life profession? (200 words or less)
    - Please describe a time that you used play to meet the developmental needs of a child. (200 words or less)
    - Please share about how you feel a practicum at Flying Horse Farms will support you in your pursuit of becoming a certified child life specialist? (200 words or less)
  - 3 professional and/or academic references (name/phone number/email)
    - No reference letter / form is required, however FHF’s may reach out to references at any time throughout the application or interview process
- Unofficial transcripts outlining a minimum of 5 courses in child life or related topics
  - Please email to [childlifepacticum@flyinghorsefarms.org](mailto:childlifepacticum@flyinghorsefarms.org)

All applications must be submitted by **January 30<sup>th</sup> 2023** to be considered.

*Flying Horse Farms provides magical, transformative camp experiences for children with serious illnesses and their families - free of charge. Located on 200 acres in Mt. Gilead, Ohio, camp first opened its gates in 2010 and hosts about 900 children and families each year.*

*Flying Horse Farms is the first camp in the Midwest to become a full member of the SeriousFun Children’s Network. Founded in 1988 by actor, philanthropist and Ohio native Paul Newman, the Network is a community of independently managed and financed camps and programs creating opportunities for children with serious illnesses and their families. The Network has evolved from one camp to a global community serving 732,000 children and families across five continents.*

*The children who attend camp have illnesses including cancer, heart conditions, rheumatoid arthritis, blood disorders, asthma, gastrointestinal disorders and facial anomalies.*

*At Flying Horse Farms, for a weekend or week at a time, being sick takes a backseat to being a kid. And fun is priority number one. Campers participate in activities like swimming, boating, fishing, archery, high ropes and arts and crafts. Campers receive first-rate care at our on-site health center, staffed 24/7 by medical professionals from children’s hospitals across Ohio and beyond.*

*Flying Horse Farms is an ACA-Accredited Camp with the American Camp Association.*