

Kane County State's Attorney's Office

Pre-Arrest Diversion

Case Management Internship

Position Description

Background and General Information

The Kane County State's Attorney's Office is establishing a Pre-Arrest Diversion initiative based on the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) model. Pre-arrest diversion is a system of response that replaces the traditional pipeline of punishment with long-term, patient, non-coercive, and non-judgmental case management for low-level, nonviolent offenders.

Pre-arrest diversion case management is street-based, client-driven, long-term, adaptive, non-clinical, and based in harm reduction. This approach is sometimes called "guerilla case management." Interns not yet familiar with motivational interviewing, stages of change theory, or harm reduction practices will receive necessary training.

As part of their internship, interns will help our office grow and establish the initiative beyond our pilot with the Elgin Police Department. This will involve organizing and communicating with local leaders and communities to provide education and support, as well as preparing paperwork and documentation as needed.

Intern Responsibilities

- Respond to law enforcement to schedule warm handoff
- Attend warm handoff meeting with law enforcement in the field
- Initiate and schedule contact times with participants
- Maintain digital and paper records of participant intake assessments
- Meet with Operations Workgroup as scheduled to provide participant updates and collaborate on participant care
- Meet regularly with Pre-Arrest Diversion Coordinator to provide updates on activities
- Assist with initiative growth and development tasks as needed
- Adhere to all confidentiality and privacy policies and refrain from divulging any identifying information about pre-arrest diversion participants

Selection Criteria

The State's Attorney's Office will accept two internship applicants each year. Our Pre-Arrest Diversion unit seeks to work with Social Work students who are committed to criminal justice reform or are interested in developing an expertise in this area. Flexible, motivated students who enjoy a challenging environment will find this internship to be a good fit for them.

Cultural competency, bilingualism, understanding of harm reduction, experience in working with highly complex populations, deep commitment to systems transformation, and comfort in highly variable settings are desired. People with lived experience with behavioral illness, arrest and incarceration, trauma, and systemic inequities (including marginalization and trauma related to racism, sexual assault, or homo/transphobia) are prioritized.

How to Apply

If this sounds like a good fit and something you are eager to be a part of, please send your cover letter and resume to:

Martha Paschke, Pre-Arrest Diversion Coordinator

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