

Title: Community Social Services Program

Date: January 17, 2023

Running Time: 00:02:35

Casiah Cagan [00:00:04] So many of us want to help the world, but very few of us know where to start. For those in our Community Social Services program, meaningful change begins right in the classroom.

Casiah Cagan [00:00:14] Understand issues and challenges faced by vulnerable populations in society. You may choose to focus on one of two areas of emphasis: mental health and addictions or youth in families. Our instructors have a wealth of experience in areas like mental health and addictions, work with high risk populations and counselling. They bring their professional insights to the classroom that you will then get to practice.

Casiah Cagan [00:00:37] Role play counselling sessions with their classmates. Experience first-hand how your newly acquired listening, speaking and body language skills play a role in improving people's lives.

Casiah Cagan [00:00:47] We'll bring all our practice right into the workplace, completing up to 800 hours of experience across three placements in community social service settings. You start out by being exposed to day-to-day functions of a typical agency, and by the time you reach your final placement, we'll will start working with clients using the knowledge and skills gained from your classes and practice.

Casiah Cagan [00:01:08] There's no better way to make a lasting change than to take your practice outside of the classroom. Discuss important issues happening in the community and network with professionals at our student-run See Change Symposium.

Casiah Cagan [00:01:20] There are so many paths to pursue and making a difference in someone's life. Some graduates begin working right away and are eligible to register as a social service worker with the professions regulatory body in Ontario. Other job opportunities include working in mental health as a counsellor, a case manager, and community support worker. Many pursue graduate studies, including a masters of social work and law school.

Michael [00:01:46] The thing I love most about CSS us is the amount of hands-on experience we get in the field. CSS students get over 850 hours of hands on experience over three years, and that gives you a really unique opportunity to get involved in multiple fields of social services.

Michael [00:02:01] I think being in the program has changed me in in a few ways. It's really opened my mind to a lot of things. It's changed the way I think about the world, and it's shown me a lot of more multi-faceted ways of thinking. It's really fascinating to study and I'm enjoying it a lot so far.