INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IN SPAIN (TOLEDO/MADRID)

Internship site: San Martin de Porres, Madrid

Internship type: Psychology, Nonprofit organization, Work with marginalized social groups

Internship language: Spanish

Supervisor: Marta Rodríguez and Sergio Sánchez

Location: Costanilla de los desamparados, 17 Local, 28014 · MADRID

Website: https://fundacionsmp.org/

Summary:

The Foundation San Martín de Porres was founded in 1962 as a social work of the Dominican order in favor of the homeless. From the beginning to the present moment, care for the homeless has been materialized in various projects and services for accommodation and employment. Since then, our objective of fighting against social exclusion has been extended to other groups such as the mentally ill persons, many of them also homeless. Our Day Center is a community resource that provides social support, through different activity programs to improve the functioning and social integration of people with mental illness. The Day Center offers personalized programs to improve personal autonomy, as well as psychosocial support activities (cultural, social, sports, occupational, leisure, etc.) to facilitate the structuring of daily life and integration in the district that the people served may need. The Day Center employs an interdisciplinary group of professionals in the field of psychology, occupational therapy, and social education.

Activities:

During this placement students will have the opportunity to work the professional from the Day Center and learn different techniques used by psychologists, and other therapists, to provide Psychosocial support to those who need it. Among others: support to maintain a pleasant and healthy daily life; help involvement/participation in the community; development of personal autonomy and integration; attention to the families of the persons who seek help in the center; complementary food services, transportation according to their individual needs, etc. The instructor will provide short introductory lectures, videos and reading material. Depending on each individual case, students may be allowed to shadow therapists during their daily sessions. Students are required to follow homework and exercises assigned by the instructor in their own time. The instructor will check students’ weekly progress.

Requirements:

Background in psychology, humanities or education, and proficiency in Spanish language.