50-HOURS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

PREREQUISITE FOR MFT PROGRAM ADMITTANCE

The 50-hour volunteer experience prerequisite for the MFT program is designed to show an applicant's aptitude for work in the counseling field. It provides a practical check that the applicant is interested in and can sit with people individually, in a group, as a couple, or in familial systems addressing mental health matters. It also demonstrates the applicant's ability to benefit from direct supervision of their work. Finally, this requirement allows the applicant to enter the MFT program with some basic practical experience, allowing them to process course material at a more complex level. A list of suggested sites can be found on the following page.

Specific requirements that should be included in the volunteer placement are:

- 1. Meet one-on-one with individuals, couples, or families in a lay-counseling capacity addressing mental health or social problems. This can include a variety of settings in which the applicant interacts with people to provide guidance, assistance, or support.
- 2. Regular and direct supervision should be a part of the volunteer experience. This may include regularly-scheduled observation of the applicant's work, feedback sessions, and accountability for performance improvements.
- 3. It is preferred that the volunteer or lay-counseling experience include work with both children and adults.

Not all supervised counseling experiences are considered adequate for acceptance into the MFT program. Your information will be evaluated by the MFT faculty. Following evaluations, you will be notified of acceptance of your hours or any hours you need to remediate.

Name of Applicant:	Name of Supervisor:
Supervisor E-mail:	Supervisor Phone #:
•	Duration of time volunteering:
Address of Organization:	_
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Provide a brief description of your experience:	

If you have additional experience, please submit it on a separate sheet of paper.

Celebrate Recovery / Re:Generation Various Site Locations Christ-centered recovery programs https://www.celebraterecovery.com/ https://www.regenerationrecovery.org/	Applicants can find volunteer sites at various churches in their area. Volunteers must complete the program before they can become a small group leader within the program.
Footsteps - St. Agnes Working with child & adolescent grief & hospice in small groups https://www.samc.com/find-a-service-or-specialty/hospice-care/footsteps-program-for-children-and-teens	The 6-week program is held Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:20 p.m. at Saint Agnes Home Health and Hospice, 6729 N. Willow Ave., Suite 103, Fresno. Contact: 559-450-5623 or hospice@samc.com
Hinds Hospice End-of-life care https://www.samc.com/find-a-service-or-specialty/hospice-care/hospice-volunteering	Volunteers are assigned an individual to provide care for. 1-4 hours per week. Times may vary. Contact: 559-450-5623 or hospice@samc.com
Pregnancy Care Center https://www.pregnancycarecenter.com/volunteer	This center offers help through free pregnancy medical and support services, educates on healthy relationship and sexual integrity, and provides resourcess to those who have experienced reproductive loss
CASA https://casaprogram.org/volunteer/	Supports children and youth in foster care through court advocacy
Poverello House https://poverellohouse.org/get-involved/volunteer	Volunteer orientation is mandatory
Marjaree Mason Center https://mmcenter.org/partner-with-us/volunteer	The Mission of the Marjaree Mason center is to create a community free of domestic violence

For the most recent list of volunteer opportunities visit: fresno.edu/seminary/about/students