

Weekly Field Placement Journal

Name: Daniel J. Varela **Hours worked this week:** 19
Week of: September 17, 2018 **Total hours this semester:** 54 **Grade:**

Please include the following when journaling:

1. Using the journal rubric on eclass, describe *learning activities/experiences* for this past week. Specify the date and time of your required supervision as well as what you did for self care. (Please start at the beginning of the week and describe events chronologically covering each day. Quantity of the description should match total hours accrued. See journal example on eclass.)

On Monday, September 17, 2018 Ellen and I had to call a Hotline for an adult who was suicidal. The adult crisis is under VBHCS- Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System. The patient was over the age of 20 and was still admitted to the children's hospital due to the overflow of adult admissions on the adult side Erlanger Hospital. Ellen has multiple cases to review and gave me the opportunity to set a priority on which cases should be taken care of first. We decided that the order would be: 1. Hotline confirmation abuse case filed in Ga 2. Case #1, patient needed placement, but was ready to discharge, so it would be important to get the patient out the door because then the hospital could be penalized for having a patient stay overtime AFTER discharged. 3. #2, patient was on the waiting list for inpatient bed and needed to be asked questions in regards to abuse. and 3. Case #3 20-year-old patient was medically cleared but was in the PICU due to overflow in adult side. During supervision we discussed about organizational protocol that Ellen find helpful in her line of work. She said that she uses bright sticky notes on patient records for priority and additional questions such as hotline class, and circumstances for ED admission. We also discussed in supervision that during suicidal attempts there are windows of time where the individual regrets what they were attempting and will then seek help such as calling a suicide hotline themselves. For self-care I went to the gym and workout to release stress and did cardio.

On Friday, September 12, 2018 I was scheduled to do a 12 hour shift with Ellen in the Children's Hospital. The first half of the practicum I was with social worker Katie Wilson who was on the Pediatrics side of the hospital. We checked the daily notes which described any new admissions within the last 24 hours. Key facts that Katie looks for in the review charts is the patient history (what brings them in the hospital/ family dynamics). Patient notes are required to be in the EPIC system every 24 hours (for new patients) and every 3 days (for the same patients including extra time if they are still in the hospital). I had the opportunity to translate to a mother and ask for her to sign a document that will give her access to services for her admitted son. We had to visit a mother to inform her of the fact that the Doctors thought that CPS would need to be involved with her child who was admitted to the hospital. Mother was overwhelmed and broke down crying, I took her Son to the playroom so Katie could calm mother and defuse the situation. Katie mentioned that it is "psych season" and a lot of inpatient psych facilities are full and cannot provide enough beds for the influx of psych patients. Many people have to be on a waiting list. I attended a meeting in regards to the hospital policy on having confidential versus private patients. The hospital's clinical staff is having to overcome a few misunderstandings with terminology that is not for these types of patients. Verbiage used under required HIPPA law is different than what is on the hospitals system. During the second half of the practicum I was with my supervisor Ellen Klosterman. We had supervision time during this transition and discussed issues Ellen had with not being able to be at multiple places at the same time. Working with other professionals with different, yet significant, roles can be difficult to navigate when the social worker has other legitimate priorities to take care of. We talked about being a LCSW and the steps that are needed to go that route. We shared resources with a father about NAMI- National Alliance on Mental Illness to help him learn how to distribute his time equally amongst his three children and normalize their circumstance.