Marion County Juvenile Department
Guaranteed Attendance Program—GAP
3030 Center Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503.373.3762

Contact: Melanie Prentice, Program Supervisor
Phone: 503.566.2959
Email: mprentice@co.marion.or.us

Contact: Jennifer Smith
Phone: 503.373.3762
Email: jensmith@co.marion.or.us

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

• GAP is a program that serves adjudicated juveniles and operates from 3:00 pm to 11:00 pm Wednesday through Friday, and at any time on Saturdays. It is a staff-secured shelter care facility for up to 10 girls and 15 boys that provides a safe, structured, and positive living environment where youth are given opportunities to learn appropriate skills and make positive changes. During the evening hours and on weekends, youth learn life skills, housekeeping skills, and character education and participate in other educational groups. They have daily structured recreation time.

• Referred youth attend GAP either in the Short-term program or Long-term program. Short-term youth enter the GAP program and stay up to seven nights. Youth in these spots generally need a consequence for missing programs or failing to follow home curfews. Long-term youth stay longer than seven days and may be in the program 90-120 days. These youth are usually awaiting placement in a residential treatment program.

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

• Assist in supervising and working with youth during individual reading/study time, recreational activities, and meals.
• Provide one-on-one attention to youth as suggested by staff within the GAP program through tutoring or playing board games and card games.
• Practice appropriate role model behavior.
• Assist staff in planning and preparing materials for groups or recreational activities.
QUALIFICATIONS:

- Submit to a Criminal History Check.
- Commit to work a full term (part-time is OK).
- Demonstrate personal initiative and willingness to learn.
- Prefer second-year student.
- County Volunteer Orientation required.
- Department/Program Orientation required.
- 21 years of age or older.

APPLICATION:

Anyone desiring a practicum position with Marion County Juvenile Department (MCJD) must first fill out a volunteer application available at the main reception desk at 3030 Center Street or on the Internet (see link below). Specify where in the department you wish to work. This process, including the criminal history check, takes about two weeks. Further, students desiring to do a practicum at the MCJD should complete this application process two weeks prior to a referral by their advisor or referral coordinator.

Marion County Volunteer Application Form:
http://www.co.marion.or.us/NR/rdonlyres/7897C8FB-9E86-491D-B8A3-A02790896223/0/Volunteer_InternApplication.pdf

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK REQUIRED

As of April 15, 2011, practicum sites that use the Department of Human Services Background Check Unit will now conduct a weighing test and fitness determination when an individual has been identified as the perpetrator of abuse in certain cases of sexual abuse, physical abuse or financial exploitation. The Background Check Unit will specifically consider the most serious cases of abuse reported and substantiated from January 1, 2010, forward.