SERVICES PROVIDED:

ARCHES serves as a centralized drop-in center designed to provide one-stop referral and services to homeless individuals and families with children. ARCHES provides referrals, information and follow-up to help homeless individuals and families with children break out of the cycle of homelessness by providing integrated interventions based on individual needs.

In addition to the drop-in center, the ARCHES Project consists of multiple housing assistance programs including, ARCHES Tenant Based Assistance program, ARCHES Support Services program, Marion County Tenant Based Assistance program, RENT Tenant Education Program, and the Housing Stabilization Program.

When persons come to the drop-in center, they are provided the following services:

- Immediate needs are addressed, such as food, shower, clothing, hygiene supplies, laundry facilities and phone access
- A needs assessment is conducted to determine appropriate referrals and support services for the individual or family
- Clients interested in working with an ARCHES housing assistance program are screened for eligibility
- Clients that are eligible for an ARCHES housing assistance program attend an intake appointment and are provided case management and/or support services
- Clients that are ineligible for an ARCHES housing assistance program have an opportunity to meet with an ARCHES staff person to receive information and referral for other resources in the community

THE ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

- Learn about the ARCHES Project and other community resources
- Increase knowledge and understanding of the causes of poverty and barriers to self-sufficiency
- Learn to work individually with clients to assess needs, provide information and referral, and follow up services
- Assist in the organization and functioning of the drop-in center
- Learn to conduct intake appointments
- Assist in case managing clients and maintaining client files
- Provide support and clerical assistance to the ARCHES project housing programs

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRACTICUM STUDENTS:

- Ability to work well within a team environment
- Ability to communicate well orally and in writing
- Basic computer skills
- Acceptable Criminal Background Check

Updated 10/31/2012
EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK:

The skills learned in this program are transferable to many social service agencies.

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK MAY BE 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.

Updated 10/31/2012