SERVICES PROVIDED:

Northwest Senior & Disability Services provides services to older adults, age 60 and older and people with physical disabilities 18 and over, in Marion, Polk, and Yamhill, Tillamook and Clatsop counties, too. The agency is governed by a Board of Directors made up one County Commissioner from each of the five county areas.

Our Agency enhances the lives of seniors and people with disabilities within our community by providing an array of Services. Some of these services include, but are not limited to:

- Quality Assurance & Improvement Supervisor: Cheryl Wells
  - AFH licensing
  - Information & Referral
  - Pre-Admission screeners (RN’s)
  - Reception
- Advocacy
- Determination of eligibility for financial assistance
- Emergency funds and resource development
- Mental health counseling. Older Americans Unit – Tanya De hart (Supervisor), Jeff Lukehart (Coordinator).
- Protective service. John Thompson (Supervisor)
- In-home care. Caroline Allison (both case management and Eligibility)
- Medical Assistance
- Family Caregiver Supports – Older Americans Unit – Tanya De Hart (Supervisor), Jeff Lukehart (Coordinator)

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

As a practicum student you would work as a team member of the. Your objective would be to gain knowledge about:

- Components
- Interviewing skills
- Community Resources available for low-income older adults
- Developing new resources and/or community partnerships
- What is senior services and the Aging Network?
QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED:

The student should be interested in working with older adults and people with disabilities. Good interpersonal and communication skills are necessary for successful performance. The student will be asked to maintain a professional appearance and approach to agency clientele. It will be necessary for the student to understand and adhere to the Agency’s confidentiality rules, values, and mission in all aspects of service. It is especially important the student has the ability to allow choices to be made by frail individuals, without regard to her/his own values or judgment.

SUPERVISION:

Practicum supervision will be maintained by the unit supervisor, but will work directly with the unit staff.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT:

Northwest Senior and Disability Services currently has four Human Service Program graduates employed. Three of the employees were hired while still attending Chemeketa. Practicum students would have equal opportunity to apply for any position, which she/he may be qualified to perform.

PREREQUISITE:

Students will be asked to make a two-term commitment of no more than 17 hours per week. (Options may be considered.) The student should have a current driver’s license and no criminal convictions or arrests as listed under ORS 411-09-010.

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 10/8/2012