SERVICES PROVIDED:

Family Support and Connections (FSC) is a program that provides direct services to families receiving TANF through Department of Human Services. Our FSC providers collaborate with families to assess their strengths and needs, helps the family create goals and a plan to achieve these goals. The provider works with each family over a three- to six-month period; teaching parenting skills, budgeting, and other interventions designed to assist the family in achieving their goals. Families are also taught how to access other community resources. Our overarching goal is to teach parents skills that directly impact their ability to meet their children’s needs.

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

- Attend home visits with FSC providers and assist with providing services to families.
- Be respectful and encouraging to families at all times.
- Learn applicable skills to assist families. E.g. Parenting Curriculum, Collaborative Problem Solving skills, etc.
- Timely and accurate electronic record keeping of intervention times and dates.
- Participate in weekly FSC team meetings and weekly individual supervision, when needed.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PRACTICUM STUDENTS:

- Must pass a criminal background check.
- Working toward a bachelor’s degree in Social Sciences or other related field.
- Must be respectful and encouraging to families, staff, and community partners at all times.
- Must be flexible with regard to scheduling in order to meet the needs of the families being served.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK:

Options Counseling and Families Services is a non-profit agency. We have several offices throughout the Willamette Valley, providing services in 11 counties. Career opportunities are posted at www.options.org.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND 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.