SERVICES PROVIDED:
Polk County Mental Health and Addiction Services offer a treatment for individuals experiencing a substance use disorder or problem gambling treatment. The agency provides both outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment to mandated and self-referred clients in Polk County. Polk County Mental Health and Addiction Services is currently providing alcohol and drug treatment groups and individual therapy in the Polk County Jail.

There are multiple options of programming for treatment within the addiction program. This includes Adolescent Services, Gender Specific Services, Corrections Programming, Co-occurring Disorders Programming, Spanish Speaking Programming, Relapse Prevention Therapy, two levels of DUII treatment, gambling, and jail programming.

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:
Practicum students are considered if the student can work a minimum of ten hours a week (over a two-to three-day period). Students will work with a Certified Alcohol and drug Counselor and will be responsible for co-facilitating groups, assessing clients, and managing client treatment (on a supervised basis).

QUALIFICATIONS NEEDED:
Qualified students must be enrolled in their second year of the alcohol/drug program at the college and will be given preference. First year students who are mature and have qualifying life experience will be considered. A minimum of two years of sobriety is required, if a recovering alcoholic/addict; involvement in twelve-step programs is beneficial. A criminal record identification check is mandatory to placement.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT:
Volunteer work in the drug and alcohol treatment field is beneficial for those students pursuing certification and employment. Exposure to this treatment modality will also help students in determining future employment preferences.

CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK WILL BE REQUIRED
As of April 15, 2011, practicum sites that use the Oregon State 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.