GOAL STATEMENT:

The purpose or goal of the Salem Senior Center is to meet the recreational and psychological needs of the older citizens in our community by expanding their opportunities for constructive use of leisure time.

ROLE OF THE PRACTICUM STUDENT:

The practicum and seniors will work with the Director, Senior Center Staff. The student will assist in planning and implementing selected projects that have been agreed upon by student and Director before the finalized training agreement. The student will be exposed to the general operations and special events in this facility. The student's time must be between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PRACTICUM PROJECTS:

Projects may include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Special Events such as:
  - Annual Volunteer Recognition
  - Annual Volunteer Training
  - Mother's Day Tea
  - Christmas Party
- Information and Referral
- Provide assistance to Center Programs and Support Groups
- Administrative duties as assigned

QUALIFICATIONS OF PRACTICUM STUDENT:

- Must be committed to following through on project(s).
- Be able to work independently.
- Must act in a professional manner.
- Have good communication skills.
- Be able to follow instructions.
- Abide by policies and procedures of Senior Center
- Desire to work with senior population.
- Be able to work effectively under time lines and demanding work environment.
GOALS OF THE SALEM SENIOR CENTER:

The purpose or goal of the Senior Center is to meet the recreational and psychological needs of the older citizens in the community by expanding their opportunities for constructive use of leisure time. Many individuals are living 20 to 30 years beyond retirement and there must be opportunity for enriching experiences to give purpose to life.

- To provide an opportunity for elderly people to meet others and to enlarge their social relationships, circumventing loneliness.

- To provide numerous, varied, and meaningful activities throughout the week so that the relationship of belonging to the Center has continuity, and to provide a means whereby active, healthful living can be extended throughout life.

- To provide a great variety of activities so that the older adult may enjoy freedom of choice and select those programs of most benefit and interest.

- To provide educational classes which will widen the horizons by providing intellectual development, growth, and mental stimulation.

- To recognize the skills and talents of the individual and provide opportunity to serve through leadership in the Center program as well as service to the community at large.

- To provide preventive and remedial health care service by simple diagnostic screening.

- To provide opportunity for supplemental income through the sale of handmade articles in a craft gift shop open to the public.

- To promote mental and physical health and develop more positive attitudes of older people themselves by strengthening the self-respect, dignity, and independence of aging.

- To provide information and referral services as well as counseling for individuals who seek assistance.

- To partially meet nutritional needs with hot lunch program at least five days a week. (Senior Townhouse, Inc. is the provider).

- To serve as the nerve center of an outreach program to work with isolated older persons in the community.

- To provide a location for activities for the whole community when not in use by seniors, and for simultaneous compatible activities.

- To provide a central focal point for pulling together the needs, resources, and services of the community to serve the community.
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.