

Position Description

Title: Peer Advocate
Department: Counseling and Psychological Services Center
Reports To: Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, or their designee
Directly Supervises: None

Primary Purpose of This Position:

The Peer Advocate will engage and develop relationships with Misericordia University's student body, advocating for our students' mental health needs, wellbeing, sense of connectedness, and positive experience with our university community. The Peer Advocate will focus on the integration of first-year students into the college community during the fall semester and, throughout the entire academic year, will foster educational awareness among all peers on issues relevant to them as college students and as people who live in a larger society. They will create and implement programs oriented to education and awareness, service, and advocacy while also linking students to resources on campus.

Essential Functions:

1. Build relationships with university student peers through a variety of outreach and service initiatives outside of class, such as:
 - a. Participate with first-year orientation events.
 - b. Take students to a minimum of 2 campus events before November 1st.
 - c. Partner with RA's to inform their development of at least 1 FYE-themed Community Building Activities and attend those events before November 1st, as well as otherwise interact with students in the residence halls.
 - d. Participate in the Residence Life Spring Interviews, related to connecting students with first-year residential communities.
2. Attend and participate in bi-weekly staff meetings and other scheduled meetings to plan, coordinate, and communicate information in order to execute FYE programming, student outreach initiatives, and/or community service projects.
3. Communicate with students through a variety of mediums to demonstrate and model how students can connect and engage with the campus community, including learning about campus events and service opportunities.
4. Attend an assigned section of FYE 101 and support the content presented by the instructor of record by serving as an active mentor and co-facilitating discussions that incorporate the Peer Advocate's personal examples or experiences.
5. Support and encourage the use of campus resources available to students and make appropriate referrals.
6. Complete administrative tasks and other position expectations in a responsible and timely manner through appropriate time management.
7. Maintain communication with fellow Peer Advocates, supervisors, and campus partners.
8. Assist with the Peer Advocate interview process.

Related Duties:

1. Attend the annual Peer Advocate Orientation Training (conducted by the CAPS Center).
2. Attend the annual FYE Training (conducted by the Student Success Center).
3. Obtain and maintain all clearances required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to volunteer in roles that include working with minors.

Requirements:

1. Current enrollment status as an undergraduate student at Misericordia University.
2. Have good student conduct standing.
3. A GPA of 3.0 or higher is preferred.
4. Experience participating in community or campus organizations, particularly in leadership roles, is preferred.