

**Queens College**  
**Department of Family, Nutrition, and Exercise**

**Human Development and Family Science (HDFS)**

**Program**

**Fieldwork Experience Guide**

## Human Development and Family Science (HDFS)

### Fieldwork Experience

Students majoring in Human Development and Family Science are required to have a Fieldwork Experience, which represents a significant milestone in their professional development. This exposes them to different social services and community programs and they have the opportunity to apply what they learn in their courses to real life cases. Students have the option of finding their own placements or they go to placements suggested by faculty. The Fieldwork Experience should be conducted with high professionalism and ethics.

Some students find employment during their fieldwork experience or at their fieldwork placements. Even before their fieldwork experience students are encouraged to volunteer at different agencies, depending on their interests. Volunteering experiences are contributing positively to students' applications for graduate studies or employment. Given the applied nature and coursework of our program, our graduates are also well equipped to find employment. Our students have been working in community programs providing different types of social services.

### Fieldwork Experience Procedure

Students should take the course FNES 376 Fieldwork – Community towards the end of their program of study in HDFS so that they have a strong theoretical and empirical knowledge base. This will allow the student to apply her/his knowledge to practical situations in the field.

HDFS students must take 3 credits of FNES 376, which means they must sign for both, 2 and 1, credit sessions of 376. These should be taken in the same semester in order to receive the grade. **Students are required to complete 135 hours for the course of fieldwork at their placement.**

**Students secure their own placement, which occurs prior to registering for FNES 376**, to assure a timely completion of the hours during the class time. Students could also start their hours earlier, for example during the summer, before they take the class in the Fall semester, but **they are required to contact the instructor of the class and obtain his/her approval of the placement.** Not having this approval from the instructor might require them to change their placement to a more appropriate program.

Students are **highly encouraged** to reflect on their career choices and desired workplace and to look for a **fieldwork placement in that area of interest** so that they acquire skills that could support them in finding employment or in acceptance in graduate programs.

### Finding a Fieldwork Placement

#### *Program Identification*

Based on their interests and future career and employment plans, students should look for a placement for their fieldwork. Based on their interests and also on other factors (e.g., closeness to home, schedule, requirements) students should conduct an online search of social and human

services in New York City area. Students should identify more than one program, perhaps two or three, in case one of them is not compatible.

### *Initiation of Contact*

After identifying a community program of interest, the student should study the program website to familiarize her/himself with the program, its goals, activities, etc. They should then establish a contact with one of the professionals there (by email or phone). The student should not just go directly to the program without establishing an appointment first.

### *Conducting the Fieldwork Experience*

Upon agreement with the professionals at the placement site, and following approval from the FNES 376 Instructor, the students are conducting their fieldwork experience keeping track of their hours. The activities performed will differ depending on the site.

### **Professional Behavior Expectations**

While at the fieldwork placement and in all interactions with colleagues, staff, professionals, and clients, students are expected to exercise high level of professionalism. This includes, among others, punctuality, appropriate/professional attire, professional oral and written communication, and adherence to the [\*Family Life Educators Code of Ethics\*](#).

### **Programs for Fieldwork Experience**

Examples of programs where previous students went include: different child care services, Head Start Programs, domestic violence agencies (e.g. Safe Horizon ([www.safehorizon.org](http://www.safehorizon.org)), Child Advocacy centers, Foster Care Agencies (.g., Forestdale [www.forestdaleinc.org](http://www.forestdaleinc.org)), adoption agencies, nursing homes, etc.

## Social and Human Services in the New York City Area

Below is a list with human services and community programs in New York City area. Students could find other programs, besides the ones indicated below. Students should obtain approval for their placement site from the FNES 376 Instructor.

Please also note that the programs below have not agreed to accept our students. As such, please do not assume that they will accept you for the fieldwork. Thus, please initiate the contact yourself and do not feel disappointed if they are not accepting you; simply contact another program. Some social and human services are very concerned about the confidentiality of their clients and are reluctant to accept students. We must honor their decision and find another site. The list is organized in broad categories – note that some agencies have an interdisciplinary focus and could be placed in different categories, so please review the whole list before deciding on your program.

*Thanks to HDFS Student, Shanet Rampersaud, for preparing this list.*

### Children

<b>Advocates for Children of New York</b> advocatesforchildren.org	Educational support, legal & advocacy services
<b>The Child Mind Institute</b> childmind.org	Research, education, advocacy & clinical care
<b>Child Advocacy Center (QCAC)</b> <a href="https://www.safehorizon.org/location/queens-child-advocacy-center-cac/">https://www.safehorizon.org/location/queens-child-advocacy-center-cac/</a>	Investigation, prosecution & delivery of treatment services in cases of child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse
<b>Forestdale</b> www.forestdaleinc.org	Foster care, teen parenting, fathering
<b>Safe Space</b> <a href="http://www.safespaceny.org/safespace/">http://www.safespaceny.org/safespace/</a>	Providing specialized services for families and children
<b>Children's Corps</b> <a href="https://www.fosteringchangeforchildren.org/about-cc">https://www.fosteringchangeforchildren.org/about-cc</a>	Child welfare, trainings

### Training, Research Centers & Professional Resources

<b>New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute</b> earlychildhoodnyc.org	Collaboration of agencies, private funders and CUNY for childhood progressiveness
<b>Ackerman Institute for the Family</b> ackerman.org	Family therapy & professional training
<b>Family Justice Center Alliance</b> familyjusticecenter.org	Consulting, programs & training
<b>Administration for Children's Services – Social Services</b>	NY City multi-disciplinary agency

nyc.gov/html/acs/html/home/home.shtml	
<b>National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse</b> fatherhood.gov acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/programs/healthy-marriage	Government-funded national resource
<b>National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families</b> healthymarriageandfamilies.org	Gov. funded training & resources for professionals & stakeholders
<b>Healthy Place: America's Mental Health Channel</b> healthyplace.com	Trusted consumer resource for psychological disorders & psychiatric medications from both a consumer and expert point of view
<b>Anxiety &amp; Depression Association of America</b> adaa.org	National nonprofit organization dedicated to prevention, treatment, and cure of anxiety, OCD, PTSD, depression, and related disorders
<b>Network of Care</b> newyorkcity.ny.networkofcare.org/mh/links/index.aspx	Lists of local, state and national organizations & sites in social services field

### Family Education, Services & Planning

<b>The Single Parent Resource Center</b> singleparentusa.com	Services for single parents in need
<b>SoHo Parenting</b> sohoparenting.com/	Groups, workshops and individual consultation to parents and children
<b>NYC Dads Group</b> nycdadsgroup.com	Community-support for fathers & socializing
<b>The Committee for Hispanic Children &amp; Families, Inc.</b> chcfinc.org	Education and advocacy for Latino families & children
<b>National Parenting Education Network</b> npen.org	Advancing field of parenting education
<b>New York State Parenting Education Partnership</b> nyspep.org	List of Head Start & Parenting Programs; information on Parenting Educator Credential
<b>The Family Center</b> thefamilycenter.org	Brooklyn-based social & legal services; wellness & wellness programs
<b>Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services</b> jbfcs.org	social service and mental health programs to all New Yorkers
<b>Families On The Move of New York City</b> fotmnyc.org	Support, education & advocacy for families of youth with or at risk for emotional, behavioral, mental health &/or substance abuse challenges

<b>The Parenting Training Network (PTN)</b> parentingtrainingnetwork.com	Bronx based, fee-for-service agency offering parents educational workshops throughout the community
<b>Growing Up Healthy</b> health.ny.gov/community/pregnancy/health_care/prenatal/guh.htm	Gov. hotline for health care, nutrition & other health and human services

### Community/Economic Development & Poverty Prevention

<b>Community Service Society of New York</b> cssny.org	Housing, health care, workforce, economic security
<b>Center for Urban Community Services</b> cucs.org	Helps homeless or former homelessness; disability; low-income & mentally ill individuals
<b>The Door</b> door.org	Aids homeless teens access food, shelter, education & employment
<b>United Neighborhood Houses</b> unhny.org	Multi-service umbrella organization
<b>Sanctuary for families</b> http://www.sanctuaryforfamilies.org	Service provider and advocate for survivors of domestic violence, sex trafficking, and related forms of gender violence.
<b>Covenant House</b> https://www.covenanthouse.org	Services for homeless, foster care
<b>Odyssey House</b> odysseyhouseinc.org	Helps with substance use disorders, mental illness, homelessness, & medical problems
<b>United Neighborhood Houses</b> <a href="https://www.unhny.org/">https://www.unhny.org/</a>	List of NYC settlement-house programs
<b>Catholic Charities of NY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org/our-agencies/a-z-directory/">http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org/our-agencies/a-z-directory/</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org/about-us/job-opportunities/">http://www.catholiccharitiesny.org/about-us/job-opportunities/</a></li> </ul>	Aids multi-disciplinary vulnerabilities such as neglected children, homeless families & hungry seniors
<b>Seedco</b> seedco.org	Workforce development, healthcare access & family support

### Abuse & Violence

<b>The New York Center for Children</b> newyorkcenterforchildren.org	Child abuse therapy, workshops, crisis interventions, medical examinations (free services to public)
<b>Child Abuse Prevention Program</b> cappnyc.org	Prevention through education; also offers professional training
<b>The Safe Center Long Island</b> thesafecenterli.org	Assists victims of domestic/dating abuse; child abuse; & rape/sexual assault;

	a combined nonprofit of former Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV) & the Coalition Against Child Abuse & Neglect (CCAN)
<b>Center Against Domestic Violence</b> cadvny.org	Shelters, education & teen relationships

### Disability

<b>Quality Services to the Autism Community (QSAC)</b> qsac.com	Serves autistic children & adults; provides trainings & support groups
<b>Parent to Parent of New York State</b> parenttoparentnys.org	Reduce isolation & help parents of disabled children
<b>Self-Advocacy Association of New York State</b> sanys.org	Helping the disabled and families gain more control of their services
<b>The Advocacy Center</b> advocacycenter.com	Advocacy, services & workshops to empower disabled community & families
<b>AHRC New York City</b> ahrcnyc.org	Intellectual & developmental disabilities; provides training & education credit
<b>Life's WORC</b> lifesworc.org	developmental disabilities including those on autism spectrum

### Elderly/Geriatrics

<b>Service Program for Older People</b> spop.org	Mental health care for individuals 55 years of age or above
<b>Henry Street Settlement: Senior Companion Program</b> henrystreet.org/programs/senior-services/senior-companion-program.html	Provides companionship, friendly visiting, light errands, light errands, meal planning, medication reminders, caregiver respite & medical escort

### LGBT

<b>Long Island Crisis Center: Pride for Youth</b> longislandcrisiscenter.org/projects.html	Serves LGBT youth through education, youth development and supportive services
<b>Brooklyn Community Pride Center</b> lgbtbrooklyn.org	physical and mental health services, social support, recreational and cultural programming

### Mental Health / Medical Care

<b>National Empowerment Network</b> power2u.org	Mental health resources & organizations for consumers & professions; jobs, referrals, research & conferences/networking
<b>The Bridge</b>	Mental health & housing solution

thebridgeny.org	
<b>NYS Office of Mental Health</b> bi.omh.ny.gov/bridges/index	NYS mental health program finder for clients & professionals
<b>Community Access</b> communityaccess.org	For individuals with chronic psychiatric disabilities and little to no socialization, life skills, rehabilitation, or employment services
<b>MHA: Innovations in Mental Health</b> NYC: mhaofnyc.org New York State site: mhanys.org/ National level: mentalhealthamerica.net	Formerly National Mental Health Association: provides mental health services, advocacy and education in New York City and nationwide
<b>National Alliance on Mental Illness</b> NYC: namyncmetro.org National level: nami.org	Provides support groups, education & advocacy for families & individuals living with mental illness
<b>AIDS Center of Queens County</b> acqc.org	Provides services to those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and other blood borne disease
<b>Institute for Family Health</b> institute2000.org	primary care, mental health, dental care, social work and many other services to patients of all ages
<b>The Samaritans of New York</b> samaritannyc.org	Prevention hotline, public education & services
<b>National Suicide Prevention Lifeline</b> suicidepreventionlifeline.org	Government funded outreach
<b>American Foundation for Suicide Prevention</b> afsp.org	National organization for education, support & advocacy

### Sexuality Education & Sexual Abuse

<b>Sexuality Education &amp; Counseling Services</b> secstalk.orgsecstalk.org/resources_and_partners.html	Educational & networking resources
<b>Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Program (SAVI) –Mount Sinai Hospital</b> http://www.mountsinai.org/patient-care/service-areas/community-medicine/areas-of-care/sexual-assault-and-violence-intervention-program-savi/about-us  http://www.mountsinai.org/patient-care/service-areas/community-medicine/areas-of-care/sexual-assault-and-violence-intervention-program-savi/volunteer	Serves rape, sexual assault and domestic violence survivors
<b>Safe Horizon</b> safehorizon.org	Serves victims of domestic violence, child abuse, human trafficking, rape/sexual assault; homeless youth & families of homicide victims
<b>The Safe Center Long Island</b>	Assists victims of domestic/dating abuse;



thesafecenterli.org	child abuse; & rape/sexual assault; a combined nonprofit of former Nassau County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CADV) & the Coalition Against Child Abuse & Neglect (CCAN)
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### Nutrition & Food Support

<b>Henry Settlement House: Meals on Wheels</b> henrystreet.org	Provides fresh and frozen meals to homebound senior Manhattan residents
<b>City Harvest</b> cityharvest.org	Rescues unwanted food & redistributes them to community programs

### Miscellaneous

<b>Long Island Teen Challenge</b> litcny.org	Residential program for afflicted individuals & couples (ages 18 years & older)
<b>The Good Dog Foundation</b> thegooddogfoundation.org	Therapy dog services to people in health care, social service, educational and community facilities
<b>Gallop NYC</b> gallopnyc.org	Therapeutic horsemanship for children & adults with disabilities
<b>Cicatelli Associates Inc.</b> caiglobal.org	Public health training for government agencies and nonprofits; curriculum development

This Guide was prepared by Dr. Mihaela Robila ([Mihaela.Robila@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:Mihaela.Robila@qc.cuny.edu)) (2014; last revision 2025).