

The VA is the largest employer of Social Workers in the Nation, with over 15,000 Master's prepared Social Workers on Staff.

The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) opened its doors in 1928—today we serve over 171,000 of our Nation's Veterans. SAVAHCs employs around 3000 health care professionals and support staff including over 150 Social Workers in clinical and administrative roles.

Veterans Health Administration (VHA)
Mission Statement: Honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being Mission of VA Social Work.

The mission of VA Social Work is to eliminate psychosocial complications as significant barriers to health care interventions for Veterans, their families, and caregivers.



Next Steps

If you are interested in learning more about a MSW internship opportunity at SAVAHCs please reach out to the Social Work Intern Program Coordinator.

Southern Arizona VA HCS
3601 S 6th Ave
Tucson, AZ 85723

Genevieve Morenas, LCSW, OSW-C
SW Intern Program Coordinator
520-729-1450 x1-3576
TucsonSWInternProgram@va.gov

**Additional Information about VA
social work internships:**
www.socialwork.va.gov



Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS)

SOCIAL WORK

Graduate Level Internships

VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

Veterans Health
Administration

Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS)



SAVAHCS

We are affiliated with over 67 academic institutions and offer internships and residencies in numerous medical, surgical, and allied health care professions. SAVAHCS offers specialized services and treatment programs where Social Workers provide care to our Veterans. These programs include, but are not limited to:

- Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center
- Geriatrics and Rehabilitation Center
- Polytrauma
- Transgender & Gender Diverse Clinic
- Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT)
- Care Coordination
- Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- Caregiver Support Program
- Home Based Primary Care services
- Homeless Program services
- Veteran Experience Office
- **Inpatient & Outpatient Mental Health Services including:**
 - Behavioral Health
 - Substance Abuse
 - PTSD Residential treatment program
 - Psychosocial Rehabilitation Recovery Center
 - Intensive Community MH Recovery Program

Role and Placement Opportunities

Placement opportunities vary based on the clinical interest of interns and the clinical needs of SAVAHCS. Field Instructors support the development of a mutually beneficial learning contract and may provide learning opportunities in one or more settings. Learning opportunities range from direct clinical practice to policy and program administration.

Placements may include: inpatient/outpatient Behavioral Health, Geriatric and Extended Care services, homeless program services, medical social work, Blind Rehabilitation, Disease Prevention, and Caregiver Support Programs.

Paid Stipends

SAVAHCS offers a limited number of paid stipends for MSW interns. Eligibility is based on the student meeting VA eligibility criteria, availability of stipends, and applicant's interview and supporting documents.

Please note, acceptance for a MSW internship at SAVAHCS does not guarantee a stipend. Students are also eligible for internship experiences without compensation as well.

What to Expect from a SAVAHCS Internship

Social Work Interns are supported in the following areas to include but not limited to:

Skill Mastery:

Biopsychosocial assessments, safety/suicide assessments, case management skills, treatment planning, advance care planning, how to facilitate groups and psychoeducation activities, clinical documentation, clinical interventions, engagement, termination of services, resource development and brokerage, crisis management, policy, and regulatory agency requirements.

Professional Development:

Clinical supervision, group supervision, didactics, participation in multidisciplinary treatment teams, professional work groups and committees, incorporation of Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in practice, participation in process improvement projects, specialized training on meeting the unique needs of veteran population, and access to nationally developed training.

