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School Counseling Internship

Thank you for your interest in the Denver JDS school counseling internship! Denver JDS is a pluralistic (across all levels of belief and observance) Jewish private school that serves children from **kindergarten through 12th grade**. We are located in southeast Denver and have approximately 350 students. We are a diverse community that includes Russian, Israeli, and American students and their families.

The school counseling department is an integral part of the Denver JDS community. Duties of the school counselor include:

- ❖ Developing and facilitating school-wide comprehensive and preventative social and emotional health curriculum for all classrooms (topics include conflict resolution, inclusion, personal safety, boundaries, brain functioning, and emotional regulation)
- ❖ Facilitating small therapy groups (topics vary depending on need and may include social skills, grief, and divorce)
- ❖ Providing comprehensive health education (5th grade through high school)
- ❖ Brief individual, play, and family therapy
- ❖ Consulting with teachers, administration, parents, and community mental health professionals via team meetings, professional development seminars, and informal consultation
- ❖ Crisis management
- ❖ Consulting with the Learning Resource Center
- ❖ Providing referrals and community resources
- ❖ Meeting mental health needs of faculty and staff

Theoretical orientation: The school counseling department views our work through a systemic, developmental, relational, and social justice lens. We believe that the most effective interventions for our students are holistic, and we frequently collaborate with teachers, families, and community members/organizations to optimize student success.

Internship experience: Both the school counseling department and DJDS staff as a whole value and welcome our interns as part of the team. DJDS takes one school counseling intern per year, and in the past we have had interns from clinical and school counseling, marriage and family, and social work graduate programs. We are able to tailor the internship experience by emphasizing different areas of practice depending on the intern's goals, interests, and skills. Interns typically provide classroom education, facilitate small groups, attend consultation meetings, and carry a clinical caseload, which involves working closely with teachers and families.

Supervision experience: Supervision occurs within our systemic, developmental, relational, and social justice framework. It is viewed as an essential component of the training year and is provided both formally (minimum of one hour per week) and informally. We are excited to be part of your training experience and greatly value the supervision relationship.

Intern qualifications: Our most successful interns are self-directed and able to work independently, while recognizing when to consult. Interns need to have successfully engaged in some previous psychotherapy (for example, in a supervised practicum experience). We are seeking interns who are curious and flexible – many of our past interns have a passion for working with a specific population or topic and have spearheaded programming in our school. Finally, successful interns are open to feedback and eager to learn. Interns do not need to come from a Jewish background although we do seek interns who have a specific interest in working with the Jewish population.

Please contact Dr. Rachel Gall to apply.

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