

Student Placement with SAHSSI

Information Sheet

SAHSSI is a specialist women's homelessness and domestic violence service with a range of service options including Family Counselling Service (Nowra), Homeless Hub (Nowra), crisis accommodation, temporary accommodation and outreach case management. SAHSSI covers the Shoalhaven and Illawarra Districts.

SAHSSI welcomes students studying welfare and social work. To assist students to decide if SAHSSI is where they would like to apply to undertake their placement, the following information is provided.

Expectations of student placement

Students placed with SAHSSI will be expected to:

- Read, understand, and work within SAHSSI policies and procedures
- Have contact with clients only under supervision of paid SAHSSI case managers and employees – they will not be working unsupervised with clients
- Be respectful and able to receive constructive feedback throughout their supervision
- Be able to undertake tasks required of the role that they are shadowing (e.g., crisis accommodation case managers are also responsible for cleaning and preparing rooms)
- Report any concerns directly to your SAHSSI supervisor and to advise when you are not going to be able to attend
- Participate in fortnightly formal meetings with their site supervisor.
- While lived experience is valuable, students must have moved safely through their recovery journey and be well while undertaking their student placement so as not to put themselves or others at risk.

Opportunities for students during placement

1. Student placements in SAHSSI learn by shadowing case managers in the following roles:
 - Crisis case managers – responsible for supporting women staying in crisis accommodation (refuge) and for maintaining the accommodation, including at times cleaning, and preparing rooms.
 - Outreach case managers – responsible for case management support to women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in the community.
 - DVRE case managers – crisis, short term (few nights) support for women escaping domestic and family violence in shared accommodation, includes cleaning and preparing rooms
 - Shoalhaven Homeless Hub case manager – supporting men, women and young people in a walk-in centre in Nowra – providing support around housing, material aid, shower and laundry facilities. Does include some cleaning responsibilities. Open Tuesday to Friday.
2. Students will learn about housing products, homelessness issues, domestic and family violence and safety in case management and crisis support.
3. Under supervision, they may assist clients to attend appointments and to make referrals to support case plan goals.
4. Under supervision, they will undertake intake assessments, risk assessments, surveys and case management.
5. Under supervision, students will learn our Client Information Management System (CIMS) for case management and case notes, and Work Development Orders.