



INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

VISION

To see every child thrive

MISSION

To nourish hope through effective solutions so children thrive and families flourish

CORE VALUES

Spirituality: Respecting the belief that a greater power guides us

Teamwork: Achieving excellence while doing our part to support one another

Integrity: Being ethical, accountable and transparent

Respect: Valuing and honoring all people with an open mind and heart

Cunningham Children's Home is proud to offer bachelor's- and master's-level internships that foster the growth of care professionals coming into our field. Internships must be a part of an accredited school course requirement for which Cunningham has a partnership affiliation agreement. These agreements are required to ensure Cunningham can meet the needs set by the university and is an appropriate placement opportunity.

Cunningham internships are client-focused and accept students seeking degrees similar to those needed to obtain mental health, educational, child welfare, and other social services credentials found in human services organizations like Cunningham. These degrees include counseling and guidance, rehabilitation counseling, social work, education, vocational counseling, psychology, pastoral counseling, family therapy or a related human services field.

Once you have met the above criteria and your university's requirements, follow the application guidelines provided by your university. Cunningham's application deadlines are posted on cunninghamhome.org each semester, but are typically:

SESSION

Spring
Summer*
Fall

APPLICATION DEADLINE

October 15
March 1
March 1

**Therapeutic recreation and Master's level internships only*

- The number of internships Cunningham offers may vary each semester.
- Decisions are made quickly after the application deadline, and Cunningham will notify all candidates within 2 – 3 weeks.
- Potential interns are typically interviewed twice:
 1. Phone screening to review Cunningham Children's Home programs, gain a feel for the interest of the applicant and review requirements necessary to intern (orientation, Therapeutic Crisis Intervention, background checks, etc.);
 2. In-person interview with program supervisor, intern coordinator, or human resources that will focus more on assessing skill levels and relationship building capabilities.

QUESTIONS/MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Pat Ege, Vice President of Program Services at pege@cunninghamhome.org or 217.337.9003

hope begins here.

Our internships are heavily based in direct-client involvement; however, at times we may have a need for more macro-level internships. Before the interview phase begins, a census is taken across Cunningham programs to assess needs and determine which areas internships will take place. This allows the agency to be cognizant of the needs of our clients as we offer quality internships. We use this information to guide the interview process which helps us with successful placements that allow our interns to thrive.



**AT OUR CORE,
CUNNINGHAM
CHILDREN'S HOME
IS ABOUT CREATING
OPTIONS, OPENING
DOORS, AND
TAKING FIRST STEPS.**

Cunningham transforms lives by helping individuals reach their potential.

Cunningham is an exemplary child welfare and educational services agency that provides caring support and therapeutic intervention to more than 794 children, youth, adults and families each year through comprehensive programs including **residential treatment, special education and community-based services.**

1. RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT

- Four residential units- working with youth between the ages of 10-17
- Two Group Homes: Girls Group Home & Kendall Boys Group Home
- Special Therapies (art, music, and recreation programming)
- Health Services (registered nurses on call 24/7)

2. SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Gerber Education Program for youth in residential treatment
- CIRCLE Academy Education Programs in Urbana and Rossville for youth in our community who live at home and have behavioral and emotional issues and have not been successful in the public school system

3. COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Transitional Living: older youth who are ready to transition to living on their own
- Independent Living: youth who have their own apartments, but still require therapeutic support from staff
- Vocational Education provides valuable work experience matched to each youth's interests and abilities
- HopeSprings Counseling Services for youth and families experiencing difficult life situations.
- Intensive Placement Stabilization (IPS) for youth in danger of being removed from their home.
- Families Stronger Together (FST): serves the entire family, caregivers, and youth, who have entered, or are at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.
- Empowering Connections through Hope and Opportunities (ECHO) for individuals who are homeless or at risk for homelessness.
- Runaway Homeless Youth (RHY): for individuals aged 14 up to 21 who are experiencing homelessness.

cunninghamhome.org

Cunningham Children's Home - 1301 N. Cunningham Avenue - Urbana, Illinois 61802