

The Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HRME) Project

HDFS CARE Lab Interns and Volunteer

The **Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education (HMRE)** Project is directed by Dr. Ted Futris, Associate Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Science in the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, and funded by the Administration for Children and Families, Office of Family Assistance (OFA). The HMRE project aims to promote the safety and well-being of youth and families across the risk continuum in the child welfare system through an interdisciplinary approach that integrates comprehensive services. The goal is to improve family functioning and create positive and stable homes by improving healthy marriage and relationship skills as well as promote economic stability and mobility. With numerous state and local partners, the HMRE project will reach nearly 1,500 families in a 12-county region in northeast Georgia by 2020. The 12 counties include Barrow, Clarke, Elbert, Greene, Jackson, Madison, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Rockdale and Walton counties.

Brief Overview of Role and Responsibilities

HDFS CARE Lab Interns and Volunteers working on the HMRE project are referred to as Project F.R.E.E. Navigators. Navigators will receive training in all skill-based, evidence informed HRME intervention curricula, and work closely with participating families and children. A complete description of Navigator roles and responsibilities is included in the attached file “Project F.R.E.E. Navigator Roles and Responsibilities.” Briefly interns/volunteers tasks include:

- Engaging families through recruitment (i.e., intake calls, home visits) and working closely with parents to identify needs and barriers to program participation.
- Maintaining regular contact with families to facilitate program retention and completion.
- Coordinating and providing sensitive and responsive child care services to young children (ages 0-5) and youth (ages 6-17) whose parents are participating in programming.
- Organizing and obtaining assessment materials from parents receiving services, and assisting with the entry and reporting of evaluation data.
- Participating and contributing in team meetings aimed to assess and continuously improve the quality of services we are providing to families.

An intern/volunteer must have flexible availability to work during the day (9AM – 5PM) to support family engagement and program preparation efforts in the lab. As well, intern/volunteer must be available some evenings (5PM – 9PM) and weekends when programs will be implemented. The scheduling of programs across the 12 counties will vary. Which program interns/volunteers are assigned to will be negotiated between Dr. Futris, the HMRE Program Coordinator, and the intern to insure that both programmatic and the intern’s/volunteer’s needs are being met.

Required Skills and Attributes

- Understanding of human development (infancy to young adulthood) and age-appropriate strategies for caring and engaging young children (ages 0-5) and youth (ages 6-18).
- Ability to effectively communicate with at-risk individuals and couples with diverse cultural, racial, and socioeconomic backgrounds.
- Ability to adhere to research protocols.
- Demonstrated exceptional verbal and written communication skills. As well as appearing in a professional manner.
- Demonstration of organizational skills and a high level of initiative.
- Must work well as both a member of a team and independently.
- Driver’s license, insurance, and personal vehicle for official duty travel required (Mileage will be reimbursed).
- Required to show proof of health insurance and have a physical or immunizations.
- Able to pass a criminal record check.

Interest?

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For more information about the HMRE project visit www.ugaprojectfree.com and the Couples and Relationship Enrichment (CARE) Lab website, <http://www.fcs.uga.edu/hdfs/care-lab>.