

NAME: OLIVIA CALLOW

DISCIPLINE: MSW STUDENT, MENTAL HEALTH CONCENTRATION

Past/current experiences working in the field of disabilities:

I have previously worked with a wide range of clients with Autism, from young children to older adults, through the organization Easterseals Midwest, as a Community Inclusion Specialist. I am currently an MSW intern at the B.E.S.T Study at University of Illinois, Chicago. At the study we are working to see if including mental health supports into care coordination services can help teenagers and young adults with IDD live happier and healthier lives.

Goals for your LEND training experience:

I am focused on maximizing my impact and developing my clinical and research skills to enhance the health and quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families. As a social worker, I am particularly interested in the interdisciplinary approach of the LEND Program. I am looking forward to getting involved in the variety of trainings, critical discussions, and projects to broaden my understanding of the current programs in place. I am eager to collaborate with the diverse group of trainees, coming together to affect meaningful change. Ultimately, I aim to grow personally in my clinical practice and find ways to positively influence my community, keeping the needs of the disability community at the forefront.

What you wish to contribute, in the future, as an advocate/professional/family member in the field:

I hope to cultivate a more thoughtful and informed practice, where I can improve the experience and lifestyles of clients with disabilities. I aim to grow from my current placement as well as future organizations I will work with. I am particularly interested in providing mental health supports to people with IDD. I can see myself employing the skills and knowledge from LEND in a wide variety of settings.

We would also like to post a headshot of each trainee along with the bios. Please attach in jpeg or png file.