

Education

The Fields Of Counseling And Human Services Provide Opportunity For Career Growth

(NAPSA)—There's a rising need in today's society for compassionate, well-trained, professional counselors and human services staff dedicated to addressing the deeper family issues hidden beneath complex family court cases, such as those involving child custody, domestic violence, addictions and abuse. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, jobs in the psychology field, human services and counseling are expected to grow by more than 20 percent between 2012 and 2022.

The fields of counseling and human services provide opportunity for career growth in the private sector and with the government agencies due, in part, to an increase in the adoption of mandatory mediation by family law courts.

Right now, however, many of these types of services are not sufficiently integrated. For many families, addiction, domestic violence and the criminal justice system thwart their hopes for healing.

"Family courts across the country are experiencing a crisis through a lack of resources due to budget reductions, an increase in the number of divorce and child custody cases, and inadequate or deficient processes for handling cases involving these issues," says Rick Froyd, Ph.D., program dean of counseling and human services for University of Phoenix College of Social Sciences.

"More than ever, we have an opportunity to train the next generation of counselors and human services professionals to take a humanistic approach to addressing these complex issues in our community courtrooms and public



Mandatory mediation and other trends in U.S. family court processes are leading to significant job growth in human services and other fields where professionals can play a role in improving a family's quality of life.

programs," Dr. Froyd says.

For people working in the field and students who hope to someday make an impact in the community as licensed counselors or human services staff, the University works directly with the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, American Counseling Association, National Board for Certified Counselors, and National Organization for Human Services to ensure that these programs fill skills gaps in social science professions.

Dr. Froyd is a licensed marriage and family therapist who served as a child custody recommending counselor and mediator in the California court system for 10 years.

Learn More

You can find further facts on the need for counselors and the courses that can help you become a part of meeting that need at www.phoenix.edu/colleges_divisions/social-sciences.html.