

**Abilities First**

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**COLLEGE INTERN  
WARYAS HOUSE**

Waryas House is a very specialized substance abuse program—the first of its kind in New York State. This program offers a residential option for those with disabilities who are also working to recover from alcohol and substance abuse challenges. The first half of the week is focused on art therapy and drug education. The second half is community integration and recreation therapy.

To a large extent students customize their focus. Most of the parameters are set by how much time they have to dedicate to the house and the requirements of the school. Supervision is provided by the Clinical Administrator on an as needed basis in a hand on setting. This is an OASAS certified sight and, as such, it is expected that students will leave with a general understanding of what substance abuse treatment is about. They are expected to attend at least 3 AA meetings with the house residents. They should expect to choose one of the main modalities, depending on their interest and schedule, and work with the respective therapist—either education, art or recreation therapy. If they have enough time, it is desirable for them to run a short series of groups. They are also expected to become familiar with paperwork needed for operating the program. If time and scheduling allow, we offer an opportunity for interns to write (or at least update) a minimum of one treatment plan or a bio-psycho-social.

Other duties are available as assigned and in accordance to student interests.

To apply prospective candidates should fill out an Internship Application [Volunteer Intern ap]. Qualified candidates will be expected to participate in an interview and the successful candidates will be selected according to qualifications as they match the requirements of the internship program. Background check and fingerprinting will be conducted by the Human Resources Department. Successful candidates are required to maintain a current PPD (they have to have one to be in school). If all goes smoothly we then agree on a schedule, including supervision time. For additional information contact W. H. Mahon, Jr., LCSW, Clinical Administrator (Masters Programs) or Larry Montague, CASAC, (Bachelors and Associate degree programs) at 845-452-1913.