

# Intern WALL OF FAME

## **Samantha Mann (Psychology, Senior)**

**ASAT counselor**

**Lakeview Correctional Facility**

My name is Samantha Mann and I am a senior with a major in Psychology and a minor in Visual Arts in new media. I am currently doing an internship at Lakeview Correctional Facility also known as the Brocton Prison. When choosing my internship I wanted to have a lot of hands on experience, and with this internship, I get just that. I intern as an ASAT counselor who directly interacts with the inmates (male and female) in a classroom setting of 40-50 inmates at a time. I have two wonderful supervisors who have taught me a significant amount of information about the position and I am still learning so much. On a daily basis I help an ASAT class with my supervisor of 42 male inmates. The experience has been very rewarding and I feel that I have grown so much from my experience there. I have learned a lot about drug and alcohol addiction and how to get through to men and women who are incarcerated.

This internship will help me reach my future goals by giving me hands-on experience in a field that I am more interested in. Also it allows an individual to explore their options and see if they are in the right field of work. This internship has helped me be more confident and outspoken which will help me in my career. If I have to rate my intern experience at Lakeview, I would say excellent. When I began at the site I was a little nervous and not sure how I would feel about working with prisoners, but once I got situated at the site, I fell in love with ASAT counseling. I would highly recommend this internship site to anyone who is interested in counseling. Once you have worked with men and women who are incarcerated, you feel euphoric with your day of work, and leave with a sense of accomplishment. I always leave my site feeling like the day was a success.

As of right now, I am very interested in potentially getting a job at my internship site once I am finished. The counselors that I work with all know how much I enjoy my internship and my interest in the position when I am finished. I have been told by many counselors in the office that I do very well and unanimously agree that they would like me to work at the site when I am finished. When I began this internship I had no idea how much I would fall in love with this line of work. For those students who are thinking about internship, I would highly suggest that you do. I advise everyone who plans on completing their Bachelor's degree to get hands-on experience in their field of interest through an internship. The advice that I have for my fellow students when considering an internship, is to think over your options of sites to choose from and pick something that interests you but will also challenge you. You might just pick a site that you will want to stay at.