



## POSITION POSTING

### Graduate Professional Assistant Suicide Prevention and Mental Health University Life

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#### **UNIVERSITY LIFE:**

#### **EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS**

##### **Mission:**

University Life cares for the whole student by promoting inclusive well-being and fostering lifelong learning – preparing ethical leaders for the world.

##### **Values:**

**TOGETHER**, we achieve our mission through an unwavering commitment to our **values**:

#### **Inclusion and Equity**

- We are committed to cultivating an environment of engagement, connection, and belonging that is respectful and fair for everyone.

#### **Leadership for Positive Change**

- We are committed to cultivating leaders who critically examine and understand the potential impact of their decisions and act ethically.

#### **Well-Being**

- We are committed to cultivating an environment of understanding and fulfillment of both individual and community well-being that promotes purpose, vitality, engagement, and resilience.

#### **Collaborative Community**

- We are committed to cultivating a supportive network of colleagues that shares ideas, learns and creates together, and develops authentic connections.

#### **Strategic Transformation**

- We are committed to dynamic action in creating meaningful solutions to anticipate and meet the needs of an ever-changing community.

**Function:**

The purpose of the Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Graduate Assistant position is to provide support for division level strategic initiatives related to suicide prevention and mental health in ways that exceed the scope of the work done by University Life units that focus on mental health. This position reports to the Associate Dean and Chief Mental Health Officer in University Life. The graduate assistant in this position will contribute by 1) collaborating with University Life units to develop and implement suicide prevention and mental health related programs and initiatives, 2) engaging in critical research and information gathering to establish a much-needed data-base of information related to suicides and suicide attempts by Mason students, 3) increasing awareness of the work and resources of mental health- focused units in University Life (e.g., meeting with academic units to share information and provide training as needed), 4) strengthening the focus on graduate student mental health by developing programs or resources specifically for graduate students in collaboration with University Life units, 5) supporting the emerging work of the Well-Being and Mental Health Task Force, 6) providing leadership and support for the equity in mental health working group.

**Required Skills/Qualifications:**

- Must be enrolled in one of George Mason University's Graduate Programs (not provisional admission).
- Must be reliable, responsible, self-motivated, collaborative, flexible, and considerate.
- Must possess exceptional written and verbal communication skills and be confident in interacting with multiple campus stakeholders.
- Must take initiative and use creative thinking and problem-solving skills in order to coordinate complex programs and initiatives.
- Must have excellent organizational skills with the ability to independently manage multiple, high quality projects in an efficient and timely manner.
- Must have an ability to relate to people from diverse backgrounds.
- Must exhibit exceptional professionalism and a strong work ethic.
- Must be available and accessible for the time commitment involved.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Preference will be given to graduate students pursuing a degree in Counseling, Social Work, Psychology, Public Health, and Higher Education.

**Position Responsibilities:**

- Work closely with the Associate Dean and Chief Mental Health Officer in University Life to develop strategic initiatives and programs that support the well-being and mental health of Mason students. Examples include:
  - Creating content for a comprehensive suicide prevention resource webpage
  - Developing a database to track campus suicide data in collaboration with other campus and community stakeholders
  - Providing leadership for the equity in mental health working group in collaboration with other units
  - Developing social media campaign focused on suicide prevention in collaboration with University Life units
  - Collaborating with University Life marketing and communications to increase awareness of student mental health resources
  - Promoting suicide prevention and mental health through presentations, written articles in university publications, and University Life programs
  - Providing support to goal and strategy leads in the Holistic Student Support Services strategic plan goal area.

- Other initiatives as assigned.
- Develop and present mental health and suicide prevention outreach programs to a variety of audiences including classrooms, student organizations and professional staff in collaboration with other units supporting mental health and well-being (e.g., Counseling and Psychological Services, Center for the Advancement of Well-Being)
- In collaboration with University Life units, assess and strengthen resources and programs that support graduate student mental health
- Assist with program evaluation
- Attend University and University Life meetings, trainings, and professional development programs as required.
- Meet all legal, ethical, and policy requirements associated with position.

### **Time Commitments:**

The Graduate Professional Assistant position is designed for a 20 hour per week work commitment. Occasionally, the work may require extended hours and/or night and weekend work hours.

### **Compensation:**

- The Graduate Professional Assistant position will consist of the following compensation package;
  - GPA stipend, \$17,640.00, will be paid on the 1st and 16th of the month for the duration of employment contract period;
  - Tuition grant up to 6 graduate credits at the in-state rate, not to exceed \$4,800.00 per semester;
- The GPA position is a 9-month contract, August 25, 2022 – May 24, 2023, with the possibility of renewal for a second academic year.
- All information, including rules and regulations, regarding all graduate assistantship can be located on the Provost office Graduate Education website: <https://provost.gmu.edu/academics-and-research/graduate-education/graduate-student-appointments-fellowships>

### **To apply:**

To apply for this position, please do so by:

Submitting a letter of interest, resume, and three professional references by [May 9, 2022](#) to:

Rachel Wernicke  
 Associate Dean and Chief Mental Health Officer  
 University Life  
 4400 University Drive  
 MSN2A4  
 Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
[rwernick@gmu.edu](mailto:rwernick@gmu.edu) (preferred)  
<https://ulife.gmu.edu/>