



Florissa is a comprehensive center for children with behavioral, developmental, social and emotional needs. Partner organizations include Kreider Services, KSB Hospital, Sinnissippi Centers, Lee County Health Department, Lee County Special Education Association, Ogle County Educational Cooperative and several parents.

## Florissa

144 North Court Dixon, IL 61021

(815) 288-1905

Monday -Thursday: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Friday: 8:30am -12:30pm Or by appointment



## Samantha Awada, B.A.

## Therapist / Florissa

Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology, Northern Illinois University

**Samantha Awada**, B.A., is a therapist at Florissa working under the supervision of our clinical psychologists. She is currently attending the Ph.D. program at Northern Illinois University where she is studying clinical psychology with a focus on children and families. She has provided psychological assessments and individual and group therapy to children, families, and adults in a variety of different settings, including a university clinic, a private practice, a community mental health center, and a forensic setting.

Prior to attending graduate school, Samantha worked as a behavioral specialist in a short-term residential facility for children and adolescents who displayed a wide range of psychological concerns. In her graduate clinical training, Samantha has worked in a university clinic with children, families, and adults providing psychological assessment and therapeutic services for a variety of different psychological concerns, including learning problems, attention-hyperactivity deficit disorder (ADHD), conduct problems, depressive symptoms, and anxiety symptoms. Further, for the past 2 summers, she worked as a therapist for Adventure Camp through Advanced Therapeutic Services, an intensive therapeutic program for children and adolescents with selective mutism.

Samantha's psychological assessment and treatment approach is founded in a Cognitive Behavioral framework with influences from family systems and interpersonal theories of psychotherapy. She has conducted research focusing on child trauma exposure and child conduct problems. She is passionate about working with children and families and is excited to have the opportunity to work as a clinical extern at Florissa Pediatric Development Center!