

CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL INTERNSHIP IN FORENSIC AND INPATIENT PSYCHOLOGY

The Internship in Forensic Psychology at Central State Hospital focuses on training in three primary areas:

- Adult Inpatient Treatment (80%)
- Adult Forensic Evaluations (15%)
- Research/Scholarly Activity on Topics Relevant to Forensic Psychology (5%) or Experience with the Behavioral Modification Team (5%)

Central State Hospital (CSH), in Petersburg, Virginia, is the site of Virginia's only Maximum Security Forensic Mental Health Unit along with the civil state hospital for the central Virginia catchment area. This internship training program provides the intern with exposure to the full range of mental disorders typically seen in forensic and inpatient psychiatric settings.



CSH, Building 39 – Maximum Security Forensic Unit

THE TRAINING PROGRAM

The internship training program offers education and supervision in the practice of clinical and forensic psychology, a primary goal of which is to prepare the intern for the practice of psychology with a seriously mentally ill population. The program is sponsored by Central State Hospital, which provides services to male and female adults with serious mental illnesses, many of whom also have diagnoses of substance abuse disorders and/or intellectual disability. Our

patient population includes pre- and post-trial forensic patients receiving court-ordered evaluation and treatment, patients who have been adjudicated not guilty by reason of insanity who are receiving evaluation and/or treatment, and non-forensic patients receiving treatment under civil commitment.

The training year begins on August 10th and lasts for 12 months. Interns spend the first two weeks of the training year engaged in formal orientation and training activities provided by the CSH Training Department. In October of the training year the interns attend the Basic Forensic Evaluation training offered by the Institute of Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy (ILPPP) at the University of Virginia, a one-week intensive workshop covering the basic principles of forensic evaluation. The cost of this program is covered by the hospital.

The training year then continues with the intern receiving the following experiences: 80% of their time as a member of a treatment team on the civil side of the hospital; 15% of their time as part of the forensic evaluation team conducting pretrial evaluations and 5% of their time either engaged in research activities or involved in the behavioral modification team.

Throughout the year, the interns receive a minimum of two hours of individual, face-to-face supervision per week with a licensed clinical psychologist, with an additional two hours per week provided by group supervision and/or health care professionals who are appropriately credentialed for their role/contribution to the program. The intern will have at least two different supervisors during the training year. A weekly case law seminar is provided at Central State Hospital. There is also a weekly didactic training offered by both the Psychiatry and Psychology departments, which interns will attend. CSH also regularly hosts seminars on special topics in clinical and forensic practice. In addition to Basic Forensic Evaluation at ILPPP, interns may attend (at the discretion of the Training Director) a number of other training seminars offered by the ILPPP, including: Risk Assessment, Evaluating Individuals found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity, Assessing Individuals Charged with Sex Crimes, and various advanced seminars or symposia. The interns are also strongly encouraged to participate in local, state, regional, and national professional organizations relevant to the practice of clinical and forensic psychology.

This internship program is designed to meet all internship training and supervision requirements for licensure as a clinical psychologist in the state of Virginia. The trainee is responsible for obtaining information on licensure requirements and ensuring that he or she files all necessary forms in a timely manner in order to obtain licensure.

PHILOSOPHY

Our training philosophy is that learning occurs through exposure, mentoring, and supervised practice with gradually increasing degrees of task complexity and trainee autonomy. Through this process the intern is expected to gradually increase his or her clinical proficiency and knowledge of the legal system, and to gradually develop a professional identity in the field of forensic clinical psychology. The core values of the program include ethical clinical practice and an appreciation of the ways in which clinical skills and knowledge are necessary for

competently answering psycholegal questions. It is our belief that good forensic psychologists are outstanding clinical psychologists first and foremost. Therefore, interns will be expected to demonstrate competence in the traditional core skills of clinical psychology, including psychodiagnostic testing, clinical interviewing, treatment planning, consultation, and psychotherapy, while concurrently acquiring a knowledge base of the legal issues and precedents that contribute to the competent practice of forensic psychology.

The effective practice of forensic clinical psychology is strongly linked to the scientific origins of psychological science, and therefore interns are encouraged to rely upon empirically supported assessment techniques, and to actively seek to link evidenced based practice and contemporary research with established principles of assessment.

CENTRAL STATE HOSPITAL AND THE RICHMOND-PETERSBURG AREA

Central State Hospital is located on a beautiful, wooded campus set on the outskirts of the city of Petersburg in rural Dinwiddie County. Petersburg is an historic small city with a wealth of Civil War sites in the near vicinity and a revitalized downtown area. It is located about 20 miles south of Richmond, Virginia, a mid-size city that is home to Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of Richmond, as well as a wealth of cultural, sports, and community activities.



Below are links to the website for Central State Hospital and the official websites for the cities of Petersburg and Richmond:

Central State Hospital
<http://www.csh.dbhds.virginia.gov/>

Petersburg, VA

<http://www.petersburg-va.org/>

Richmond, VA

<http://www.richmond.com/>

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Calendar

The internship begins on August 10th and terminates 12 calendar months later. The granting of educational leave (beyond the required training workshops to be attended at the Institute for Law, Psychiatry, and Public Policy) shall be at the discretion of the Psychology Director.

Stipend

The stipend level for the internship is approximately \$28,000 for the year.

Professional Liability Insurance

Professional liability insurance covering clinical activities clearly defined within the scope of the internship training program is provided by the hospital at no cost to the intern.

Health Insurance and Leave Time

The intern will receive health, dental, and disability insurance through the ANTHEM Blue Cross/Blue Shield program offered to all Virginia state employees. The intern receives a generous package of paid sick and personal leave in accordance with accreditation standards. This is in addition to twelve (12) paid holidays per year.

Pay Periods and Pay Days

The intern will receive two monthly paychecks for a total of 24 paychecks per year. Direct deposit is required.

Offices

The intern will be assigned office space and individual computer access.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Two interns per year will be accepted into the program. Forensic psychology and inpatient treatment experience is preferred.

Applicants must be eligible to apply for internship per their doctoral program requirements.

HOW TO APPLY

CSH is currently accepting applications for the internship year 2017-2018. Applicants must submit their application materials online or via email to the training director, as required by

APPIC. We require the AAPI, vita, graduate transcripts, 3 letters of recommendation, and a de-identified psychological report to be submitted.

Materials may be submitted electronically via the application website or directly to Dr. Carla Galusha at carla.galusha@dbhds.virginia.gov or by hardcopy.

Hard copy materials should be sent to:

Dr. Carla Galusha
Central State Hospital
Building 43
P.O. Box 4030
Petersburg, VA 23803

Selected candidates will be invited to interview (either in-person or via phone interview per the candidate's preference). Interview expenses will not be reimbursed.

For any additional questions, please contact Dr. Carla Galusha at carla.galusha@dbhds.virginia.gov