

Clinical Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship with an Emphasis in Health Promotion Disease Prevention (HPDP) and Inter-professional Training in Primary Care

VA Medical Center Northport, New York

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Applications Due: January 06, 2017

VAMC Northport, New York offers two positions in a one-year postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Psychology **with an Emphasis in Health Promotion Disease Prevention and Inter-professional Training in Primary Care**. Northport fully embraces the vision of PACT and patient centered care, with collaboration across disciplines as a benchmark of the development of these health care services. Primary Care functions in a Patient Centered Medical Home Model, which creates a rich and collaborative learning environment for interdisciplinary postgraduate training.

Accreditation Status:

The postdoctoral Fellowship program at VAMC Northport is in the process of applying for APA accreditation.

Application & Selection Procedures

General Qualifications

Eligible candidates must:

- be a U.S. citizen.
- be a student in good standing in an APA-accredited Clinical or Counseling psychology doctoral program, or
- have completed a doctoral degree, including dissertation defense, from an APA-accredited Clinical or Counseling Psychology program prior to the start date of the fellowship.

Note: Persons with a Ph.D. in another area of psychology who meet the APA criteria for re-specialization training in Clinical or Counseling Psychology are also eligible to apply.

- Successfully complete an APA-accredited psychology internship.

We strongly encourage applications from candidates from underrepresented groups. The Federal Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Specific Qualifications

The postdoctoral Fellowship program looks for applicants with prior training in health psychology and experience working in the primary care setting. Prior training and supervised experience in conducting individual and group psychotherapy, clinical interviewing and diagnostic assessment is requisite. Due to the short-term nature of much of the psychological interventions in Primary Care, prior training and experience with cognitive-behavioral therapeutic approaches are desirable.

Note: A CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION STATUS, CERTIFICATION OF U.S. CITIZENSHIP, and DRUG SCREENING are required to become a VA fellow. The Federal Government requires that male applicants to VA positions who were born after 12/31/59 must sign a Pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they are employed. All fellows will have to complete a Certification of Citizenship in the United States prior to beginning the fellowship. VA will not consider applications from anyone who is not currently a U.S. citizen. VA conducts drug screening exams on randomly selected personnel as well as new employees. Fellows are not required to be tested prior to beginning work, but once on staff they are subject to random selection as are other staff. Fellows are also subject to fingerprinting and background checks. **Selection decisions are contingent on passing these screens.**

Application Procedure

To apply for our postdoctoral Fellowship, please provide the following items listed below.

We participate in the APPIC Psychology Postdoctoral Application Centralized Application Service (APPA-CAS). Please submit all application materials to the APPIC portal by January 6, 2017.

- A cover letter that describes your training and career goals, your previous clinical, educational, and research experience relevant to the training offered in our program, particularly in Health Psychology.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Three letters of recommendation. At least one from an internship supervisor.
- Official graduate school transcript.
- An abstract of your dissertation (if completed) or if you have not completed your graduated degree, a letter from your dissertation chairperson describing your dissertation status and timeline.
- A letter from your current Internship Training Director confirming that you are in good standing to successfully complete your doctoral internship, including the expected completion date. If internship was already completed, a copy of your doctoral internship certificate.
- A writing sample of a mental health intake evaluation, preferably with an emphasis on primary care or health psychology.

Policies:

The VAMC Northport postdoctoral Fellowship program complies with all guidelines set forth by the Association of Psychology, Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). These policies can be accessed at the APPIC website www.appic.org.

The Fellowship program also abides by all American Psychological Association guidelines and requirements. APA can be contacted at:

Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation Education Directorate
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE Washington, DC, 20002-4242. (202) 336-5979
www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

Selection and Interview Process:

The Training Committee reviews all completed applications. A subset of candidates will be invited to interview. Interviews are normally held on campus, but telephone or video interviews can be arranged. The program adheres to the APPIC policy that no person representing this training program will offer, request, accept or use any ranking-related information from any postdoctoral applicant or graduate program. We aim to notify all applicants regarding their interview status by January 13, 2017.

Please note: We adhere to the APPIC uniform notification policy: We will make offers on Monday February 27, 2017. An applicant receiving an offer will be allowed to hold the offer for 24 hrs. Prior to February 27, we will consider making a reciprocal offer if a top applicant receives a bona fide offer from another postdoctoral training program.



Psychology Setting

The Northport VA Medical Center is situated on a large, beautiful campus just outside the seaport village of Northport, Long Island. The location offers the advantages of a suburban setting within easy reach of both New York City and the beaches and vineyards of rural eastern Long Island. Cultural opportunities abound, not only because of the proximity to New York City, but also because of the major universities on Long Island including Stony Brook University, Adelphi University, Hofstra University and Long Island University.

Opened in 1928 as a psychiatric hospital, the VA Medical Center at Northport was converted to a full service Medical Center in 1971. The Northport VAMC provides inpatient medical, surgical, and psychiatric treatment. There are also community living centers that provide nursing home care and residential treatment programs for substance abuse and PTSD. The Northport VAMC is accredited by The Joint Commission and is a clinical campus of the School of Medicine at Stony Brook University. Several programs, including programs that are administered by Psychology Service have obtained accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

Additionally Long Island's Suffolk County offers top beaches, championship golf courses, rolling farmland, quaint seaport villages, and world-renowned vineyards and is a timeless vacation/ restaurant mecca to explore.



The Veteran Population: All veterans who received an Honorable Discharge from the military are eligible to utilize the VA for their mental and physical health needs. Therefore the veteran population represents a full adult age range. Although the patients seen are primarily adult males, the intern will have the opportunity to work with our steadily increasing population of female veterans, as well as spouses of veterans.

The postdoctoral Fellowship program is committed to devoting careful attention to working with our culturally diverse population. The Northport VAMC attracts veterans from throughout the New York City metropolitan area. Cultural competence is addressed within supervision, case conferences and seminars. VAMC Northport as well as the VA nationwide remains committed to diversity and inclusion.

The Psychology Service: The Psychology Service at the Northport VA Medical Center is an autonomous service headed by a Chief, and includes 24 full-time psychologists and one part-time psychologist. The range of professional activities conducted is exceptionally wide. Generally, psychologists are members of multidisciplinary treatment teams and, in some cases, are directors of treatment programs. Staff members conduct psychological and neuropsychological assessments and provide psychotherapy and behavioral treatments. Psychologists also provide consultation to other health care providers.

Primary Care: Primary Care, which houses both Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMH-I) and Health Promotion Disease Prevention (HPDP), will be the site of most of the fellow's training experiences. The core PCMH-I team consists of 3 full time psychologists, 1 psychiatrist and 2 part time care managers. Additional staff are embedded with the OEF/OIF/OND and Women's Wellness PACT teams, and in several Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC's). HPDP consists of one psychologist as Health Behavior Coordinator (HBC) and one preventive medicine physician as Health Promotion Disease Prevention Program Manager (HPDP-PM). In addition to the two postdoctoral fellows, 3 psychology interns, 1 psychology extern, 2 psychiatry fellows and 2 preventive medicine residents provide comprehensive, inter-professional services to the Primary Care Clinic and other sites within the medical center.

Training Model and Program Philosophy

The overall mission of this fellowship is to provide advanced training in clinical psychology with an emphasis on health promotion/disease prevention and inter-professional integration and collaboration, within the context of a holistic approach to health and wellness. We aim to provide training consistent with the APA Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation of Programs in Professional Psychology at the postdoctoral level. Our fellowship program embraces a practitioner-scholar philosophy, with a strong emphasis on clinical practice that is informed by theory, research, critical thinking, and active, collaborative learning. The integration of science and practice is emphasized in all aspects of the training, and serves as the foundation for the cultural shifts which currently drive the overall VA model of healthcare.. We believe each fellow brings unique talents and skills to be harnessed and embraced and we aim to work collaboratively in an apprenticeship model that fosters professional growth for both the fellows and staff with whom they work. Additionally, this fellowship will provide opportunities for developing more advanced skills in consultation, supervision, program development, and professional leadership.

Together with their supervisors and the training director, each fellow will develop a set of training experiences for the year which will reflect both their training needs and the fellow's particular set of interests and goals. At the start of the training year, fellows will work more closely with their supervisors to acclimate to the various clinical environments and increase their clinical and professional skills. Over the course of the year, fellows will be expected to take on an increasing level of autonomy and independence as would be expected for an early career professional and colleague. Our commitment to the professional growth and development of each fellow is conveyed in our supportive training environment that emphasizes individual strengths and which is evident through the significant investment of time, energy and enthusiasm of our training staff which includes psychologists as well as non-psychology supervisors.

Training Goals

The goal of this fellowship is to produce a well- rounded psychologist who is proficient in providing care in a primary care mental health program and other medical settings. The fellow should be prepared to work in an inter-professional collaborative manner within a medical setting, and would be ideally suited for employment within VHA or any Primary Care or medical outpatient setting.

Fellowship Objective areas for development

- Demonstration of Integration of Science and Practice
- Ethical and Legal Standards
- Individual and Cultural Diversity
- Consultation and Inter-Professional Collaboration
- Program Development and Teaching
- Professional Development
- Intervention

Fellowship Competencies

As evidenced by evaluations, treatment notes, supervisory discussions, treatment decisions and interventions, fellows will demonstrate advanced proficiency in:

- Choosing and applying evidence-based treatments for clinical intervention with the Primary Care population (e.g., CBT, MI/enhancement, problem-solving treatment, mindfulness based stress reduction, acceptance and commitment therapy, short term dynamic therapy).
- Knowledge of the bio-psycho-social approach to understanding health and illness including adequate knowledge of common health conditions (e.g., diabetes, obesity, hypertension), their relationship to psychological and behavioral concerns, and knowledge of commonly used medications.
- Organizational/ time management skills and is timely and professional in correspondences with colleagues and patients.
- Building insight into strengths and weaknesses and maximizes effectiveness as a professional.
- Building a clear professional identity.
- Group modalities within the Primary Care setting (e.g., psycho-education, self-management, time limited psychotherapeutic).
- Conducting brief (“same-day triage”) and as needed, full psychological evaluations, appropriate to the Primary Care population.
- Completing specialized psychological evaluations (organ replacement, bariatric surgery, penile implants).
- Knowledge, skills and competence sufficient to produce new knowledge, to critically evaluate and use existing knowledge to solve problems and to disseminate research.
- Completion of research or performance improvement projects.
- Consulting with medical staff and contributing a mental health perspective through participation in PACT and other team meetings, “curbside” consultation with medical providers, and conjoint patient contacts with medical providers.
- Ability to promote healthy inter-professional team functioning including contributing psychological perspective as an extended PACT team member. Enhances communication between PACT and patient in communicating patient driven goals.
- Teaching and supervision skills through in-service training to PACT staff, teaching intern seminars, and providing supervisory feedback to a more junior trainee.
- Ability to independently apply knowledge of and demonstrate effectiveness in working with a range of diverse individuals and groups encountered during residency.

Program Structure

The PCMH-I Psychology fellows will be full time employees of VAMC Northport. The Fellowship will be a yearlong experience. The postdoctoral Fellowship will consist of a combination of year-long required assignments and briefer experiences, some of which will be elective based on the fellow's interests. Fellows will work within Primary Care and other medical settings as part of PACT and other medical teams, and will have opportunities to participate in many HPDP programs and treatment areas. Emphasis is placed on the full integration of HPDP in all settings. Many of the training experiences will be collaborative with both the Psychiatry fellows and the Preventive Medicine residents from Stony Brook University School of Medicine. In addition to these learning experiences fellows will be required to complete and present a postdoctoral project in the domain of performance improvement.

Overview of Training Program and Training Experiences

Primary Care Clinic/PACT

VAMC Northport has been strongly committed to the vision and principles of PACT and Patient Centered Care since 2010. Primary Care consists of 30 functioning PACT teams including the Women's Wellness Center and two teams that constitute the OEF/OIF/OND PACT. The OEF/OIF /OND and Women's Wellness PACT teams treat a predominately younger Veteran population, which provides enhanced opportunities for true preventative health care (e.g. interventions aimed at pre-diabetics, cardiac and pulmonary disease risk reduction). Conversely, Northport has a high population of older adult Veterans, with 68 % of unique patients treated in PACT over the age of 65. These Veterans often present with multiple chronic health concerns requiring more comprehensive and coordinated team based care. For all Veterans, attention to wellness and chronic disease management and risk reduction is central. Overall, the Primary Care clinics provides treatment to over 30,000 unique Veterans annually.

Primary Care Mental Health- Integration

Primary Care Mental Health Integration (PCMH-I) staff are located in Primary Care throughout Northport and the Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCS). Staff provides same day mental health treatment, consultation to PACT teams, and traditional behavioral health interventions. PCMH-I staff members are considered extended team members of PACT and work closely with PACT teams to serve Veterans. Currently, the core PCMH-I staff consists of three full time clinical psychologists, and one full time psychiatrist. In addition, there are psychologists embedded with the OEF/OIF/OND and Women's Wellness PACT teams and one full time psychologist in our largest CBOC whose roles blend a PCMH-I model with the provision of more traditional mental health services. Care management is implemented at Northport PCMH-I and at the largest of our CBOCs with staff conducting watchful waiting, referral management, and supportive outreach to Veterans whose psychopharmacological needs are being managed by PCP's. PCMH-I staff work seamlessly with the HPDP team and also with VISN PCMH-I colleagues through periodic meetings.

Health Promotion Disease Prevention

The HPDP program is a core element of the VA cultural transformation initiatives, central to the vision of PACT and Patient Centered Care, and consists of one full time psychologist as the HBC and one full time preventive medicine physician as the HPDP-PM. Northport fully embraces the model and promotes the full integration of HPDP within PACT and the medical center. This includes support for extensive training and ongoing coaching of staff in patient centered communication, health coaching and MI to promote Veteran engagement in health care decision making and self-management of their health. HPDP extends beyond PACT and includes specialized prevention programs such as Smoking Cessation, the Wellness Clinic, the VA MOVE Weight Management Program, Diabetes Programs, Pain Management and multiple medical center wide promotional activities (Comprehensive Health and Wellness Fairs) to facilitate a shift towards the delivery of more proactive health care. Northport is heavily invested in promoting the nine healthy living messages outlined in the VA Prevention Initiative. They are integrated not only in PACT, but throughout the medical center (inpatient medical units, SUD programs, CLC's) with innovative prevention programming being developed in these areas. HPDP staff collaborate with the Employee Wellness, Patient Centered Care, Planetree and Complementary Alternative Medicine (CAM) initiatives and they co-chair quarterly Prevention Steering Committee meetings where champions for Prevention and wellness from all areas of the medical center and CBOC's work together to enhance programming efforts. HPDP leaders also work collaboratively with our VISN partners through quarterly VISN meetings.

TRAINING EXPERIENCES

CORE TRAINING EXPERIENCES (Required for all Fellows)

1. **PACT/PCMH-I:** Fellows will be assigned to two PACT teams (one team will be OEF/OIF/OND or Women's Wellness, and one will be a general PACT team), where they will serve as the psychologist on the team, providing the full range of clinical psychology functions and fostering integration of HPDP. They will be trained to work within the principles and vision of PACT, and to promote the VHA strategic goal of providing Veterans with personalized, proactive and patient-driven health care. Fellows will provide same day brief evaluation and triage, curbside consultation, in depth evaluation and triage, and brief evidence based interventions as needed. They will attend PACT team meetings as appropriate and will function as part of the inter-professional team, collaborating with staff from Medicine, Nursing, Nutrition, Psychiatry, Pharmacy, and Social Work on population management, targeting both opportunities for promoting prevention/wellness, self-management and identifying complex/high utilizing patients. Fellows will participate in weekly PCMH-I Interdisciplinary Team Meeting (psychologists, Psychiatrist, HPDP, Care Management) that will serve as group supervision for both fellows and interns. At this meeting the fellow will both receive and provide supervision to junior trainees. As part of the PCMH-I team, fellows will also have opportunities to respond to consult requests from inpatient medicine as well as for organ transplant evaluations.

2. **Diabetes Management/Endocrinology:** Fellows will work collaboratively with Endocrinology (and PACT teams) to enhance motivation and compliance of complicated patients struggling with chronic diseases of the endocrine system. They may participate in endocrinology clinic, shared medical appointments, continuous glucose monitor clinic, Diabetes support group, Diabetes self-management classes and have opportunities to provide supervisory oversight for intern work with this population. Emphasis is placed on motivational enhancement and the facilitation of inter-professional collaboration across the specialty and PACT settings, including coaching clinicians to enhance use of motivational interviewing by all staff. Fellows may conduct mental health evaluations as needed and provide very brief individual treatment.
3. **Wellness Clinic:** The Wellness clinic is a new program which invites Veterans to become more actively involved in their health care by providing access to several elements of proactive, personalized care. The program provides a space where Veterans may develop personalized health plans, which will serve as a guide for PACT teams to partner with their patients to achieve their desired health outcomes and includes a series of Wellness workshops, individualized health coaching sessions and an open support group. Fellows are actively involved in the implementation and oversight of this program on all levels. Fellows work collaboratively with the preventive medicine residents, may provide supervisory oversight for intern work and will have opportunities to work on program evaluation and further expansion of the program.
4. Fellows will receive specialized training in motivational interviewing (MI) and health behavior coaching including in depth skills for coaching medical staff in MI and health promotion. Fellows will incorporate a coaching model into their professional role to promote the development of shared decision making and the adoption of an MI spirit in the provision of all aspects of healthcare.
5. Fellows will undertake a performance improvement project in some aspect of health and wellness, which may be done in collaboration with psychiatry and/or preventive medicine residents. As appropriate, fellows will present the results of their project to the staff and will be encouraged to present significant findings at annual professional conferences.
6. Long term therapy cases; Fellows will have the opportunity to carry a small caseload (3 cases) of long term therapy patients utilizing psychoanalytic psychotherapy consistent with the evidence-based practice of psychotherapy. Cases will come from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars Readjustment Program and/or the Women's Wellness Program. Supervision is in a group format and includes, Post-doctoral fellows, interns, and externs.. The open-dialogue model of supervision is intended to encourage open, mutual, detailed discussion of participants' psychotherapy cases with a focus on their use of core elements of effective psychotherapy.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING EXPERIENCES

1. **Smoking Cessation:** Fellows may assist in the administration and operations of the medical center wide Smoking Cessation program including oversight of the Tobacco: You Can Quit Clinic where Psychology staff work in inter-professional collaboration with Preventive Medicine Residents providing comprehensive support and treatment for all forms of tobacco addiction. Fellows would have the opportunity to provide training and supervisory oversight for more junior trainees conducting group and individual treatment that includes provision of both behavioral and medical interventions. May provide consultation to inpatient settings and assist with further program expansion/integration within mental health program areas and the Community Living Centers (CLC's).
2. **MOVE- Weight Management Program:** Fellows may participate in the MOVE! Weight Management Program which offers a series of psycho-educational groups after which Veterans can participate in ongoing support groups, the MOVE Walk and Talk program and/or Healthy Cooking classes. Group members receive education on healthy eating and lifestyle change and learn strategies that support weight loss and healthy living more generally. Fellows involved in this program will gain experience working in a multi- faceted program with opportunities for both group and individual work as well as supervision of lower level trainees. Fellows will also have the opportunity to conduct comprehensive mental health pre-bariatric surgery evaluations and may assist patients in making the necessary lifestyle changes both pre- and post-surgery.
3. **Mindfulness for Stress Reduction Clinic:** The stress reduction clinic is a 12 week program largely based on Kabat Zinn's work in Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction. It is a weekly, 90 minute group teaching and practicing different components of meditation, including a 4 hour silent retreat. The clinic runs 3 times per Fellowship year. An interested Fellow will have the opportunity to learn how the group runs as a co-facilitator at first yearly cohort and then progressively take a stronger leadership role in the next two cohorts of the program; becoming lead facilitator of the group as well as assuming administrative duties of the program. As the Fellow progresses they will have the opportunity to supervise a lower level trainee in the group. All facilitators of this program will be required to meet weekly to meditate (Supervisor, Fellow and Intern or Extern). These meditation session will be open to all interested staff and trainees, but required for those who are involved in the stress reduction clinic. Those choosing this rotation will be asked to read Full Catastrophe Living (which can be provided as book on tape or hard copy) and to start a meditation practice of their own for the duration of the rotation.

4. **Pain Management:** Fellows will have the opportunity to provide group and individual CBT for chronic pain as well as working collaboratively with other facility programs that provide pain management (example: recreational services, mind-body program etc.). Fellows will also have the opportunity to attend integrated pain management meetings such as the Strategic Planning Committee and Interdisciplinary Pain Board meetings to address treatment planning for Veterans with complex pain management needs.

Healthy Lifestyle Groups: Fellows may choose to independently, or in conjunction with a junior trainee, offer a time limited behavioral health group. Recent group offerings have included the following :

- Brain Health Group: An eight week group for Veterans experiencing mild to moderate cognitive impairments. Group focuses on enhancing cognitive functioning through development of adaptive coping and compensatory strategies.
- Medical Challenges Group: An eight week group for individuals who are coping with the stress of chronic medical issues. This is an educational/support group that focuses on helping people develop adaptive ways to cope with their medical conditions and treatments.
- Sleep Group: a six session group aimed at improving sleep. Utilizes evidence based approaches such as sleep hygiene, sleep consolidation, sleep monitoring and CBT around distorted cognitions related to sleep habits.

Didactic Seminars

Required

- Fellows will participate in seminars on medical, mental health integration, professional development topics, and will participate in a monthly HPDP interdisciplinary journal club (including Residents from Preventive Medicine, and Clinical Pharmacy).
- Fellows will provide at least one didactic training seminar to junior trainees within the Psychology service.

Optional

- Grand Rounds and seminars through Department of Psychiatry at Stony Brook School of Medicine and attend medical inpatient rounds with Consultation/Liaison team.
- Department of Medicine Grand Rounds as appropriate.
- Intern Seminar offerings as appropriate.

Supervision

The Fellows will receive a minimum of 2 hours of formal scheduled, weekly individual supervision. This supervision will cover individual work, group treatment and intake evaluations. The fellow and other trainees will also receive weekly group supervision through Primary Care Mental Health IDT meeting and additional supervisory input while on elective clinical assignments. Supervisors typically function as both clinical (and at times administrative) supervisors as well as mentors addressing other areas of professional development and functioning. Supervision will typically address a breadth of areas, including professional interests and development, career preparation, overall goals and progress of the residency, and personal issues influencing professional work. Fellows will work with a variety of supervisors according to their rotational choices, however each Fellow is also free to speak with any other supervisor, training committee member, or medical center staff regarding areas of professional functioning. Fellows will be encouraged to devote considerable thought to further developing their own professional identity, orientation, and goals over the course of the postdoctoral fellowship. Regular individual mentoring meetings with training director are provided.

We are committed to providing multicultural competent training for our fellows and culturally sensitive assessments and interventions to our veterans. Our program offers plentiful opportunities to work with patients who represent a wide range of diversity. Fellows will be encouraged to consider the interplay of their own cultural background when working with our veterans

FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION

Fellows will complete a 12-month, 2080-hour postdoctoral fellowship, with allowances for approved annual, sick, and administrative leave. It is expected that fellows maintain satisfactory progress toward training and didactic requirements. Fellows will adhere to professional standards of practice, demeanor and responsibility; maintain adequate workload and timely documentation; and adhere to APA ethical guidelines and HIPPA regulations. All of the fellow's supervisors participate in monitoring and supporting the fellow's progress and training throughout the fellowship.

Formal written evaluation occurs twice a year based upon goals, objectives and competencies listed above. Evaluation objectives for development include demonstration of integration of science and practice, ethical and legal standards, individual and cultural diversity, consultation and inter-professional collaboration, program development and teaching, professional development and intervention. Supervisors will meet with the fellow as part of the formal evaluation process to discuss these evaluations and mutual agreement and understanding of content will be assured. Supervisors do provide continual informal feedback in the course of ongoing supervision throughout the fellowship.

Postdoctoral fellows will be given the opportunity to complete fellowship evaluation forms that allow them to evaluate training experiences, supervision, and provide

feedback regarding the training experience as a whole. In addition, the fellows will each have an individual meeting with the training director at the end of the training year to provide additional feedback and suggestions for future planning.

The following are required in order to complete the Fellowship:

- A prevalence of formal evaluation ratings at the Postdoctoral Exit level.
- Completion of clinical, documentation, didactic, and administrative requirements
- Completion of Fellowship Project

Administrative Policies and Procedures

Time Requirements

The fellowship is a one-year experience, beginning on or about September 1 and ending August 31. The fellow is expected to work a 40-hr. week, accumulating 2080 hours over 12-months, minus approved annual leave, sick leave, and approved absence.

Stipend

The annual stipend is \$47,804.00 paid over 26 biweekly pay periods.

Benefits

VA fellows are eligible for health, dental, and vision insurance (for self, married spouse, and legal dependents). Onsite urgent medical care is also available for free through Employee Health. As temporary employees, fellows may not participate in VA retirement or insurance programs. State and federal income tax and FICA (Social Security) are withheld. When providing professional services at a VA healthcare facility, VA sponsored trainees acting within the scope of their educational programs are protected from personal liability under the Federal Employees Liability Reform and Tort Compensation Act 28, U.S.C.2679 (b)-(d).

Holidays and Leave

Fellows accrue 4 hours annual and 4 hours sick leave for each two-week pay period for a total of 13 vacation and 13 sick days per year. In addition, the fellow receives 10 paid Federal holidays. Requests for educational leave (approved absence) are granted for participation in conferences, conventions, or special outside trainings up to 40 hrs. (5 days).

Due Process Statement

The training staff and director attempt to address all problems and complaints at the lowest possible level in a manner that is most supportive to all parties. Formal procedures are used only when standard supervisory approaches have proven unsuccessful in resolving an issue. The fellow will receive a training manual at the beginning of the training year, which details specific policies regarding grievance options and procedures, due process with regard to fellow performance or professional functioning issues, and other relevant policies related to the medical center and the training program specifically.

Collecting Personal Information

Clear privacy policy: We will collect no personal information about you when you visit our website.

Training Staff

Core Training Faculty (members of Post-doctoral training sub-committee)

NYASANU A. BARBEE, Ph.D.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare Center – North Little Rock, AR

Assignment: Primary Care Mental Health – Integration, C&P Clinic

LAUREN FITZGERALD, Psy.D.

Long Island University, C.W. Post Campus

Assignment: Community Living Centers; Women's Wellness Center

DEIRDRA F. FRUM, Psy.D.

La Salle University

Postdoctoral Fellowship in Primary Care Mental Health at VA NY Harbor Medical Center, NY

Assignment: Primary Care Mental Health – Integration, Assistant Training Director Clinical Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship

STEPHEN LONG, Ph.D.

California School of Professional Psychology

Post-Doctoral Certificate in Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy, Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Adelphi University

Assignment: Post-Deployment Readjustment Program, Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND); Training Committee; Evidence Based Treatment Coordinator

MELODY MILLANDO-WIRTEASON, Ph.D.

Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Adelphi University

Assignment: Post-Deployment Readjustment Program, Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND)

JOANNE D.TAYLOR, Ph.D.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

Assignment: Health Behavior Coordinator; Training Director Clinical Psychology

Postdoctoral Fellowship; Lead Clinician for Tobacco Cessation; Consultant for OMH MI/MET Program; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Stony Brook University SOM; PACT Learning Center of Excellence Faculty

MATHEW WILLIAMS, Ph.D.
Stony Brook University
Assignment: Primary Care Mental Health - Integration

Additional Training Faculty

MARY CAVANAGH, M.D., MPH
Albany Medical College, Columbia University
Assignment: Preventive Medicine Physician, Health Promotion Disease Prevention Program Manager (HPDP-PM), Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Preventive Medicine, Stony Brook University SOM, Site Supervisor for Preventive Medicine Residency at Stony Brook University SOM, PACT Learning Center of Excellence Faculty Member

MICHELLE CASTELLANO, Ph.D. – Nova Southeastern University
Assignment: Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program, PTSD Residential and Outpatient Program

WILLIAM CHENEY, Ph.D. – New School for Social Research
Assignment: Psychology Testing Center, Neuropsychology, Training Committee

JANET ESCHEN, Ph.D.
Fordham University
Assignment: Training Director; Program Director, Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program

ERIN KODE, Psy.D. – Regent University
Assignment: Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program

TRACY FRENCH, Ph.D. – Argosy University
Assignment: Dual Diagnosis Recovery Center, Training Committee

MICHAEL MARINO, Ph.D. – Bowling Green State University
Assignment: Chief, Psychology Service

ELSA MIRASOL, M.D. – Cebu Institute of Medicine, Philippines
Residency Training in Psychiatry at Creedmoor Psychiatric Center, NY, Fellowship in Psychosomatic Medicine at NYU Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center, NY
Board Certified in Adult Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine
Assignment: Primary Care Mental Health – Integration; Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, Stony Brook University SOM

LOUIS MORA, Ph.D. – St. John's University

Assignment: Acute Admissions Units

MARGARET RAYNE, Psy.D. – Long Island University, C. W. Post Campus
Assignment: Program Director, Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC); Training Committee

AMY SCOTT, PSY.D. – Nova Southeastern University
Assignment: Community Living Centers; Community Based Outpatient Clinics

AMY TAL, Ph.D. – Fordham University
Assignment: Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center (PRRC); Assistant Training Director

MAUREEN WELSH, Ph.D. – Derner Institute of Advanced Psychological Studies, Adelphi University
Assignment: Community Living Centers

Consulting Faculty

STERLING ALEXANDER, M.D. – Ross University School of Medicine
Board Certification in Internal Medicine
Assignment: Northport VA Primary Care Medicine

BRIAN BRONSON, M.D.
New York University
Residency Training and Chief Resident in Psychiatry at New York University, Dual-fellowship in Public Psychiatry at Columbia University with Consultation & Liaison/Primary Care Psychiatry at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.
Board Certification in Psychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine
Assignment: Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry, Director of Consultation and Liaison Psychiatry Stony Brook School of Medicine

CARLOS NUNEZ, M.D. – Stony Brook University School of Medicine
Assignment: Northport VA Endocrinology

MANDAR TANK, M.D. – Stony Brook University School of Medicine
Board Certification in Internal Medicine
Assignment: Northport VA Associate Chief of Staff for Primary Care and Emergency Department