



Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center

Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center (CTPHC) is a Maximum-Security inpatient facility, commonly referred to as Maryland's forensic psychiatric hospital. The hospital is situated on a forty-five acre tract one mile south of Jessup on Dorsey Run Road. (<https://health.maryland.gov>).

History: By an act of the General Assembly approved by the Governor on May 5, 1959, Maryland authorized the creation of a "Maximum Security Hospital" to be built in Jessup. It was named after Dr. Clifton T. Perkins, a distinguished psychiatrist who arrived in Maryland from Boston with a mission to reform the conditions in our public hospitals.

The maximum-security area of the hospital constructed in 1959 was built on two levels with six wings jutting into a recreation yard and surrounded by a large wall. Between 1972 and 1984, three additional wings were added: the Rehabilitation Wing, the Administration Building and an eighty-bed Medium Security Wing. In October of 1994, the Stuart B. Silver Wing of CTPHC was completed. Stuart B. Silver, for whom the Silver Wing of the hospital is named, is a past director of the Mental Hygiene Administration and was once the Superintendent of CTPHC. This wing houses the admission ward, five residential wards, a medical clinic, dining facility, chapel, library, conference center, family visiting rooms, and gymnasium. This wing replaces the original 1959 structure. In 2003 the newly renovated Rehabilitation Wing was reopened.

Patients Served: CTPHC receives patients requiring psychiatric evaluation who have been accused of felonies and have raised the Not Criminally Responsible (NCR) defense and/or their Competency to Stand Trial is in question. CTPHC provides treatment to offenders who have been adjudicated NCR and/or Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST) and CTPHC accepts, by transfer, felony inmates from correctional facilities who meet the criteria for involuntary commitment (IVA). Additionally, CTPHC accepts patients from other State Regional Psychiatric Hospitals whose behavior is violent and aggressive. Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center is licensed for 285 beds and is accredited by The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (TJC).

Hospital Organization: CTPHC implements a multidisciplinary model for treatment care, which include psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, activity therapists, occupational therapists, music therapists, art therapists, somatic physicians, pharmacists, nursing, and more.

Patients can advance through the hospital levels of security from maximum to medium to minimum with increased privileges as they earn more advanced clinical status.

Hospital Mission: As Maryland's maximum-security forensic psychiatric hospital, our mission is to provide the following services in a non-discriminatory basis:

- Quality assessment of recovery based trauma informed care for all patients;
- Timely pretrial evaluations of defendants referred by the judicial circuit of Maryland; and
- Maximum-security custody of patients to ensure public safety.

Hospital Vision: To be the premier forensic psychiatric hospital that provides effective and efficient assessment and treatment to patients requiring hospitalization within a secure and therapeutic environment.

Hospital Values:

- Safety
- Integrity
- Competency
- Just Culture
- Diversity
- Innovation

The Psychology Department: The mission of the psychology department is to provide, through a variety of psychological modalities and interventions, to all patients of CTPHC and to the Courts of the State of Maryland, psychological services that promote recovery, and are objective, timely, trauma-informed and client-centered. Psychologists are assigned to a ward where they function as a member of the multidisciplinary treatment team. Psychologists provide psychological evaluations, risk assessments, personality and intellectual assessments, behavioral interventions, treatment planning/consultation, individual psychotherapy, and group treatment. In addition, they provide pre-trial evaluations and can be called upon for case presentations and court testimony.

Clinical Psychology Externship: The CTPHC Psychology Department externship program offers an opportunity for 4th year pre-doctoral students from APA-accredited Clinical Psychology Programs to gain clinical experience in a unique and very challenging forensic psychiatric setting. Two to three students are selected each year for a nine-month advanced practicum where they are assigned two clinical supervisors (one for treatment, and one for assessments). Externs follow a rigorous program that helps them gain training and experience in various areas of clinical practice including treatment planning, behavioral interventions, individual and group psychotherapy, psychological testing, and specific forensic issues. CTPHC is an inpatient facility and all services are provided onsite. Routine infection prevention and control practices as recommended by the CDC and the Howard County Department are in place to enhance detection and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Applicants are encouraged to submit the following materials electronically:

1. A cover letter indicating interest
2. Curriculum Vitae
3. 2 Letters of reference
4. A de-identified psychological evaluation

Talibah E. Buchanan, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist
Psychology Department Director of Training
8450 Dorsey Run Road
Jessup, MD 20794
410-724-3065
Talibah.Buchanan@maryland.gov