Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Psychology Department

Psy.-D. Externship Training Program

Application Process:

Please submit, via email, a cover letter with stated interest, current CV, unofficial transcript, one writing sample, and two letters of recommendation to Mary Henry at maryland.gov. Letters of recommendations will be emailed directly from the author. Applications are welcome from January 1-March 31. Virtual interviews will be by invitation. 1-2 externs will be accepted into the training program.

Training Program:

DPSCS offers advanced training placement for psychology graduate students who are interested in clinical work with a forensic population. Externs will be able to engage in multi-disciplinary collaboration with psychiatry, social work, case management, and custody staff to coordinate care to incarcerated persons. Clinical activities will include clinical rounding on the acute treatment unit, conducting individual and group therapy on the Special Needs Unit, attending weekly treatment team meetings, creating and monitoring treatment plans, and participating in case conferences. Externs will be asked to commit approximately 16 hours a week to practicum training which will run from late August until early June.

Services Provided:

Externs will be providing clinical services across several different units to include the Correctional Mental Health Units, Step-Down Units, and/or the Transition Unit located at Baltimore Central Booking and Intake Center (BCBIC) or in the Jessup Region (Maryland Correctional Institute- Women and Patuxent Institution). Externs will be providing clinical and behavior interventions to incarcerated persons housed in acute treatment units to include individual therapy, group therapy, psycho-education, clinical rounding, and participating in treatment teams. Additionally, externs will be asked to document within the department's Electronic Health Record after each clinical encounter.

Supervision:

Externs receive 1-2 hours/week of individual supervision by a licensed psychologist which may occur in person or via zoom. In addition, they will observe clinical encounters and rounding, and be observed conducting clinical encounters. Externs will have access to the supervisor when needed with increased autonomy as knowledge and skills increase.

Population Served:

DPSCS serves incarcerated persons across the state of Maryland presenting with a variety of concerns including Serious Mental Illness (SMI), personality disorders, and acute suicidality.

Additional Requirements:

DPSCS does require the completion of a background check as well as a week-long training conducted at the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Academy in Sykesville, MD.