Child & Family Guidance Center

(Previously known as the San Fernando Valley Child Guidance Clinic)

FAMILY STRESS CENTER
16861 Parthenia Street
North Hills, CA 91343
Phone: (818) 830-0200
Fax: (818) 830-0206

Postdoctoral Residency Training Program in Child Abuse and Trauma

The focus of the postdoctoral residency is to provide comprehensive and in-depth training on the issues and treatment of child abuse and trauma. The postdoctoral resident will have the opportunity to develop clinical and assessment skills with children who have experienced sexual and/or physical abuse or are at risk of abuse and neglect. The postdoctoral resident will also participate in a variety of training seminars and intensive supervision and will begin to learn the skills involved in providing supervision to psychology trainees. Postdoctoral residents will have a broad range of additional opportunities to learn and strengthen skills that they will need as professional psychologists. These may include training in forensic and/or sexual abuse evaluations, community outreach, providing in-service presentations to trainees and conducting research projects.

The typical program will include the following weekly requirements:

Direct Services

- Individual/Family Psychotherapy
- Group Treatment
- Psychodiagnostic Assessments
- Sexual Abuse/Forensic Evaluations
- Intake Assessments
- Outreach Opportunities (optional)
- On-call Duties

Training

- Counter Transference and the Therapeutic Process
- Supervision Training
- Assessment of Sexual Knowledge
- Advanced Psycho-diagnostic/Forensic Assessment
- Postdoctoral Professional Issues
- Professional Development & Staff Meeting
- Monthly In-service at Northridge site (optional)
- Monthly Research Meeting (optional)

Supervision

- Receive individual supervision of individual/family cases
- Receive pre- and post-group supervision
- Provide weekly individual supervision to practicum level student(s)
- Supervise group co-therapist/volunteer(s)
- Provide in-service presentations to other trainees and staff

Treatment Program Options

- Abuse Reactive Program
- Crisis Program
- DCFS Program
- Early Intervention Program
- Family Therapy Program
- Offsite School Services
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy Program

Group Treatment Options

- Abuse Reactive Children or Caregiver Groups
- Abuse Reactive Challenged Youth Group
- Adolescent Girls or Caregivers Sex Abuse Groups
- Bereavement/Loss Family Group
- Boys Sex Abuse Group or Caregivers Group
- Early Intervention Group
- Family Violence Group or Caregivers Group
- Foster Placement Group or Caregivers Group
    - Hugs N Kids Group or Caregivers Group
    - Latency Girls Sex Abuse Group or Caregivers Group
    - Social Skills Boys or Girls Group
    - Teen Relationship Group for Boys or Girls
    - Teen Relationship Caregiver Group

Postdoctoral Residency Training Program with Specialty in Infant & Early Childhood Trauma Treatment

(Applicants for this specialty must be Bilingual in Spanish)

The focus of the postdoctoral residency with a specialization in infant and early childhood trauma treatment is to provide comprehensive and in-depth training on the issues and treatment of child abuse and trauma for infants and young children under age 5. The postdoctoral resident will have the opportunity to develop clinical and assessment skills with children who have experienced sexual and/or physical abuse or are at risk of abuse and neglect. This practice-based program provides in-depth experiences in the most current procedures for providing intervention services to young trauma victims and their families. The postdoctoral resident will also participate in a variety of training seminars and intensive supervision. Postdoctoral residents will learn state of the art early intervention theory and practice including:

- Infant & Young Child Development
- Understanding Parenting, Family Functioning, and Infant/Preschooler-Parent Relationships
- Biological & Psychosocial Factors Affecting Outcomes in Infants & Young Children
- Understanding High-Risk Influences on Early Relationships
- Risk and Resiliency
- Observation, Screening, Assessment, Diagnosis, and Intervention
    - Diagnosing using DC 0-3R
    - Developmental/Relationship-Focused Intervention
    - Play-Based Developmental Assessment
    - Individualized Family Service Plans
- Parent Education
- Family Support
- Service Coordination

The typical program will include the following weekly requirements:

Direct Services

- Early Intervention Cases (ages 0-5)
- Individual/Family Psychotherapy
- Group Treatment
- Psychodiagnostic Screenings
- Sexual Abuse/Forensic Evaluations
- Intake Assessments
- Outreach Opportunities (optional)
- On-call Duties

Training

- Counter Transference and the Therapeutic Process
- Assessment of Sexual Knowledge
- Advanced Psycho-diagnostic/Forensic Assessment (option in 2nd year)
- Postdoctoral Professional Issues
- Professional Development & Staff Meeting
- Monthly In-service at Northridge site (optional)
- Attachment & Child Development Seminar
- In-home Services
- Monthly Research Meeting (optional)

Supervision

- Receive individual supervision of individual/family cases
- Group supervision in Early Intervention Seminar
- Receive pre- and post-group supervision
- Supervise group co-therapist/volunteer(s)

Group Treatment Options

- Abuse Reactive Children or Caregiver Groups
- Abuse Reactive Challenged Youth Group
- Adolescent Girls or Caregivers Sex Abuse Groups
    - Bereavement/Loss Family Group
    - Boys Sex Abuse Group or Caregivers Group
    - Early Intervention Group
    - Family Violence Group or Caregivers Group
    - Foster Placement Group or Caregivers Group
- Hugs N Kids Group or Caregivers Group
- Latency Girls Sex Abuse Group or Caregivers Group
- Social Skills Boys or Girls Group
- Teen Relationship Group for Boys or Girls
- Teen Relationship Caregiver Group

Some common questions about the program:

When does the training program begin?
The postdoctoral residency is a full-year program that commences at the beginning of September and continues until the end of August.

Is the postdoctoral program full-time?
Yes. The postdoctoral resident is required to work 40 hours per week. Two weeks vacation is allotted during the training year with sick time as necessary. The Center is closed between Christmas Eve and New Years Day. There may be opportunities for half-time positions that would be spread out over a longer time period.

Is there any stipend?
Yes. Stipends start at $30,000 but may go higher depending upon skills and level of experience.

Are there any particular days or hours required?
Residents will be expected to be at the Center five days per week, at least two to three evenings per week to meet the needs of our working clients and late-afternoon and evening group treatment times. The seminar schedule will also dictate the day or days required. The Center is open Monday through Friday 8:30AM to 9:00PM. It will also be open on Saturdays allowing the resident to substitute Saturday appointments for some evening hours. Some on-call responsibilities will be required.

Is there some flexibility in the kinds of activities/opportunities that the postdoctoral resident may have?
Yes. The program will be tailored to meet the individual training needs of the postdoctoral resident.

What is the application process?

Please fax or send the following information to:

Jennifer Vargas Carmona, Ph.D.
Director of Training
Family Stress Center
16861 Parthenia Street
North Hills, CA 91343
Fax: (818) 830-0206
Phone: (818) 830-0200

1. A cover letter expressing why you are interested in our training program.
2. Curriculum Vita
3. 3 Letters of Reference (preferably from internship and practicum placements)
4. Sample of a complete Psychodiagnostic Evaluation

Interviews with applicants who will be considered for the program will be scheduled after a review of the above materials.