

Internship Program in Clinical Psychology

APPIC Member since 2006

Revised: January 6, 2009

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

South Campus Day School (SCDS) is a private therapeutic day school that was founded in 2001 to serve students in Southern Lake and Northern Cook Counties who are in need of an alternative school program, which is supportive, therapeutic and educational. The program serves students between the ages of 6 and 21 years. SCDS utilizes educational, therapeutic, family and community connections to promote academic achievement and personal/emotional growth. The staff at SCDS is fully committed to helping each student make academic progress and develop the skills and behaviors necessary to succeed back in their home school or in a less-restrictive environment. The staff has found that the development of supportive, nurturing relationships with all students is integral to this process.

Ms. Betty Lindquist and Dr. John Schuler, and Mr. Tom Dempsey founders of the program, chose to base the mission of SCDS on philosophical principles similar to those held at Counseling Connection a multi-disciplinary group practice, specializing in the therapeutic needs of children, adolescents and adults. The professionals at Counseling Connection (founded by Ms. Lindquist and Dr. Schuler) have been serving the community since 1981, and have worked closely with the schools, courts and social service agencies of Lake and Northern Cook Counties.

With regard to treatment philosophies, the clinical staff of SCDS uses a cognitive-behavioral/problem-solving approach as well as narrative principles to help students overcome problems at hand, practice more successful behavioral alternatives and explore ways to “re-write” their frequently negative life stories. Our goal is to work with students to build on their strengths and gifts, and fight with them against their weaknesses and obstacles. The environment is based in a positive nurturing model where “natural consequences” for behaviors are frequently utilized. SCDS avoids using restrictive and punitive methods of behavioral management and does not have a time-out room. Physical management/restraint is only employed as a last resort, when the child is determined to be a danger to her/himself or others.

II. TRAINING GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

South Campus is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). The Pre-Doctoral Internship program in Clinical Psychology at the South Campus Day School has been designed to help interns acquire and refine their clinical skills in key areas of practice, while functioning as a valued member of a multi-disciplinary team. There is an emphasis on training in fundamental clinical skills with a primary focus on individual, group and family therapy. Interns are provided with opportunities to work with frequently

challenging/complicated children, adolescents and their families who often exhibit a wide range of emotional and behavioral issues. Interns also get an opportunity to work with people of all ages, and diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. There are two on-site licensed Clinical Psychologists. Supervision is provided by Licensed Clinical Psychologists as well as, other training staff. The internship program is therapy based, thus formal diagnostic opportunities are not available to the Interns.

The primary training goal/objective is to promote interns' professional growth in such a way that, they feel more confident in their ability to function as Clinical mental health providers, with the ability to practice in accordance with the highest standards of care.

III. CLINICAL WORK, SUPERVISION AND TRAINING

- Individual, group and family treatment with children and adolescents.
- Conducting Monthly parent's support group meetings.
- Attending multi-disciplinary staffings for students.
- Writing and presenting Treatment Summaries and Social Developmental Histories for these staffings.
- 2 hours of individual and 2 hours of group supervision per week with a licensed clinical psychologist and other clinical staff.
- Monthly meetings with SCDS's consulting psychiatrist regarding students assigned to the intern.
- "All Staff Meetings" – three days a week from 7:45 - 8:15 a.m. to discuss the day's events, problem solve and develop plans for the future.
- "Institute Days" - in-school staff training which covers school-related, therapeutic and behavioral topics and interventions.
- Providing therapeutic support and coverage during the Extended Day program until 5:30 p.m. at a minimum of twice a week.
- Providing Family therapy at a minimum of one evening a week.

IV. INTERNSHIP FORMAT

- 12 consecutive months (which is interspersed with holidays, winter & spring vacations and abbreviated summer school calendar). 40 hours minimum per week. 7:45am - 3:45pm unless scheduled for Extended Day clinical coverage or Family therapy evening) Monday - Friday is required.
- Interns are required to participate in a minimum of 2000 hours of supervised clinical experience throughout the year; this time is spent in direct service, indirect service, training and supervision.
- Interns are expected to spend at least 800 hours in direct, face-to-face student service.
- Traditionally the internship program would begin at the start of the academic year (late August); however, alternate start dates may be required.

V. EVALUATION

Evaluation is an active, ongoing process throughout the internship period. All evaluations will entail an active discussion, regarding areas of strength and weakness, between student and supervisor. Formal, written evaluations will occur every six months throughout the course of the internship year. These evaluations will be filled out by the Clinical Director/Supervisor and will be reviewed, in detail, with the Intern. Any serious concerns will be discussed with both the student and the other training staff. Please see Due Process Documentation for a full explanation of procedures.

VI. INTERNSHIP BENEFITS

- \$15,000.00 stipend for the year.
- Free South Campus lunch daily.
- Free Parking.
- School hours (7:45am - 3:45pm, Monday - Friday) 197 days a year and vacation time (2 weeks for winter, 1 week for spring, 1 month for summer and all national holidays).
- 16 Sick Days and 2 Personal Days for the year.
- Interns are covered under the school's liability insurance

VII. CLINICAL STAFF

John L. Schuler, Psy.D.

Illinois School of Professional Psychology

Licensed Clinical Psychologist / Founder - Administration / Supervisor

Beth Becker, M.S. Ed., Psy.D.

Illinois School of Professional Psychology

Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Clinical Director / Training Director

Michael Greenbaum, M.D.

Board Certified Psychiatry and Child/Adolescent Psychiatry

University of Illinois-College of Medicine

Sol Rappaport, Ph.D.

DePaul University

Licensed Clinical Psychologist / Psychodiagnostician

Charloette Edwards, Psy.D.

Forest Institute of Professional Psychology

Licensed Clinical Psychologist / Psychodiagnostician

VIII. APPLICATION PROCESS

Students from doctoral level clinical psychology training programs, who have met all the requirements of their program for application for internship, must submit the following materials by November 15th prior to their internship year:

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE IN ONE ENVELOPE

- Completed APPIC Application.
- All graduate school transcripts.
- Letter from Director of Clinical Training attesting to eligibility for entry into the internship process.
- Three letters of recommendation (sealed and signed across the back).
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Letter outlining professional goals and interests and how this internship site meets those criteria.

This information must be forwarded by mail or fax to:

Beth Becker, Psy.D.

Clinical Director / Director of Clinical Training

South Campus Day School

909 E. Wilmette Road, Suite F

Palatine, IL 60074

Fax Number: (847) 359-8301

Note: If you choose to fax your information, please mail a hard copy of all documents as well.