



Child and Family Guidance Center
TRAINING DEPARTMENT
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY PRACTICUM PROGRAM

Contact:
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MFT Practicum Program Coordinator
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Child and Family Guidance Center provides psychotherapeutic services to a diverse population of children and youth from infancy to adulthood and their families many of whom are from underserved populations. Our clients have moderate to severe behavioral, social and emotional challenges, and present with a broad range of diagnoses, including but not limited to ADHD, Trauma, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depression, Anxiety, and Psychotic Disorders. Many of our clients have a history of abuse, neglect, drug and/or alcohol use, involvement with law enforcement, hospitalizations, and residential treatment. Referrals are received from schools, pediatricians, DCFS, Probation Departments, Police Departments, and many other community agencies, as well as self-referrals.

Our MFT practicum program is designed to give students a valuable learning experience, and develop clinical skills within a community-based mental health agency. Opportunities include: direct client, group, and family services, case management services, weekly individual and group supervision, consultation and collaboration with treatment team members, monthly MFT seminar, agency-wide trainings and Department of Mental Health documentation training and practice. We offer 3-5 positions based out of 1 of our 3 locations, 2 in Northridge and one in Palmdale. Due to the cultural and linguistic needs of our client population, applicants who are fluently bilingual in English and Spanish are strongly preferred.

In order to apply please submit the following to Jessica A. Reina, Psy.D. at jreina@childguidance.org:

1. A cover letter expressing why you are interested in our training program. If you have a preference, please indicate which site you would prefer (Balboa and Northridge Outpatient Services are located in Northridge; Palmdale Outpatient Services are located in Palmdale).
2. Curriculum Vitae / Resumé
3. Two to Three letters of Reference

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1) When does the training program begin?

The training year begins the first week of August and continues until July 31 or November 31 of the following year depending on the graduate school requirements. Please note that there will be some flexibility with the start date if needed. You will be allowed two weeks vacation time during the training year, with sick time as necessary but not to exceed 16.5 hours. The Center is closed the week between Christmas Eve and New Year. The first 2-4 weeks are focused on orientation and includes administrative and clinical training. All students are required to attend all orientation days.

2) Am I required to be at the Center on any particular day?

Yes, students need to attend the days that group supervision and Training Seminar occur (dates TBD).

3) Is there a possibility of arranging our work schedule so that we are at the Center for only two days?

The group supervision, the training seminar, and the client schedules (often after-school hours) and room availability may not allow you to come only two days a week. You will be expected to be at the Center at least two evenings a week until 8:00 p.m. since most caregivers work and children are in school earlier in the day. The center's hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Fridays. We may be able to offer Saturday morning hours in the SFV as well.

4) Application Process Timeline

Open Application Period 3/1/2024 - 5/31/2024

Interviews 3/1/2024 - 6/30/2024

5) Important Information Needed from Your School

CFGC has established relationships and Memorandums of Understanding with specific schools. This is a requirement in order for us to be able to have a student at our site. Please check with your school if there has been one established, and if not, please keep in mind that this will need to be completed before the start of a practicum with us.

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