

County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

Student Professional Development Program

Valley Coordinated Children's Services

Psychology

Practicum

Specialization: Child and Family Outpatient Treatment

DMH Agency:	Valley Coordinated Children's Services (VCCS)	
DMH Agency Address:	19231 Victory Boulevard, Suite 110 Reseda, CA 91335	Service Area #2
DMH Agency Liaison:	Dr. Stacy Becker	
New or Returning:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Returning	
Liaison Email Address:	sbecker@dmh.lacounty.gov	
Liaison Phone Number:	818/708-4500	
Liaison Fax Number:	818/301-2363	
Agency ADA accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If "No" identify:	

Student Requirements:

How many positions will you have?	2
Beginning and ending dates:	August - June

Student Schedule: Tuesday through Friday

<i>Please indicate days and times students should be available to provide services, including mandatory staff meetings (SM), training seminars (TR), supervision (SUP), etc.</i>	
Monday	All hours will be between 9am and 6:30pm specific hours TBD
Tuesday	Mandatory Day
Wednesday	
Thursday	
Friday	

Total hours expected to be worked per week:	16-20 hours (based graduate program)
Number of direct client hours per week anticipated:	10
Expected average consumer caseload:	5
What cultural groups typically received services at your site?	Diverse

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Description of Site: *(Please describe the type of Agency setting and services offered)*

VCCS provides outpatient mental health treatment to youth under 18 and their primary caregivers. The agency provides crisis assessment, individual therapy, collateral parenting support, school advocacy, case management and linkage services. Trainees learn thorough crisis evaluation skills as well as how to think conceptually about the whole child, intervening with the youth, caregivers, the school, and any other systems with which the family is involved. Trainees are encouraged to be proactive in the engagement and maintenance of their clients, going the extra mile to meet the client and family where they are at. This is not a “throw-you-in” site. Trainees receive lots of support and supervision. By the time trainees complete their year, they will be able to informally present cases in a coherent and organized manner while justifying the given diagnoses. They will work with psychiatrists and gain a basic working knowledge of medications prescribed for children and adolescents.

Target population and types of services provided: *(please check all that apply)*

<input type="checkbox"/> Individuals	<input type="checkbox"/> Psychoeducational groups (e.g. Parenting)
<input type="checkbox"/> Groups	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Outreach
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brief treatment to mid-term treatment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children & Adolescents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Long term treatment
<input type="checkbox"/> Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crisis Intervention
<input type="checkbox"/> Older Adults	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening and Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Court/Probation referred	<input type="checkbox"/> Psych Testing (For psychology students only)
<input type="checkbox"/> Consultation/Liaison	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):

What are the most frequent diagnostic categories of your client population?

Psychotic Disorders, Anxiety Disorders, Mood Disorders, and Developmental Disorders.

What specific (perhaps unique) training opportunities do students have at your agency?

Strong training in crisis evaluation and on accurate differential diagnosis as well as how to assess different levels of suicidality and risk in youth and how to respond accordingly.

What evidence based practices or theoretical orientations will students be exposed to at this site?

Ecological Model, Family Systems, Psychodynamic, Pragmatic (being reality-based)

Do students have the opportunity to work in a multidisciplinary team environment that includes those with lived experience?

The multidisciplinary team consists of LCSWs, LMFTs, Psychologists and Psychiatrists. There is significant collaboration with schools and community agencies.

List locations where students will be providing services **other than agency?**

Services will be provided only in the agency and may be provided in person or using a telehealth video platform.

Does your agency allow students to videotape and/or audiotape clients for the purpose of presenting cases in their academic classes? Yes No

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Supervision: *What types of supervision will be provided for the students and what is the licensure/discipline of the supervisor? Please specify below.*

Type	Hours Per Week	On Site Supervisors Degree/Discipline
Individual:	1-2 or as needed	Licensed Clinical Psychologist, LCSW
Group:	1	

What is the minimum ratio of supervision to client contact hours?

1 hour per 5 client hours

Does your agency require a particular range of previous experience or specific prerequisite coursework? *If so, please explain.*

Mature and sturdy candidates typically do better in this setting. Trainees who are willing to be open in supervision and about what they understand and what they do not are desirable. This is a challenging site but one in which the learning curve is steep.

Agency Application Process

Mandatory requirements: *Only students from academic institutions who have a current affiliation agreement with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health may be extended a placement opportunity. All students are processed through Human Resources Bureau. All prospective interns must obtain live scan clearance. All interns are required to complete a mandatory HIPAA Compliance and Sexual Harassment Prevention Training as part as the terms of their internship.*

DMH Staff/Field Instructor completing this form:

Dr. Stacy Becker, Psy.D. _____

Title: Supervising Psychologist

Email: sbecker@dmh.lacounty.gov

Date: 11/18/2022

Program Manager: Luis Periera, LCSW

District Chief: Jesus Romero, III

Both Program Manager and Chief agree to students accepted at this site.

Electronic Signature: Stacy Becker, Psy.D.

Date: 11/18/2022