`County of Los Angeles Department of Mental Health

Student Professional Development Program

American Indian Counseling Center (AICC)

Psychology

☒Internship/☒Practicum

Specialization:

Specialty Mental Health Services; Specialized focus on American Indian/Alaska Native/ Indigenous Population

DMH Agency:	**American Indian Counseling Center (AICC)**	
DMH Agency Address:	10330 Pioneer Blvd Ste 215 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670	**Service Area** **#7**
DMH Agency Liaison:	Daniel Gautreau, Psy.D.	
New or Returning:	☒ New ☐ Returning	
Liaison Email Address:	DGautreau@dmh.lacounty.gov	
Liaison Phone Number:	213-561-0903	
Liaison Fax Number:	323-544-0967	
Agency ADA accessible	☒ Yes ☐ No If "No" identify:	

Student Requirements:

How many positions will you have?	1
Beginning and ending dates:	Academic Year

Student Schedule: Tuesday through Friday

Please indicate days and times students should be available to provide services, including mandatory staff meetings (SM), training seminars (TR), supervision (SUP), etc.	
Monday	8-5pm
Tuesday	8-5pm
Wednesday	8-5pm
Thursday	8-5pm
Friday	N/A

Total hours expected to be worked per week:	16
Number of direct client hours per week anticipated:	8-10
Expected average consumer caseload:	16 – Providing bi-weekly therapy
What cultural groups typically receive services at your site?	AI/AN, Latinx, Black/African-American,

	White, Asian

Student Professional Development Program

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

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) American Indian Counseling Center (AICC) is a countywide outpatient behavioral health program providing culturally responsive mental health services to individuals and families from birth through older adulthood throughout Los Angeles County. While AICC serves clients across the lifespan, this psychology training position is specifically assigned to the Adult Team, serving adults ages 26 and older.

AICC seeks to provide Native American individuals and families with a safe and welcoming environment where mental well-being is fostered, connection with cultural heritage is strengthened, and diverse tribal backgrounds and identities are respected and honored. Services are grounded in the values of hope, empowerment, and community fellowship. The program supports clients in envisioning meaningful futures, building upon individual and cultural strengths, and developing a sense of connection and belonging through culturally responsive care. While AICC has a specialized mission and expertise in serving American Indian/Alaska Native communities, services are welcoming and accessible to individuals from diverse cultural backgrounds.

AICC provides a broad range of behavioral health and supportive services, including individual and family psychotherapy; culturally relevant support groups; crisis intervention; psychiatric evaluation, medication support, and physician consultation; co-occurring mental health and substance use treatment; case management; and advocacy. Case management services may include assistance with housing, Medi-Cal, Medicare, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and connection to other community resources.

The agency also provides community-based services for foster youth and families, including therapy, case management, support, and advocacy. Through its Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs, AICC provides intensive, community-based services for children, youth, adults, and older adults who require a higher level of support. Referrals and linkages to Native community resources, cultural activities, and community events are incorporated when appropriate.

Psychology trainees assigned to the Adult Team have the opportunity to work with adults ages 26 and older presenting with a range of behavioral health needs and psychosocial stressors. The training environment emphasizes culturally responsive, trauma-informed, person-centered care while providing exposure to interdisciplinary collaboration, clinical assessment, treatment planning, psychotherapy, care coordination, crisis assessment and intervention, and community-based behavioral health services within a large public mental health system.

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

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

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

Chronic Mentally Ill (i.e. schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, etc.), unhoused, substance use, in addition to PTSD.

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

Psychology students at the American Indian Counseling Center (AICC) have the unique opportunity to receive culturally responsive clinical training within a program specifically designed to serve American Indian/Alaska Native communities. Students are provided opportunities to participate in trainings related to Native American cultures, histories, traditions, values, and contemporary experiences, with an emphasis on understanding how culture, historical and intergenerational trauma, community, family systems, and cultural identity may intersect with behavioral health and healing. Students also learn the importance of recognizing the diversity among tribal communities and avoiding a one-size-fits-all approach to culturally responsive care. In addition to the cultural component, students gain experience working within the Los Angeles County public mental health system and serving a diverse adult population with a wide range of clinical presentations and levels of need. Training opportunities may include clinical assessment, diagnosis, treatment planning, individual and group psychotherapy, crisis assessment and intervention, case consultation, and coordination of care.

Students also have exposure to an interdisciplinary team that may include psychologists, therapists, psychiatrists, nurses, case managers, and other behavioral health professionals. This provides opportunities to develop skills in consultation, collaboration, advocacy, and understanding the impact of social determinants of health on clients' overall well-being.

AICC's countywide service model further provides students with exposure to community-based and culturally responsive approaches to behavioral health care. Students are encouraged to consider the whole person—including cultural identity, family and community connections, environmental stressors, strengths, and available resources—when conceptualizing cases and developing treatment interventions.

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

Psychology students will be exposed to a range of evidence-based practices and theoretical approaches, with an emphasis on culturally responsive and trauma-informed care. Primary approaches utilized at the site include Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT). Students may develop skills in applying CBT interventions to address patterns of thoughts, emotions, and behaviors, as well as DBT-informed strategies related to emotion regulation, distress tolerance, mindfulness, and interpersonal effectiveness.

Students will also have opportunities to strengthen their skills in clinical assessment, case conceptualization, diagnosis, and treatment planning. Under the supervision and guidance of the site's licensed psychologist, students may receive exposure to psychological assessment, including the selection and administration of appropriate assessment measures, interpretation of results, integration of clinical information, and development of clinically meaningful recommendations, as appropriate to the student's level of training and scope of practice.

Across theoretical approaches, students are encouraged to consider cultural identity, historical and intergenerational experiences, family and community systems, strengths, and other contextual factors when conceptualizing cases and selecting interventions. Evidence-based practices are therefore integrated within AICC's broader commitment to culturally responsive, person-centered care.

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

Yes. Students have the opportunity to work within a multidisciplinary team that includes licensed psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, LMFTs, case managers, substance use counselors, and other behavioral health professionals with lived experience. Students participate in consultation and collaboration across disciplines, providing exposure to different professional perspectives and approaches to client care. AICC's culturally responsive model also emphasizes the importance of client, family, and community perspectives in treatment planning and service delivery.

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

Services are primarily provided on-site at the American Indian Counseling Center. Depending on client needs, program requirements, and the student's training activities, students may have opportunities to participate in field- or community-based services at appropriate locations throughout Los Angeles County.

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

Yes, with documented consent from the participants using DMH's Consent to Photograph/Audio Record form.

Student Professional Development Program

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 Supervisor Degree/Discipline
Individual:	1	Psy.D./ Clinical Psychologist
Group:	0	

What is the minimum ratio of supervision to client contact hours? 1 to 10

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

Students must have completed an Abnormal Psychology graduate course. Second year (and up) graduate students will likely be a better fit for our center.

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 (for line staff) as part as the terms of their internship.*

DMH Staff/Field Instructor completing this form:

Nancy Paredes DSW, LMFT & Daniel Gautreau PsyD **Title**: MH Clinical Supervisor & Clinical Psychologist

Email: nparedes@dmh.lacounty.gov

Program Manager: Gabriela Vasquez

District Chief: Manuel Rosas

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

Electronic Signature: Gabriela Vasquez Digitally signed by Gabriela Vasquez Date: 2026.10.30 13:22:57 -07'00' **Date:**