Call for Applications
POSTMASTERS FELLOWSHIP IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Sept 2019-Aug 29 2020

The Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System (CAVHS) is currently recruiting applicants for an occupational therapy fellowship with an Interprofessional Psychosocial Rehabilitation (PSR) emphasis area. This state-of-the-art, clinical training program focuses on the theory and practice of psychosocial rehabilitation. Fellows will primarily work with individuals who have been diagnosed with Serious Mental Illness (SMI). Emphasis is placed on transcending limits imposed by mental illness, social barriers, and stigma, so that personal goals and aspirations can be achieved. Individualized, mentored training is combined with a curriculum that emphasizes a comprehensive psychosocial rehabilitation approach to service delivery, education and implementing change in mental health care settings. Training includes focus on evidence-based practice and interprofessional recovery-oriented care specific to target populations through inpatient, residential, outpatient, and community-based interventions. In addition to required core training experiences in SMI- and PSR-focused settings, fellows will also choose from among many elective options that represent a wide variety of the programs available within the facility. Opportunities will be provided to work within interdisciplinary teams throughout the Mental Health Service and elsewhere (see rotation table below). The purpose of the Interprofessional Fellowship Program is to develop future mental health leaders with vision, knowledge, and commitment to transforming mental health care systems in the 21st century by emphasizing functional capability, rehabilitation, and recovery.

Training Site: The Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System (CAVHS) is a large and complex VA Medical System within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The medical center is located in a metropolitan area of approximately 725,000 people and draws from a primary service area of 275,000 veterans. Some military personnel and family members of veterans are also served by CAVHS providers. The two-division, consolidated, tertiary care medical center contains medical, surgical, psychiatric, rehabilitation, and nursing home services, as well as a wide variety of outpatient specialty and primary care programs.
**Structure of Training Program:** The PSR Fellowship year is divided into two 6-month periods. In each 6-month period, fellows will complete one core rotation (24 hours per week) and one elective rotation (8 hours per week). The final 8 hours of the 40-hour workweek is reserved for didactics and professional development. Training plans and rotation assignments are developed collaboratively between Fellows and the Fellowship Leadership during orientation, and may be adjusted over the course of the year depending on training needs and goals.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rotation</th>
<th>Coordinating Supervisor(s)</th>
<th>Core/Elective</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center</td>
<td>Sherry Clements, LCSW; Stephanie Riedmueller, OTR/L</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acute Inpatient Psychiatry</td>
<td>Kristen Viverito, PsyD</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Intensive Case Management</td>
<td>Melissa O’Dell, LCSW; Jay Burns, OTR/L</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeless Residential Rehabilitation Treatment</td>
<td>Courtney Crutchfield, PhD; Fatimaah Carmichael, LCSW</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outpatient Substance Use Disorder</td>
<td>Dave Hoffpauri, LCSW; Miranda Watkins, LCSW</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>PTSD Clinical Team (Outpatient and Residential)</td>
<td>Nathaniel Cooney, PhD</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health Clinic</td>
<td>John Milwee, PsyD; Amanda Joshlin, LCSW</td>
<td>Core or Elective</td>
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<td>Hospice / Palliative Care</td>
<td>Jennifer Wilson, PsyD</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Promotion Disease Prevention</td>
<td>Marie Mesidor, PhD</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Residential Substance Use Disorder</td>
<td>Pam Brown, LCSW</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<td>Research</td>
<td>Mike Cucciare, PhD</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vet Center</td>
<td>Carrie Crownover, PhD</td>
<td>Elective</td>
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**Qualifications for Fellowship include:** U.S. citizenship, earned master’s degree or higher from a Occupational Therapy Program by start date, and completed associated fieldwork experiences. Well qualified candidates will have experience working as an OT in a mental health setting.

**Stipend & Benefits:** $36,918 plus benefits for the 1-year position (September 2019 – August 2020). Health Insurance, 13 days paid vacation, up to 13 days of sick leave, 10 federal holidays, additional authorized absence may be approved for educational opportunities.
Inquiries:
Occupational Therapy Training Coordinator: Jay Burns, MS, OTR/L  
jay.burns@va.gov or (501) 257-3089

Assistant Director of Training, PSR Track: Nathaniel Cooney, PhD  
Nathaniel.Cooney@va.gov or 501-257-3455

Application:  To apply, the following are required:
• Letter of interest (1-2 pages) that describes your past experiences that are  
  relevant to this fellowship and how this fellowship corresponds with your career  
  goals
• Current Curriculum Vita with description of your occupational therapy training  
  and Graduate Transcripts
• Letter from your graduate program director affirming your completion of your  
  degree or anticipated graduation date
• Two letters of reference from supervisors who are familiar with your recent work,  
  with a particular focus on work in Mental Health settings, if available
• Complete the Application / Summary of Clinical Experiences located at the back  
  of our program brochure, which can be downloaded here:  
  https://www.littlerock.va.gov/careers/psychology/fellowship/Psychology_Fellowship_Prgram.asp

Deadline: Application due date is February 15, 2019. Applications will be accepted  
until all positions are filled. We will be making invitations for interviews by February 28th,  
with interview dates of March 14th and 15th.  
Please send all materials electronically if possible, if not, please send in a single  
envelope marked “Fellowship Application.”

Electronic applications should be emailed to:  
Dr. Courtney Crutchfield at Courtney.Crutchfield@va.gov

Mailed application materials should be directed to:

Courtney P. Crutchfield, Ph.D.  
Director of Psychology Postdoctoral & Interprofessional Fellowship  
Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System  
2200 Fort Roots Drive (116/NLR)  
Building 170, 2N-101  
North Little Rock, AR 72114

Phone: (501) 257-3471 (Training Director)
THE SETTING: Little Rock, Arkansas

Metropolitan Little Rock, with a population of over 725,000 is the geographic, cultural, and economic center, as well as the capital city of Arkansas, the Natural State. Little Rock is located 360 miles south of St. Louis, 340 miles northeast of Dallas, 430 miles north of New Orleans and 130 miles west of Memphis. Little Rock is a great place to work and live! The winters are mild, the summers are warm, and the springs and falls are unbelievably beautiful.

The River Market area downtown by the Arkansas River and Riverfront Park features art museums, restaurants, bars and musical entertainment. The Clinton Presidential Library is in this area, and a modern multipurpose arena across the river from the River Market, Verizon Arena, features concerts, athletic events, and other activities. The nearby River Trail provides popular running, walking and biking options on both sides of the Arkansas River, connected by the largest man-made pedestrian bridge in the world.

Little Rock is a growing health care center, with 15 hospitals and medical centers with a total of more than 5,300 beds, serving 3 million people in the state. Little Rock offers a variety of private and parochial schools in addition to public school systems. There are 12 colleges and universities in the area, including the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, attended by more than 12,000 students.

As Arkansas's capital and largest city, Little Rock is a natural focal point for much the state has to offer - from the pleasures and opportunities of an urban area to unspoiled scenic grandeur and outdoor recreational pursuits. Centrally located on the Arkansas River, Little Rock is a city with something for all members of the family. Outdoor recreational activities abound in this city and its environs and include tennis, golf, boating, minor league baseball, hiking, fishing, college basketball and football. Also located in the city of Little Rock are the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra; Wildwood Park for the Performing Arts (a venue for opera, jazz, cabaret, and chamber music); the Broadway Theatre Series; Arkansas Repertory Theatre; and Arkansas
Ballet Theatre. The Decorative Arts Museum (which occupies a classic, columned antebellum residence) and the Arkansas Arts Center together house 13 galleries. The Quapaw Quarter neighborhood of Little Rock, the most historic portion of the city, contains numerous elegant homes of the Victorian era.

Notable features in the metro area include nine municipal parks with tennis courts and golf courses, several large shopping malls, a sports stadium seating 55,000 (one of two "home" fields for the University of Arkansas Razorback football team), a convention center complex and the Arkansas Arts Center, a multi-million dollar structure containing a theater, teaching rooms for the visual and performing arts, and exhibition halls.

At Little Rock, the state’s geography changes considerably. To the east and south, where the airport is located, you are in the flat, agricultural delta region. As you travel westward to the downtown area, you will begin to see signs of some hills. Just west of town are the foothills of the beautiful Ouachita Mountains, Lake Maumelle, Pinnacle Mountain State Park, and further to the west (about a 45-minute drive) is the Ouachita National Forest with many hiking, camping, canoeing, and mountain biking opportunities.

For those who love the outdoors, Arkansas is a state of exceptional beauty and variety. Those interested in camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting will find easy access to these pastimes in an environment of clean air and water. Within an hour’s drive of Little Rock, you can sail, hike, spelunk, rock climb, water ski, camp, fish, hunt, and white-water canoe. Little Rock is located in the center of a vast network of lakes, streams, and forests. Lake Maumelle, covering an area of 14 square miles with a 70-mile shoreline, is located 12 miles northwest of Little Rock. Hot Springs, an hour away, offers water sports and fishing on three lakes, a National Park, hot mineral baths, a three-month thoroughbred horse racing season, and resort restaurants and entertainment. The Ouachita National Forest and Ouachita Mountains are a 30 minute drive west of Little Rock, and the Ozark Mountains and the Buffalo National River are two hours to the northwest. In the heart of the Ozarks, you may want to visit the magnificent architecturally famous Thorncrown Chapel in the charming and quirky resort town of Eureka Springs.

Campus Facilities

The North Little Rock campus, named the Eugene J Towbin Healthcare Center, is located on a bluff overlooking the Arkansas River. The property was developed as a United States Army cavalry fort in the latter part of the 19th century. Many of the old buildings are listed with the National Register of Historic Places and, having been renovated, are used as administrative buildings. Building 170, the largest building on the North Little Rock campus, is a large four-story building which was constructed in 1983. It houses all of this campus’ inpatient beds, domiciliary based programs and outpatient programs. This building also contains a cafeteria, canteen store, library, small bowling alley, barber shop, and indoor walking trail. A fitness and exercise center, available to staff and fellows on a 24-hour basis, is located on this campus. The grounds of the North Little Rock campus are large and contain two small fishing lakes and a fitness trail. Rotations at the North Little Rock campus are: Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center, Acute Inpatient Psychiatry, Mental Health Intensive case Management, Homeless Residential Rehabilitation Treatment, Outpatient Substance Use Disorders, Outpatient PTSD, Primary Care Mental Health Integration, Military Sexual Trauma, Mental Health Clinic, Residential Substance Use Disorders, and Research.

The John L. McClellan Memorial Veterans Hospital is located on the Little Rock campus, and is approximately eight miles (15 minutes) away from the North Little Rock campus. It is
adjacent to, and physically connected to, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. This medical center houses inpatient wards including acute medicine, oncology, cardiology, surgery, neurology, neurosurgery, and intensive care units, as well as serving hemodialysis patients and many medical and surgical outpatient clinics, including a women’s clinic, and an active emergency room. A cafeteria and a canteen store are also available at this campus. Rotations on this campus are: Health Promotion Disease Prevention, Consultation & Liaison / Palliative Care.