

Durham Veterans Affairs Health Care System

Interprofessional Fellowship on Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Oriented Services

The Durham Veterans Affairs Health Care System Mental & Behavioral Health Service in Durham, N.C., announces openings for the 2020-2021 academic year of its Interprofessional Fellowship on Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Oriented Services (PSR Fellowship) for Veterans with serious mental illness (SMI) and substance use disorders (SUD). The PSR fellowship is a clinical training program that focuses on the theory and practice of psychosocial rehabilitation and treatment of substance use disorders. The fellowship provides individualized, mentored clinical training. The curriculum is designed to educate fellows on the use of comprehensive psychosocial rehabilitation approaches, evidence-based treatment for SMIs and SUDs, and implementing change in mental health care settings. Fellows will work with Veterans with SMI (e.g., schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, bipolar disorder, major depression, PTSD) and SUDs (i.e., alcohol, drugs of abuse, tobacco). The purpose of the fellowship is to develop leaders with the vision and knowledge to help health care systems emphasize functional capability, rehabilitation, and recovery.

Fellows will have primary clinical experiences in the Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Center, the Mental Health Intensive Case Management program (an Assertive Community Treatment model program), and the Substance Use Disorders Clinic. Support is provided for each fellow to initiate or participate in a research, program evaluation, or education dissemination project. Supervision for licensure is supported. Fellows typically have the opportunity to complete one or more VA national training programs in evidence-based interventions. For example, Social Skills Training for Serious Mental Illness is routinely offered, and others may be available during a given training year. Additionally, didactics and clinical experiences are offered throughout the training year on a range of evidence-based practices (e.g., Wellness Recovery Action Planning, Illness Management and Recovery, cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis, cognitive behavioral therapy for SUD, tobacco cessation). Fellows receive significant training in both group and individual service delivery. Additionally, attention to the importance of diversity and cultural competence is considered integral to effective clinical work as well as the training experience more broadly.

Fellows must be U.S. citizens and must be graduates of academic programs that are accredited by the nationally recognized accrediting bodies for the profession. Applications are invited from graduates of psychiatry residency programs, doctoral programs in clinical or counseling psychology, master's or doctoral programs in social work, master's or doctoral programs in mental health nursing, master's or doctoral programs in occupational therapy, and Master of Divinity programs with four units of accredited clinical pastoral education. For psychology applicants, note that the PSR Fellowship is a track within the Durham VAHCS psychology postdoctoral fellowship program, which is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association (APA) and is a postdoctoral member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). For occupational therapy applicants, the PSR Fellowship is an AOTA-Approved Fellowship Site accredited by the American Occupational Therapy Association. The PSR Fellowship is full-time. Stipends are competitive and vary by discipline. Stipend information is available upon request. Fellows are eligible for health and life insurance benefits. All fellows earn annual and sick leave and are entitled to all federal holidays.

For all applicants other than psychology candidates to apply for the PSR Fellowship, please submit the following items:

1. Letter of interest that describes (a) why you are interested in further training and in this program in particular, (b) your prior training or exposure to recovery-oriented services for serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders, and (c) your long-term professional goals. Letters of interest are typically 1 page.
2. Current Curriculum Vitae or Resume
3. Graduate transcripts (Unofficial transcripts are acceptable at the time of application. If you are offered an interview, official transcripts will be required at a later date.)
4. Three letters of reference from recent supervisors or faculty members familiar with your clinical work.
5. Federal Form: Declaration for Federal Employment:
http://www.opm.gov/forms/pdf_fill/of0306.pdf
6. Federal Form: Application for Health Professions Trainees:
<http://www.va.gov/vaforms/medical/pdf/vha-10-2850d-fill.pdf>

Applications from all disciplines except psychology must be submitted electronically the subject "LAST NAME-DISCIPLINE (e.g., SW, OT)-PSR Fellowship Application". Please attempt to send all documents as attachments in the fewest number of emails as possible. Applications must be sent to **both** Felecia.Suggs@va.gov and Akeba.Phillip2@va.gov.

Applications are accepted until all positions are filled. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications as early as possible. Interviews typically take place between February and April. **February 10th 2020 is the priority deadline for all applicants other than psychology.**

For psychology candidates to apply for the PSR Fellowship:

Applications should be **submitted online via APPACAS** by **January 5th 2020**.

APPIC's centralized postdoctoral application system (APPA CAS) may be found at the following address:

<https://appicpostdoc.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

[Also, please note that early submission of applications is strongly encouraged.]

In the event of technical difficulties, please contact Dr. McNiel (email listed below). In those rare situations, alternative arrangements for submitting materials may be arranged.

For more information about the program, contact:

Julie McCormick, LCSW, PSR Fellowship Co-Director
Julie.McCormick@va.gov or 919- 286-0411, ext. 175111

Or

J. Murray McNiel, PhD, PSR Fellowship Co-Director
Jesse.McNiel@va.gov or (919) 286-0411, ext. 177777