

INTERNSHIP AND PRACTICUM TRAINING AT LINCOLN CHILD CENTER 2006-2007

Lincoln Child Center Mission

The Lincoln Child Center is a nonprofit community based organization that provides strength based culturally competent residential, day treatment, school and community based services to at risk children between the ages of 5 and 14. Our mission is to provide high-quality prevention, education, and behavioral health service to at-risk children and their families. Lincoln Child Center reaches hundreds of at-risk children each year through various prevention and treatment programs.

Selection Criteria

We look for interns and trainees who are a good match with our mission, who will provide quality service to our clients under supervision, and who fit well in our multicultural agency milieu. We seek mature, flexible students who are committed to multicultural populations and who want to be challenged to grow in their clinical and cultural competence.

Desired qualifications include prior experience working with at risk children and families in a strength based treatment team, along with knowledge of the types of clinical issues affecting our clients, and cross-cultural diagnostic and assessment skills. Empathy, compassion, and ethical conduct are essential and a sense of humor is appreciated. Interns need to be able to work independently and integrate well into existing teams. (Other important qualities are: good boundaries, good common sense, honesty, ability to accept constructive criticism, willingness to look at blind spots, the ability to take responsibility for mistakes and learn from them, conscientiousness, the ability to be centered and grounded, good verbal and writing skills, good group skills and/or the ability to cultivate necessary extroversion and connection to diverse groups, and commitment to bridge-building and greater understanding in the workplace.

Training Model Overview

The Lincoln Child Center internship program provides clinically challenging experiences and training in a multicultural environment. Within the agency's multiple-level training model, there are opportunities to develop clinical, leadership, and professional skills, for example mentoring less experienced trainees, teaching a seminar, contributing to program development, and gaining supervised experience in psychological assessment.

Responsibilities are listed in job descriptions. Interns and trainees spend time working with clients in individual psychotherapy, group therapy, along with receiving one hour in clinical training, two hours in multidisciplinary team (group supervision), one hour in intern/trainee team meeting (information sharing, process, and support), and one hour in individual supervision. Staff also receives training in cultural competency.

Individual goals are developed collaboratively with the supervisor and outlined in the Intern/Trainee Contract. Transitions and stages in the developmental process of personal and professional growth are recognized as interns gain competencies in targeted areas. Verbal feedback is ongoing in addition to written performance evaluations filed with graduate schools. Interns and supervisors work together to track progress and develop additional learning opportunities such as readings, extra supervision, and outside trainings. Cultural competency is addressed continuously in supervision, and training.

Primary Training Goals

In addition to identified personal training objectives, interns and trainees are expected to:

- Increase clinical and cultural competence with primarily low-income women diverse in culture/ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity
- Develop skills for working with at risk children and families.
- Understand treatment approaches for at risk, abused, traumatized and drug exposed children who may be in foster care or the LCC residential program.
- Increase competence in treating clinical issues affecting children such as sexual assault, domestic violence, incest, eating disorders, and cutting/self-harm
- Develop group facilitation skills
- Expand depth of knowledge and accuracy of clinical judgment in psychological assessment, case formulation, differential diagnosis, and treatment planning; understand clinical, legal, ethical, and funding issues in documentation
- Develop skills in individual psychotherapy and crisis intervention, and competency with children, adolescents, and families

Stipend

Lincoln Child Center has five \$5000.00 stipend intern position available for the 2007-2008 training year. These stipends are primarily reserved for second year and postmaster's students. However, all applicants are encouraged to apply for these positions. We also have 5 variable stipend positions.