



Hampton Veterans Affairs Medical Center

**APA Accredited Psychology Postdoctoral
Fellowship Program
Women's Mental Health and Trauma**

Nicole Dutta, Ph.D.
Director of Clinical Training
Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship Program



Hampton VA Medical Center
100 Emancipation Drive (116A)
Hampton, VA 23667
(757) 722-9961 x4306
<http://www.hampton.va.gov/>

Applications Due: December 18

Accreditation Status

The postdoctoral fellowship at the **Hampton VA Medical Center** is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association. The program received initial seven year APA accreditation in 2016. The next site visit is scheduled for 2022. For additional information regarding our program accreditation status, please contact:

The Commission on Accreditation (CoA)
American Psychological Association
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
202-336-5979
Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/

Application & Selection Procedures

Candidates for the fellowship must be U. S. Citizens who are enrolled in or have completed an APA-accredited program in clinical or counseling psychology and who are enrolled or have completed an APA-accredited internship. No applicants from programs awarding degrees in areas other than psychology will be accepted. All requirements for the doctoral degree, including dissertations, must be completed prior to beginning the fellowship. Preference is given to candidates with prior training and experience in the specific emphasis areas, but it is not a requirement. This program supports and adheres to Equal Employment Opportunity policies and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Applications from racial, ethnic, and sexual minorities and women are strongly encouraged. No applicant will be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, place of national origin, or age.

The application materials of candidates are reviewed by members of the Postdoctoral Training Committee. Reviewers evaluate the applicant's ability, record of achievement, and degree of potential compatibility with the fellowship program. These rankings are used to prioritize interview offers. Applicants who do not qualify for consideration will be notified promptly. Although in-person interviews are preferred, candidates are able to participate via telephone if desired. Applicants should be available for interview in early to mid-February. The fellowship start date is September 13, 2020. Communication with applicants will follow the suggested APPIC guidelines for internship/residency selection.

Application Procedures: To apply, submit all materials electronically through APPA CAS:

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

Except under unusual circumstances, all applications should be submitted via APPA CAS. If you feel that you are unable to submit your application through APPA CAS, please contact Dr. Duta at nicole.dutta2@va.gov to discuss your situation and any alternative options for application submission.

All applicants for fellowship must submit the following:

- A letter of intent which specifies your future professional goals and details how the fellowship will contribute toward their achievement.
- Curriculum Vitae.
- Three letters of reference from supervisors, faculty, or other professionals who are well acquainted with you and your qualifications.
- Official copies of graduate school transcripts.
- A recent psychological assessment report that includes the integration of at least 2 psychological tests and a clinical interview.
- A letter sent from your Internship Training Director that an APA- accredited internship will be completed by September 10, 2020.
- A letter sent from the APA-accredited graduate program Training Director that the Ph.D./Psy.D. has been awarded or that all degree requirements will be completed before September 10, 2020.

Please feel free to contact the program by telephone or email if you have any questions:

Nicole Dutta, PhD

Director of Clinical Training, Postdoctoral Program
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
100 Emancipation Dr. (116A)
Hampton, Virginia 23667
Phone: (757) 722-9961 x5914
Email (preferred method of contact): Nicole.dutta2@va.gov

Resident Selection: The program will call their top candidate. Once an offer is made to an applicant, the applicant may proceed with one of the following actions: accept the offer, decline the offer, or hold the offer for four hours. If the position is held, it is considered to be frozen and cannot be offered to any other candidate during that time period. (At the four hour mark, the candidate must either accept or decline, otherwise the offer is no longer valid). Postdoctoral Training Directors (or their designee) will contact all applicants by phone or e-mail on that day to inform them of the status of the position. After a site and an applicant come to an agreement, a formal offer letter will be mailed to the applicant who will then formally accept the offer in writing.

Notification of Applicants Who are No Longer Being Considered

This program will notify applicants at the point that they are out of consideration for the position for which they have applied.

Application due date:

December 18

Interview Notification:

Early to Mid-January

Interview dates:

Late January to Early February

Anticipated Start Date:

September 13, 2021

Interview procedures during COVID-19: In light of COVID-19 pandemic, all interviews will be held virtually this year. Selected applicants will be invited to interviewing via a videoconferencing platform. During the interviews, the applicant will have the opportunity to talk to the training director, the fellowship committee, and past post-doctoral fellows and/or other trainees at the site. Applicants will also be provided with a virtual tour of the site.

Resident Appointment: The Director of the Postdoctoral Fellowship or designee call the resident by telephone to confirm that he or she has matched with our program. A letter of confirmation is sent within 72 hours of notification. Each resident must respond in writing that he or she accepts the appointment with the Hampton VAMC Psychology Fellowship Program.

After confirming this appointment, the resident will be asked to complete application materials, including form 306 (Declaration for Federal Employment) and complete a physical exam (scheduled by the Hampton VAMC Human Resources department).

The appointment to a resident position is contingent upon the individual's application being cleared through a national data bank to screen for possible ethical and legal violations. The resident must pass employment screenings as well as a fingerprint check before the appointment becomes official. A resident must also pass the pre-employment physical completed by a VA hospital before he or she can begin the fellowship.

The resident must also complete the Mandatory Training for Trainees before arriving on station.

Finally, a male applicant born after 12/31/1959 must have registered for the draft by age 26 to be eligible for any US government employment, including selection as a paid VA trainee. Male applicants must sign a pre-appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration before they can be processed into a training program. Exceptions can be granted only by the US Office of Personnel Management; exceptions are very rarely granted.

Psychology Setting

The Mental Health and Behavioral Sciences (MH&BS) Service provides a full range of mental health and rehabilitative services. The Service is multidisciplinary and is composed of members of the Psychiatry, Psychology, Social Work and Nursing Services. It is affiliated with the Eastern Virginia Medical School, the Virginia Consortium Program for Professional Psychology, Regent University, and Portsmouth Naval Medical Center and provides clinical training, education and research opportunities to both medical residents and students within a wide variety of theoretical and clinical modalities. The MH&BS Service providers treat a variety of male and female Veterans who range in age from early 20's to 80's and have an average age of 40 years. Women Veterans represented 16% of VAMC Hampton's outpatient visits for FY09. Seventy percent (70%) are service connected and 20-30% are indigent. Sixty to 70% are of African American and Hispanic origins while the remainder are Caucasian. All major diagnostic categories are represented including mood disorder, psychosis, dissociative disorders, dementia, delirium, personality disorders and substance abuse. Over 50% of the patients seen by the clinical staff are dually diagnosed. Interventions include individual psychotherapy, somatic therapies, family meetings/therapy and various group modalities.

The psychology program of the VAMC Hampton is an active component of the MH&BS Service Line and has over 50 Ph.D./Psy.D. clinical staff and multiple bachelor/masters level psychology technicians. Staff competencies represent a wide array of clinical and theoretical orientations including psychodynamic, cognitive-behavioral, interpersonal and supportive psychotherapies. Additionally, there is an emphasis on providing Evidence Based Psychotherapies, including Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for depression (CBT), Prolonged Exposure (PE), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Interpersonal Therapy (IPT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT).

Training Model and Program Philosophy

The mission and objective of the VAMC Hampton Postdoctoral Training Program in Women's Mental Health and Trauma is to train psychologists to provide quality mental health care and evidenced-based/empirically-supported treatment to women Veterans. The primary goal of the postdoctoral program is for fellows to develop a full range of skills required for independent functioning as a psychologist within the area of women's mental health. Within this goal, we are committed to the scholar-practitioner model of training; fellows are expected to utilize current literature on empirically supported assessment and

treatment in planning and delivering services. This approach is consistent with the strong multidisciplinary, evidenced-based training culture at VAMC Hampton.

Complementing our goal of preparing fellows to function as independent psychologists within the area of women's mental health, we also aim to prepare fellows for practice in priority areas of mental health care for women Veterans. The Psychology Postdoctoral Training Program in Women's Mental Health and Trauma emphasizes Evidenced Based and Empirically Supported approaches in assessment and treatment of mental health disorders, integrating mental health care into the Patient Aligned Care Team, and providing education to VAMC Hampton staff about the unique health needs of women. Emphasis is placed on training fellows in Evidenced Based and Empirically Supported Psychotherapies, including Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Motivational Interviewing (MI), CBT for depression (CBT-D), Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) and PE. Through the variety of professional activities, fellows receive training that facilitates their development of core competencies (described below).

The Psychology Postdoctoral Training Program in Women's Mental Health and Trauma philosophy is based on a scholar-practitioner model with an emphasis on training in the area of applied clinical practice. It is designed to assist fellows in developing a full range of skills required to function as independent, ethical, and competent professional psychologists within the area of women's mental health. Thus, our philosophy is to implement and promote established, reliable, valid and efficacious treatment modalities and protocols to the greatest extent possible and to encourage actively our fellows to draw upon the empirical body of literature to enhance the development of their professional skills over time. As scholar-practitioners, we remain abreast of current empirical findings in our chosen areas of professional practice and further our knowledge of treatment advances in order to inform clinical decisions.

The program provides ample opportunity to work with a culturally and ethnically diverse female Veteran population in collaboration with a body of practicing psychologists who represent a wide variety of theoretical bases, clinical interests, and professional expertise. Fellows are exposed to a broad array of clinical conditions, situations and scientifically informed learning and educational experiences over the entire course of their postdoctoral-training year. The emphasis on treating women Veterans allows fellows to develop advanced knowledge in this area. Enhancement and strengthening of professional attitudes, responsibility, communications skills, and critical judgment are also integral parts of this training program.

Program Objectives, Goals, & Competencies

The training program objectives and goals are defined by a set of core professional competencies that all successful graduates of the postdoctoral training program are expected to demonstrate. The specific skills and competencies to be developed by psychology fellows include:

Goal 1: To prepare fellows to develop a full range of skills required for independent functioning as a psychologist within the area of women's mental health in an outpatient setting.

Objective 1: The fellow will develop advanced competence in clinical assessment of Axis I and Axis II mental health disorders.

Competencies Expected:

- Administration of objective and projective measures, as well as diagnostic interviewing
- Interpretation of assessment and test data
- Writing a well-organized psychological assessment report

Objective 2: The fellow will develop advanced competence in evidenced-based/empirically-supported therapies for mental health diagnoses.

Competencies Expected:

- Case conceptualization
- Formulation of appropriate treatment goals
- Identification and utilization of appropriate treatment approach based on patient(s) needs
- Presentation of well-timed and effective interventions in individual psychotherapy
- Well-timed and effective interventions in group psychotherapy

Objective 3: The fellow will develop evaluation and consultation skills while working within an integrated care setting.

Competencies Expected:

- Provides competent professional consultation
- Communicates effectively with team members

Objective 4: The fellow will demonstrate competence in providing supervision to psychology trainees.

Competencies Expected:

- Knowledge and utilization of supervision model
- Provides constructive feedback/guidance to trainees
- Deals effectively with ethical issues

Objective 5: The fellow will demonstrate general professional skills related to practice as a psychologist.

Competencies Expected:

- Knowledge and application of ethical principles
- Responsibility and self-direction
- Positive coping strategies
- Establishment and maintenance of good rapport with clients
- Sensitivity to cultural and individual differences
- Effectively utilizes supervision/consultation
- Interacts professionally with staff and colleagues

Goal 2: To prepare fellows for practice in priority areas of mental health care for women Veterans by integrating research into their clinical practice.

Objective 1: Fellows will utilize evidence-based/empirically supported treatments for Axis I disorders.

Competencies Expected:

- Demonstrates knowledge of principles/procedures relevant to at least one evidence based/empirically supported psychotherapy

Objective 2: Fellows will demonstrate competence in program development and evaluation.

Competencies Expected:

- Identifies and implements psychotherapy services to meet patient(s) needs
- Evaluates services offered

Program Structure

Approximately 20-25% of program time is spent in educational training, and/or professional development training activities (e.g., didactics, supervision). The remaining 75-80% of fellowship time is spent in clinical service delivery. Fellows will meet with the Director of Clinical Training at the beginning of each training year to identify training goals and determine appropriate clinical and educational activities that will allow the fellow to meet their training goals and programmatic goals as well.

Women's Clinic Information:

Women are one of the fastest growing subsets of the veteran population and the training of clinicians in the provision of quality, gender appropriate care is a high priority for the Veterans Affairs Hospital. While the national average of women in the military is approximately 7%, approximately 16-18% of the veteran population at the Hampton VA Medical center is female. With such a large amount of women seeking services at this facilitate, this presented a unique opportunity for the hospital to develop and expand previously offered female-centric services.

During the Fall of 2012, the VAMC Hampton Women's Building opened on campus. This state-of-the-art facility offers an innovative approach to providing comprehensive health care to female Veterans. It provides co-located care for women Veterans where they receive primary care services, gynecological services, primary care mental health services, specialized mental health services, and sexual trauma services all in one building.

Prior to the VA national dissemination of Behavioral Health Interdisciplinary Programs (BHIP), VAMC Hampton's Women's Mental Health & the Military Sexual Trauma Programs were functioning as a BHIP Team. We were early adopters of a treatment team-based approach where clients and clinicians make collaborative decisions about mental health care. The Women's BHIP team was chosen to be part of the National Collaborative, which is a process in which we receive clinical and quality improvement consultation to further develop our treatment practices.

Some of the functions that trainees will perform include: participating in multidisciplinary treatment teams, delivering brief consultation-based services to Veterans, primary care providers, and the Women's Clinic team members, and providing short-term and long-term psychotherapy to include evidence based approaches.

Clinical Training Experiences: Clinical rotations provide psychology fellows with an array of clinical experiences while maintaining emphasis on providing treatment to women Veterans. These experiences include rotations in Women's Outpatient Mental Health, Military Sexual Trauma (MST) and the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PCT) (combat, non-combat) treatment teams. Supplemental clinical experiences, including Marital Therapy and the application of Behavioral Health interventions are available. Fellows participate in the Women's Outpatient Mental Health rotation on a half-time, year-round basis. They alternate spending 6-months each (half-time) in the MST rotation and the PCT rotation. The VAMC Hampton has established very robust sexual trauma and combat trauma treatment programs (MST and PCT respectively). These programs emphasize an evidence-based/empirically-supported approach to assessment and treatment and are staffed with highly trained providers who possess extensive knowledge and experience in their clinical area.

Throughout the rotations, fellows are exposed to a variety of training and supervision styles reflective of the various theoretical orientations currently employed within the field of psychology, i.e., client-centered, cognitive behavioral, psychodynamic, positive psychology, interpersonal, and supportive therapeutic approaches. Fellows are also exposed to a number of evidence-based/empirically supported approaches including: Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT), Prolonged Exposure (PE), Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT), Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression (CBT-D), and Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT). This array of clinical exposure is further augmented through regular educational activities, including Evidence-Based/Empirically-Supported Psychotherapy didactics, Clinical Case Consultation, Journal Group, Vertical Consultation teams, and Multidisciplinary Treatment teams.

Fellows are also able to participate in an informal, study session to prepare for the EPPP licensing exam and/or Professional Development activities (e.g., employment searches), with the expectation that they will sit for this exam during their Postdoctoral year.

Clinical Training Rotations

Women's Outpatient Mental Health (12 months)

The Women's Outpatient Mental Health rotation serves Veterans with mental health diagnoses, to include Major Depressive Disorder, Bipolar Disorder, Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (non-combat and non-MST), Adjustment Disorder, and Relational Problems. Women Veterans seen in this rotation represent a wide range of diagnostic categories and of educational, socioeconomic and ethnic origins. Fellows are also expected to provide one group therapy offering via telehealth services to the Virginia Beach CBOC and Albemarle APOC.

As part of the Women's Mental Health Rotation, Fellows will also serve as members of the **Military Sexual Trauma Treatment Team (MST)**, which is an outpatient treatment program specifically designed to provide services to Veterans with a lifespan exposure to sexual trauma including child/adolescent, adult civilian and/or Military Sexual Trauma. There will be opportunities for fellows to engage in intake interviews, outpatient based individual psychotherapy, couples therapy (heterosexual and gay/lesbian), structured psycho-educational psychotherapy groups (Dialectical Behavior Therapy Skills Training, Cognitive Processing Therapy trauma focus groups, MST and Coping with Childhood Sexual Trauma psycho-educational groups), interpersonal process oriented psychotherapy groups and psychodiagnostic evaluations.

Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team (12 months)

The Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinical Team (PCT) is an outpatient treatment program specifically designed to provide services to Veterans diagnosed with combat and military-related Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This clinic utilizes a time-limited, sequential approach to treatment. The psychology fellow is expected to function as a full member of the interdisciplinary treatment team.

Supplemental Clinical Training Opportunities

Video-telementalhealth: It is likely that there will be opportunities to provide telehealth to patients during the upcoming fellowship year. The VA uses a HIPAA-compliant videoconferencing software called VA Video Connect to provide options for video-based mental health appointments. Fellows will likely have the opportunity to receive training in using this software, as well as training and supervision to build proficiencies in offering therapy via videoconferencing.

Women's BHIP Access Clinic: Additional training in clinical triage in the Women's BHIP Access Clinic is a yearlong requirement. This assignment provides fellows with: 1) experience in assessment and appropriate triage of Women Veterans; 2) experience in the administration and interpretation of a brief clinical assessment battery; 3) experience in clinical interviewing and treatment planning; 4) experience in consultation with other mental health providers as well as medical center physicians and allied medical professionals; and 5) building an appropriate client base.

Supervision: Fellows receive a minimum of four hours of training and supervision per week. At least two of these hours are spent in individual supervision with a licensed clinical psychologist. Supervision of clinical cases emphasizes the provision of treatments with empirical support (e.g., Prolonged Exposure Therapy, Cognitive Processing Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression, Motivational Interviewing). Supplementary supervision may be provided by members of other professional disciplines when desired and appropriate. Mandatory weekly meetings with fellows and the Director of Clinical Training provide further informal training and mentoring experiences. Additionally, fellows have the

opportunity to select a professional mentor from the training staff at the VAMC Hampton with whom they can discuss professional development issues, etc. on a monthly basis.

Supervision of Trainees: The Hampton VA Medical center currently offers an APA accredited internship program as well as a psychology practicum training program. Fellows who are interested in gaining experience in the area of supervision will have an opportunity to supervise pre-doctoral practicum students or interns.

Program Development and Evaluation: Program development and evaluation is a moderate to large part of the Postdoctoral Fellowship program. Fellows have an opportunity to develop and facilitate groups that are in line with their areas of interest. In addition, the program supports utilizing post group assessment measures to determine clinical utility and success of the group experience. In addition, Fellows are afforded the opportunity to participate in ongoing performance improvement projects including, but not limited to improving services for female Veterans as well as SAIL data.

Psychological Assessments: Fellows are required to complete and/or supervise at least one psychological assessment battery per rotation (Outpatient Mental Health, MST, and PCT) during the training year. A battery is defined as a clinical interview, a case file review and any two major psychological tests and/or measurements.

Compensation and Pension Evaluations: Fellows may have an opportunity to participate in a one week adjunctive training experience in which they receive training on providing Compensation and Pension (C&P) evaluations. During this experience, fellows will observe multiple C&P examinations (conducted by C&P Psychologists) and thereafter have an opportunity to conduct one C&P examination under the supervision of a licensed psychologist.

Evaluation: To maintain good standing in the program, fellows must maintain minimum levels of achievement on outcome measures. The fellow is evaluated mid-rotation and at the end of the rotation using the Psychology Fellow Competency Assessment form.

Research: Fellows may have the opportunity to participate in ongoing research studies or to develop their own research project during the training year. However, it is important to note that research activities are not a primary component of this post-doctoral fellowship.

Requirements for Completion

To successfully complete the fellowship, fellows must demonstrate competency in all core areas identified on the Postdoctoral Fellowship Competency Assessment Forms. The fellow is evaluated mid-rotation and at the end of the rotation using the Psychology Fellow Competency Assessment form. For each competency, they are rated as either "Independent Practitioner level," "Fellow Mid-Year level," "Fellow Entry level," "Intern Entry level," or "Pre-Practicum level." The minimum threshold for achievement at the mid-point of rotations is "Fellow Entry level." "Intern Entry level" and "Pre-Practicum level" areas are identified and referred to the Director of Clinical Training. At the end of each rotation, fellows are expected to obtain at least a "Fellow Mid-Year" on all competency areas.

This training program meets the licensing requirements for postdoctoral supervised practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Facility and Training Resources

The Postdoctoral Program is located within the new Women's Health Clinic building at the VAMC Hampton. The Women's Health Clinic represents an innovative approach to providing comprehensive health care to female Veterans. This building was completed in September 2012 and was selected as the first clinic to fully implement the Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT) model at the VAMC Hampton. The fellows are involved in this Clinic and function as independent team members. Within the PACT model,

fellows have opportunities to interact with staff from other disciplines. The fellows are considered full members of the clinical staff for the purposes of all staff activities, office support, and work accommodations. Each fellow has his/her own private office where they are able to provide therapy and assessment services. Each fellow's office has a PC with Windows, internet access, e-mail, and internal programs.

VAMC Hampton's medical library maintains a full line of reference materials and can provide the fellows with in-depth computerized literature searches. Databases are available for accessing full-text journal articles and books. Psychologists, as well as other staff, maintain their own collection of books and media related to their area of practice.

A large battery of psychological tests, procedures, and surveys are available in an on-line computer-based program maintained by the Veteran's Health Administration and are readily available to each fellow via their individually assigned computer terminals. The Psychology Services section of MH&BS maintains other current and up-to-date computerized and non-computerized assessment instruments and diagnostic tools.

Administrative Policies and Procedures

Grievance procedures and conflict resolution issues are specifically addressed in the Management of Problematic Behavior and Due Process document. This document is presented to incoming fellows during their initial orientation to the fellowship. Guidelines for all fellowship evaluations, disagreements, complaints, and grievances are clearly delineated, and all venues for appeal are described therein.

Statement of collecting personal information: "Our privacy policy is clear: we will collect no personal information about you when you visit our website."

The VAMC Hampton Postdoctoral Program does not require self-disclosure.

Hampton VA Medical Center Psychology Training Staff

Kathy Babel, Psy.D. – Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2003. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Military Sexual Trauma; Evidence-Based Psychotherapy; Supervision.

Cristina Valdivieso Bain, Ph.D. Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2018. Internship: Hampton VA Medical Center, VA. Clinical/Research Interests: Primary Care Mental Health, Focused ACT, Tobacco cessation, Brief interventions for alcohol use.

Corinne Engelbert Bolander, Psy.D. – Regent University, 2012. Internship: Hefner VA Medical Center, Salisbury, NC. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Behavioral health; Primary care psychology; Posttraumatic growth.

Carol Bonner, Psy.D. The Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2015. Internship: Hampton VA Medical Center. Clinical/Research Interests: Psychological Testing and Assessment, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Social Justice and Diversity Studies, Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy.

Chad Buck, PhD. Georgia State University, 2006. Internship: Vanderbilt University-Veterans Affairs Medical Center Internship in Professional Psychology, Nashville, TN. Clinical/Research Interests: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Childhood and Adult Sexual Abuse, Eating Disorders, Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy, Interpersonal Psychotherapy, Clinical Training/Supervision.

Scott L. Cone, Ph.D., Fordham University, 1998, Adjunct Faculty at College of William & Mary, Clinical Focus: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy with a broader focus on Contextual Behavioral Science and Process Based interventions.

James Dekker, Ph.D. – Ball State University – 1983. Internship: University of Utah Counseling Center, Salt Lake City, UT. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Substance Abuse; Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Nicole Dutta, PhD – Auburn University, 2016. Internship: Hampton VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Women's Behavioral Health; Trauma treatment; Sleep therapy.

Stephanie Eppinger, Ph.D. University of Georgia, 1996. Internship: U.S. Air Force, Andrews AFB, MD. Clinical/Research Interests: Dialectical Behavior Therapy; Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Clinical training/supervision, Evidenced-Based Psychotherapy.

Aaron M. Farley, Psy.D. – Regent University Program in Clinical Psychology, 2010. Internship: Spring Grove Hospital Center, Catonsville, MD. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Neuropsychology; Time-limited Psychotherapies; Primary Care Mental Health.

Curtis Greaves, Ph.D. - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Clinical Psychology Program, 1996. Internship: University of Virginia Counseling Center, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Mental Health Disability Evaluations; Motivational Interviewing; Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; Evidence-Based Psychotherapy.

Cynthia Hand, Psy.D. - Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2005. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: PTSD; Evidence-Based Psychotherapy; clinical hypnosis; assessment and treatment of sexual offenders.

Pejcharat Harvey, Ph.D. – University of North Texas, 2004. Internship: University of Delaware-Center for Counseling and Student Development, Newark, DE. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Multicultural counseling and psychotherapy. Cultural diversity. Cultural competence, Eating Disorders.

Sarah Ingle, Ph.D. - University of North Texas, 2008. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Clinical/Research Interests: Primary Care Mental Health; Psychological Assessment; Attachment Theory.

Peter Johnson, Psy.D. – Loyola University of Maryland, 2009. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Substance Abuse Disorders; Evidence Based Psychotherapy; Humanistic Psychology; Group Psychotherapy.

Tiffany Lange-Altman, Psy.D. --- Spalding University in Clinical Psychology, 2015. Internship: Charles George VAMC, Asheville, NC (LGBT Training Emphasis). Postdoctoral Fellowship: Hampton VAMC, Hampton, VA (Women's Health and Trauma). Primary clinical/research interests: trauma, behavioral and chemical addictions, LGBT Veterans, identity development/strengthening

Janette Mance-Khourey, Ph.D. – The University of Akron Collaborative Program in Counseling Psychology, 2012. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: integrated care, the training of integrated care providers, supervision, couple and family therapy.

John A. Mason, Psy.D. - Illinois School of Professional Psychology, 1991; Internship: Illinois State Psychiatric Institute, Chicago, IL. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, Psychological Assessment, Supervision, and Outpatient Mental Health.

Harold Maxwell, Jr., Psy.D. - Virginia Consortium Program in Professional Psychology, 1990. Internship: VA Medical Center, Pittsburgh, PA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Substance abuse; psychotherapy with African-Americans; religion and psychology.

Hilary Montano, Ph.D. – University of Georgia, 2012. Internship: VA Medical Center, Washington, D.C. Postdoctoral Fellowship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Women's Mental Health, Trauma, PTSD, CBT, DBT. **Melita Murray-Carney, Ph.D.** – University of Maryland, College Park, 1994. Internship: Virginia Commonwealth University, Counseling Center, Richmond, VA. Clinical/ Research Interests: Group Therapy; Cognitive Theory; Health Psychology; Spirituality and Psychology.

Lisa Newman, Psy.D.- Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2003. Internship: Broughton Hospital, Morganton NC. Primary Clinical Interests: Psychological and forensic assessment, psychotherapy (adolescents and adults), depression, anxiety, eating disorders and LGBT issues.

Heath Patterson, Ph.D. ---University of Alabama Program in Clinical Psychology and Law (2004). Internship: Florida State Hospital, Chattahoochee, FL. Primary clinical/research interests: assessment (more specifically malingering, personality, competency to stand trial and intelligence), criminal and civil forensic evaluations, voir dire/jury selection, courtroom testimony, evaluation of disability, teaching of undergraduates, and supervision of graduate level students.

Courtney Sherron, Psy.D. – The Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2009. Internship: Johns Hopkins University Counseling Center, Baltimore, MD. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Trauma/PTSD; Interpersonal Psychotherapy; Marital/Interpersonal Therapy; Process-Oriented Group Therapy; Issues of Identity/Sexuality; Lifespan Transitions/Adjustment; Supervision.

David Powell, Psy.D. – Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, 2005. Internship & Fellowship: Eastern Virginia Medical School, Norfolk VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Neuropsychology; Cognitive Rehabilitation; Assistive Technology; Geriatrics.

David Shaw, Ph.D. – Texas Tech University: Clinical Psychology, 1986. Internship: Pittsburgh VA Consortium, Pittsburgh, PA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Recovery in Mental Health, Anxiety Disorders, Behavioral Treatment of Tinnitus.

Joanne Shovlin, Psy.D. – Virginia Consortium Program in Professional Psychology, 1994. Internship: Friends Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: PTSD (combat); mood disorders; medical rehabilitation; geriatrics; hospice care and bereavement. Clinical orientation/interventions: Cognitive-behavioral & Psychodynamic; CPT provider; EMDR certified therapist.

Tasha Simmons, Psy.D. – Argosy University, 2007. Internship: Virginia Treatment Center for Children, Richmond, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Psychological Assessment, Forensic Psychology, and Geriatrics.

Abigail Slowik, Psy.D. – Indiana State University, 2015. Internship: James H. Quillen VAMC, Mountain Home, TN. Postdoctoral Fellowship: Hampton VAMC. Clinical /Research Interests: Women's Health and Trauma; Gender & Sexuality; Military Sexual Trauma.

Jennifer Thiessen, Psy.D. – Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University, 2011. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Trauma/PTSD; Psychodynamic Psychotherapy; Attachment Theory; Acceptance and Commitment Therapy; Psychological Assessment; Supervision.

Celena Thompson, Psy.D. – Wright State University School of Professional Psychology, 1997; Internship: Eastern Virginia Medical School; Primary clinical interests: cultural competency; gender specific treatment approaches; Evidenced-based trauma treatment.

Carolyn Turnage, Ph.D. – Loyola University Chicago, 2005. Internship: Virginia Commonwealth University Counseling Service, Richmond, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Relational-Cognitive model of therapy, addiction, and sexual trauma.

Alexis Zornitta, Ph.D. - Tennessee State University, 2013. Internship: VA Medical Center, Hampton, VA. Primary Clinical/Research Interests: Multiculturalism, Eating Disorders, Attachment Theory, Trauma/PTSD, and Assessment.

Current and Former Postdoctoral Fellows

2019-2020 Fellows

Stephanie Cristiano, Ph.D., Syracuse University, Hampton VAMC
Niki Terranova, Psy.D., The Chicago School of Professional Psychology at Washington D.C., VA
Tennessee Valley Healthcare System

2018-2019 Fellows

Emily Bullock, Psy.D., Spalding University (Clinical), Bay Pines VAMC
Donnesha Gibson, Ph.D., Howard University (Counseling), Hampton VAMC

2017-2018

April Trotman, Ph.D., University of Rhode Island; Charlie Norwood VAMC/Medical College of Georgia

2017

Lindsay Mullan, Psy.D., Fielding Graduate Institute (Clinical), Hampton VAMC

2015-2016 Fellows

Tiffany Lange-Altman, Psy.D., Spalding University (Clinical), Charles George VAMC (Asheville, NC)
Abigail Slowik, Psy.D., Indiana State University (Clinical), James H. Quillen VAMC (Mountain Home, TN)

2014-2015 Fellows

Michele Goldman, Psy.D., Adler School of Professional Psychology (Clinical), Reading Hospital
Lindsay Phebus, Psy.D., Nova Southeastern University (Clinical), Hampton VAMC

2013-2014 Fellows

Brita Reed, Psy.D. Antioch University (Clinical), Miami VAMC
Debra Brown, Psy.D. Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology (Clinical), Eastern Virginia
Medical School

2012-2013 Fellows

Vanessa Handsel, Ph.D. University of Tennessee (Clinical), Hampton VAMC
Hilary Harding, Ph.D. University of Georgia (Clinical), Washington DC VAMC

2011-2012 Fellows

Kathryn Bieri, Psy.D. The George Washington University (Clinical), White River Junction VAMC
Kristie (Fleming) Norwood, Ph.D. The University of Memphis (Counseling), Hampton VAMC

All fellows have provided consent for their names to be posted on our website.

Local Information

Hampton, Virginia, America's oldest continuous English speaking settlement and the site of the Civil War battle of the Monitor and the Merrimac, was founded in 1610 in the area of Virginia known as the "Cradle of the Nation." Within this geographical designation are the historical sites of the Jamestown Settlement, Yorktown Village and Battlefield and the restored city of Colonial Williamsburg. Nearby Newport News, the site of the world's largest shipbuilding company, together with the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth, make up the Port of Hampton Roads, one of the finest natural harbors in the world. Virginia Beach, the renowned seashore resort, is approximately a 35 minute drive from the Center, North Carolina's Outer Banks with it's world-class fishing and beach facilities is 1½ hours to the south and Washington, D.C. lies

185 miles to the north. The College of William & Mary, Hampton University, Old Dominion University, Norfolk State University and Christopher Newport University are the major learning and academic centers located within Hampton Roads.

The mild climate, ranging from an average of 47 degrees in January to 85 degrees in July, together with a wide variety of cultural and recreational activities, make this area an exceptionally attractive one in which to work and live. The Virginia Opera (the sixth largest opera company in the country), the Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival and the famed Hampton Jazz Festival are but a few of the many and varied events that have become an integral part of the Hampton Roads cultural scene. Hampton Roads is also home to the Chrysler Museum, the Mariner's Museum and the Virginia Beach Center for the Arts. Waterfront and seafood festivals are regularly scheduled on most summer weekends, world-class golf courses abound and the availability of water sports activities is virtually endless. Professional baseball, soccer and ice hockey are well represented and several major shopping centers are within easy reach of the Hampton Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

**The information in this brochure is accurate as of September 10, 2020*