

Sullivan Center for Children

**Post-Doctoral
Fellowship in
Clinical Psychology**
2018-2019



3443 W. Shaw
Fresno, California 93711

Phone: 559-271-1186
Fax: 559-382-8041
e-mail: markbarnes@sc4c.com



Introduction

The Sullivan Center for Children is an intensive outpatient treatment center that specializes in providing psychological services to children, adolescents, and their families. Our actual population varies greatly in terms of age, type of pathology, socio-economic status, and cultural background. Our Center is dedicated to the treatment of children, adolescents, and their families.

We provide intensive assessments and individualized treatment programs. We have the capability to provide individually tailored programs to best meet the needs of the children and families. We have an integrated team approach in which, if appropriate, children and members of their families can be involved in an integrated treatment approach using more than one modality.

We are a for-profit corporation, and provide fee-for-service basis, we also have a contract with Central Valley Regional Center that allows us to provide services to children who have a lower socio-economic status. We deal with problems of childhood that range from mildly to severely disturbed. Because we provide intensive outpatient services, we have a large population of patients who are severely disturbed and who are receiving intensive outpatient services in the hopes of facilitating integration from hospitals and residential treatment centers into their homes, or in helping to avert hospitalizations or placements in residential treatment.

A Critical Learning Experience

The Sullivan Center for Children is an APPIC member offering a Post-Doctoral Fellowship that is designed to provide the following:

- Post-Doctoral Level Fellowships, which are full time for a twelve month period
- The Post-Doctoral Fellowship is an essential training experience designed to help the developing professional become capable of independent practice.
- The goal of the fellowship is to create an environment, which

encourages competency in the practice of psychotherapy and psychodiagnostic assessment procedures.

The Setting

Fresno is located in the heart of the Central Valley and is one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. Fresno has a population of over 500,000.



Fresno is centrally located in California and is approximately two hours from Yosemite and three hours from the Central California Coast and San Francisco. The cost of living is below that of any other major metropolitan area of California making it an affordable and comfortable place to live.

The Sullivan Center for Children is located in a serene park like atmosphere with acres of grass and trees. The campus includes two buildings that house clinic offices, testing rooms, a library, play rooms, group rooms, and a recreation room. The play room includes an observation room with a one way mirror.

Senior Staff

Kathy Sullivan, Ph.D., Clinical Director and Founder of the Sullivan Center for Children, is a clinical psychologist with over twenty-five years experience specializing in the treatment of emotionally disturbed children and adolescents. She received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University, her doctorate from the California School of Professional Psychology in 1980, and was licensed by the State of California in 1982. Before opening the Center in 1989, Dr. Sullivan practiced in a variety of children's inpatient, residential, and outpatient settings.

Jason Christopherson, Psy.D., Assistant Director & Director of Training, has been with the Sullivan Center since 2012. He holds a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology with an emphasis in Child Psychology. Dr. Christopherson has diverse experience in treating children, adolescents, and their families in a variety of settings. He works with severely behaviorally and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents and medically complex children. He also specializes in social/emotional and neuropsychological testing.

David Fox, M.D., Director of Psychiatric Services, is Board Certified in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and holds certifications in Psychiatry-Neurology and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. He graduated from Harvard University in 1962 with a degree in Social Relations, and from Yale University School of Medicine in 1966. In addition to working at the Sullivan Center, he is also a consultant to the Diagnostic Center of Central California.

Emon Abdolsalehi-Najafi, Ph.D., Director of Organizational Development, has been with the Sullivan Center since 2013. She received her doctoral degree in 2010. She has worked extensively with children throughout her education and training and has a broad range of clinical experience in assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. She specializes in the assessment of developmental disabilities in children, particularly those on the Autism spectrum.

Laurie Rabens, Ph.D., Special Program Coordinator, has been with the Sullivan Center since 1989. She received her undergraduate degree in Psychology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, her Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology at the California School of Professional Psychology, and her Doctorate at the University of California, San Francisco. Since joining the Center, Dr. Rabens has been involved in a variety of roles including providing psychological assessment and treatment to children, adolescents, and their families. She holds a major role in program development for the Center. Dr. Rabens' clinical specialty is the assessment and treatment of preschool and young children.

Errol Leifer, Ph.D., ABPP, Senior Supervising Psychologist & Neuropsychologist, earned his doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Georgia in Athens. He completed an internship in clinical psychology in the Department of Neurology and Psychiatry at Northwestern University Medical School Clinics in Chicago, Ill. His post-doctoral fellowship in clinical psychology was done at Menninger Foundation in Topeka, Kansas. He serves in a teaching and supervisory role for other clinicians at the Center.

Michael Petrovich, Ph.D., obtained his Ph.D. in 1983. He served as Chief Psychologist and Adult Team leader for the Kaiser Permanente Medical Group - Fresno, from 1993-2014. He also served as Director of Training at Kaiser from 1993-1995 and has been continuously active in supervising psychology interns over the past 20 years. Currently, Dr. Petrovich is now a member of the Senior Staff at the Sullivan Center for Children and specializes in working with married couples who are in distress, as well as adults and older adolescents who suffer from anxiety, depression, or PTSD.

Steve Castro, Psy.D., has provided clinical services to children and families for over a decade. Dr. Castro has extensive experience in the areas of individual therapy, group/family therapy, and psychological assessment.

Clinical Psychology Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program



- Approximately 15% of a Post-Doctoral Fellow's time is allocated for charting and other administrative work.
- The Post-Doctoral Fellow will spend 15% of his or her time involved in professional and practice development which will include mentoring and practice supervision of Interns

The training program is structured, yet allows the Post-Doctoral Fellow flexibility to participate in activities designed to meet his or her individual interests and training goals.

Psychotherapy Training

The majority of services provided at the Sullivan Center include individual psychotherapy for children, adolescents and adults with heavy emphasis in caseload on child and adolescent patients. A Post-Doctoral Fellow may carry one or two adult patients who may or may not be parents of children and adolescents in treatment at the Center. However, the focus is definitely on child and adolescent problems. There is a special emphasis on training techniques of play therapy as many of our clientele are pre-adolescent children. We also provide a wide range of group therapies. Post-Doctoral Fellows will be required to participate in a minimum of one group at any given time. Groups range in age from early childhood to adult and can be process or psychoeducational in nature. Post-Doctoral Fellows will be assigned to a group that is most appropriate in terms of their ability and training needs.

Family therapy is also a modality that is used quite frequently. Post-Doctoral Fellows will be trained in making the decision about whether or not individual or family therapy is most appropriate given the needs of the child and/or family. All clinicians working with children at the Sullivan Center also work with their families and parents in one fashion or another, or are coordinating treatment with another therapist who is providing treatment for the parent or family.

Post-Doctoral Fellows will have the opportunity to work with patients of all ages. The heaviest caseload population that a Post-Doctoral

Post-Doctoral Fellowship Training Components

- Psychotherapy Training (individual, group, couples, and families)
- Psychodiagnostic Assessment
- Clinical Interviewing
- Didactic Seminars
- Professional Development

Post-Doctoral Fellows can expect to spend their time as follows:

- For approximately 50% of their time, Post-Doctoral Fellows are engaged in clinical activities. Such activities can include: clinical interviewing, psychodiagnostic assessments, neuropsychological assessments, individual and group therapy, marital and family therapy, and consultation.
- Approximately 20% of a Post-Doctoral Fellow's time is given to attending seminars and group supervision meetings.



Fellow will be carrying will be pre-adolescent children from two to twelve, and adolescents from thirteen to eighteen. Types of pathology will range from mild to severe. He/She will treat children ranging from those experiencing adjustment disorders extending to children who are suffering from major depression and schizophrenia. Most Post-Doctoral Fellows will initially be assigned children who are suffering from mild to moderate disorders, and as their expertise and training progresses, will be assigned children with more serious disturbances. In terms of socio-economic status there is also a considerable range. In terms of cultural issues approximately sixty percent of our clientele are Caucasian; the other forty percent are Mexican-American and African-American and a very small percentage are Asian families.

Psychodiagnostic Assessment

The Post-Doctoral Fellow will be exposed to a wide variety of testing instruments and training opportunities involving psychological testing. Post-Doctoral Fellows are trained in the administration, scoring and interpretation of a broad range of psychological instruments that are used to aid in differential diagnosis with children, adolescents, and parents. Specific instruments that are commonly used

include Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence: Third Edition, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children IV, Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Adults IV, Kaufman Assessment Battery for Children, McCarthy Sales of Children's Intelligence, Leiter International Performance Scale, Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test, Stanford Binet Intelligence Scale-V. Students are also expected to be able to administer, interpret and score the MMPI-2, PAI, MMPI-Adolescent, Millon-III and Millon Adolescent, Rorschach, Thematic Apperception Test, Children's Apperception Test, Roberts Apperception Test, and Projective Drawing instruments. Being able to administer, score and interpret the above are minimum criteria for successful completion of the Fellowship.



Clinical Interviewing

Psychodiagnostic interviews are part of the initial evaluation for every patient seen at the Sullivan Center. Post-Doctoral Fellows will be responsible for interviewing and performing mental status exams, and arriving at diagnostic formulations for all patients who they treat. They will have the opportunity to observe experienced clinicians both evaluating and performing psychological assessments. The Post-Doctoral Fellow will be expected to manage all aspects of the client's treatment, which includes collateral contacts with other health

professionals and school based clientele. The Post-Doctoral Fellow should expect a clinical case load of twenty to twenty-five clinical cases per week. The Post-Doctoral Fellow is expected to fully participate in all aspects of training which include supervision as well as seminars and ongoing continuing education events.

Didactic Seminars

Additional training and supervision will be offered in the form of didactic seminars, which will include weekly hourly meetings involving three different areas primarily. Those group supervision contacts are described below:



- Theoretical Seminars are provided by an experienced Licensed Psychologist who in weekly meetings covers issues regarding theoretical understanding and case conceptualization.
- Grand Rounds are conducted by our Staff Psychiatrist on a weekly basis to discuss intervention strategies, both of a psychotherapeutic and pharmacological nature.
- Applied Techniques in Psychotherapy is an ongoing seminar conducted by the Director of the Sullivan Center for Children and is held weekly to discuss in a group supervision setting issues involving applied techniques. This supervision includes techniques of therapeutic intervention as well as assessment techniques.

- Assessment Seminar meets weekly and includes discussion of assessment techniques including administration, scoring, interpretation and integrating test findings into a well written report.

Professional Development

The Post-Doctoral Fellows will experience individual and group supervision while fulfilling his/her fellowship commitment. Each Post-Doctoral Fellow will be assigned two supervisors for individual supervision. One, a primary supervisor, will be responsible for working with the Post-Doctoral Fellow on his or her clinical cases. The secondary supervisor will be working with the Post-Doctoral Fellow on the psychological testing cases that the Post-Doctoral Fellow carries at any one time.



As a Post-Doctoral Fellow enters into training at the Sullivan Center for Children, it is expected that the Fellow will have a level of training that is commensurate with Doctoral level experience. This should include the capacity to perform clinical interviews, case conceptualization, and treatment planning.

It is the expectation that over the course of the year the Post-Doctoral

Fellow will develop from a training orientation to a more independent practitioner orientation. The Post-Doctoral Fellow should expect to receive training in aspects of clinical case management, clinical business management, theoretical and structural organization of a clinical practice.

It is the hope of this fellowship site that by the time a Post-Doctoral Fellow completes their training at the Sullivan Center for Children that the individual will be equipped to perform psychological services approaching a professional level. The goal of the Sullivan Center fellowship program is to facilitate the professional development of a Post-Doctoral Fellow from student to an individual capable of practicing as a psychologist.



Appointments

Post-Doctoral fellowships are offered to students who have completed doctoral programs at a regionally accredited institution in clinical psychology and who have completed an internship that meets APPIC standards either through APPIC affiliation or verification through interview that internship provided sufficient training and experiences.

Fellowships begin on July 1st of any given year. Application deadline is January 15th of that year. The applicant should contact the Training Director to request an application and brochure. The stipend for the Post-Doctoral Fellowship is \$43,680.00 per year.

During the course of the training year, the Fellow will be evaluated on two occasions. The Fellowship will meet or exceed state licensing requirements.

Please address inquiries to

Jason Christopherson, Psy.D.
Director of Training
Sullivan Center for Children
3443 West Shaw
Fresno, California 93711

Phone# (559) 271-1186
Fax#: (559) 271-8041
E-mail: jasonchristopherson@sc4c.com

