



**CHILD and FAMILY  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
Providence Saint John's Health Center

## **DOCTORAL PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING PROGRAM CHANGES DUE TO THE COVID19**

**The health, safety and well-being of our staff, clients and community remains our highest priority during the COVID-19 outbreak. PPE are provided for all staff and include masks, gloves, and masks with transparent mouth covers for psych assessment, face shields, Plexiglas barriers, and hospital grade sanitizer. CDC-recommended screening procedures for COVID-19 symptoms are in place for screening all staff and clients.**

### **For all Clinical Programs**

- A significant portion of clinical services may be delivered remotely via HIPAA-compliant telehealth platforms.
- Doctoral Psychology Interns will receive training and ongoing guidance in the technical, ethical and legal considerations of telehealth service delivery.
- Individual and group supervision may be delivered remotely, depending on CA Board of Psychology guidelines in response to COVID-19. For up-to-date guidance please refer to the CA BOP webpage: <https://www.psychology.ca.gov/covid/index.shtml>
- Interns and staff are not required to come in to the clinic, but can come in as often as they choose to
- All interns are provided with new laptops for the entire training year.
- Optionally, clinicians may choose to meet with their clients outdoors off-campus from the clinic, such as at the park or in the client's backyard. In these in-person sessions, clinicians are strictly enforcing social distancing and mask wearing on the part of both client and clinician.

### **Assessment Training**

- Assessment orientation and trainings have been moved to virtual trainings, and the weekly assessment seminar will also be held via Zoom.
- In person assessments with precautions are being conducted at the clinic, in the open, outside are, when both the assessor and client feel comfortable but is not a requirement. Interns who do not feel comfortable administering measures in person have the option to utilize a staff psychologist who will administer measures and the intern will score, interpret, and integrate measures in a comprehensive report.
- Assessment feedback is currently being conducted via Zoom.
- Certain measures have been accommodated and added in order to administer measures via Zoom or via remote administration. These measures include select subtests of the WISC, WAIS, and WJ-IV, and theBASC-3, MACI-2, and MMPI-2.
- PPE are provided for all staff and include masks, gloves, masks with transparent mouth covers, face shields, Plexiglas barriers, and hospital grade sanitizer. CDC-recommended screening procedures for COVID-19 symptoms are in place for screening all staff and clients.

### **ECAT Program**

- The preschool consultation services provided through The Pinwheel Project have also moved to the virtual platform, and these include small psychoeducational and process groups oriented toward children, parents, and teachers.
- Our ECAT team meets once per week on a virtual platform to consult with one another regarding best practices for engaging families with small children over telehealth, maintaining our own and families' morale, and addressing issues of inequity that have been amplified during COVID-19.
- Clinicians are utilizing the models of MAP, CPP, and PCIT through Zoom to address mental health challenges in children 0-5 years old.
- There are also opportunities for providing virtually-hosted psychoeducational workshops through The Pinwheel Project to parents and teachers.
- Finally, it is hoped that interns will assist in data collection and analysis for research associated with The Pinwheel Project.

### **Therapeutic Preschool (Day Treatment Intensive) Program**

- The program has re-opened with CDC precautions in place. Staff and clients are required to wear masks. Staff and clients participate in daily temperature checks. Parents are required to sign COVID-19 symptoms screening at the beginning of each day and provide the program with an Emergency contact of the day.
- The milieu is set-up to provide social distancing and limited to a 10 client capacity. Outside spaces are utilized daily for social, fine-motor and gross-motor activities. A daily schedule of hand washing, classroom and toy cleaning has been implemented to decrease the spread of COVID-19.
- Remotely, clinical staff are proactively reaching out to our current clients and offering telephone and telehealth services to ensure continuity of care and provide support. Providing families with resources to protect their health and well-being including access to supports for basic needs.
- Day Treatment team meetings, case conference and Doctoral Psychology Intern supervision are conducted weekly via Zoom.
- Program Coordinator is working with local authorities like the Department of Mental Health, Child Care Licensing and connecting with national resources like the Centers for Disease Control to ensure that we are up-to-date on the latest orders, protocols, and best practices.

### **FAST Program**

- Due to the Los Angeles (LAUSD) and Santa Monica (SMMUSD) school districts being closed to students at the moment and distance learning being in place, staff currently providing telehealth services
- The FAST Team is maintaining communication with representatives from these school districts about any plans to re-open and in what capacity school-based mental health services will resume. The FAST Team will continue to abide by any policies set forth by Providence St. John's Child and Family Development Center with regards to the provision of any future face-to-face contact with clients.
- The FAST team is attending all relevant school-related meetings such as IEPs, 504, general updates meetings on students' progress, and meetings triaging incoming referrals with school administration. Consultations with teachers and additional trainings for teachers to assist them with supporting students are available to doctoral psychology interns.

### **YDP/C-YDP Program**

- Due to the Santa Monica (SMMUSD) school districts being closed to students at the moment and distance learning being in place, staff currently providing telehealth services
- The YDP Team is maintaining communication with representatives from these school districts about any plans to re-open and in what capacity school-based mental health services will resume.
- Parenting groups, training opportunities for teachers are available to psychology interns during the school year
- The YDP team is attending all relevant school-related meetings such as IEPs, 504, and SSTs. Trainings and consultations with and for teachers are available to doctoral psychology interns.