

The Haven Program
Piscataway Public Schools
Located at Piscataway High School, East Wing, Entrance 30, Room B147
100 Behmer Road, Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
732-981-0700 x. 2249 (Director) or x.2250 (Secretary)
haven@pway.org

Psychology Doctoral Internship
2017-2018

The Haven is a school based mental health program which provides psychological services to school-age children (K-12 grades) and their families in Piscataway, New Jersey. Piscataway is a highly diverse community in terms of socio-economic and racial/ethnic diversity. The program is offered by the Piscataway Board of Education in partnership with the Center for Applied Psychology at Rutgers University. Our program is open during school hours and four evenings a week to see families with a remarkable range of presenting problems and demographic characteristics. During the school day, we provide individual and group counseling to high school students, as well as consultation and crisis intervention. Many of these students are high-risk, and one of our program goals is to help maintain them in the mainstream high school setting rather than being isolated in private special education schools. We also provide individual counseling services to the in-house alternative program at the high school.

Under the supervision of the Director, Patrick Connelly, Psy.D. (who is licensed in New Jersey), two doctoral internships will be offered. Both interns will have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of the program. The positions require two evenings per week and include delivery of comprehensive mental health services to individual students, student groups, and families as well as consultation to teachers, parents and staff to enhance student academic performance and social-emotional well-being. In addition to two hours of weekly, individual supervision, interns will participate in a group supervision which includes educational components such as suicide assessment, family therapy, CBT, mindfulness and other topics. Interns will have the opportunity to assist in running some of these supervision groups. This is a full-time, 10-month position commencing mid-August 2016.

Intern Responsibilities:

- Along with the director, coordinate services to K – 8 students including case management, communication with district staff, visits to other schools for meetings and observations, etc.
- Along with the director, coordinate services to 9-12th grade students, including case management, coordination with high school staff and contact with parents and guardians.
- Assist in and provide individual counseling, psycho-educational groups and behavior consultation for alternative high school program.
- Conduct clinical intakes and coordinate treatment with Haven counselors and district staff.
- Conduct social-emotional and behavioral assessments in coordination with district staff as requested.
- Provide crisis assessment and intervention.
- Provide individual, family and group intervention with students related to social-emotional well being, mental health issues and academic functioning.
- Develop and present educational workshops on issues related to enhancing the emotional, social and academic development of students. These may be presented to parents and faculty/staff.
- Consultation with faculty, staff, administration, and parents on student-related mental health and academic issues

A partnership between the Center for Applied Psychology at Rutgers University and the Piscataway Public Schools to enhance student success and well-being.

- Review and interpretation of educational and psychological tests for purposes of treatment and educational planning.
- Assist in development and refinement of outcome measures and monitoring.
- Research and data collection as appropriate, in particular for program evaluation purposes.
- Development, implementation, and evaluation of programs that address primary and secondary prevention.
- Participate in weekly individual supervision (2 hours), weekly group supervision (2 hours) and other learning activities.
- Participate in week-long staff training in August.

Qualifications:

- Experience in school settings and with child/adolescent populations is expected.
- Experience with multicultural populations is preferred.
- Experience with groups and/or families is also preferable.
- Applicants must be flexible in their approach to intervention (individual, group and family therapy, consultation, etc.) to meet the needs of our diverse population
- Both positions require two evenings per week

Application:

- Submit a letter of interest, CV/resume and two letters of reference to:

Patrick Connelly, Psy.D.
Director, the Haven
Piscataway High School
100 Behmer Road
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
(732) 981-0700 x2250
haven@pway.org

Presentation to Candidates

3/3/14

- Great experience with a wide range of presenting issues.
- Chance to work with individuals and groups
- Chance to work with families in various forms
- This can be a mix of parent and child separately, parent and identified child together, or entire family.
- Supervision is integrative:
- Cognitive behavioral strategies are used extensively
- Psychodynamic concepts such as projection, defense mechanisms and countertransference are considered.
- Mindfulness is key – you will learn to teach those skills to students, but also use it become aware of your own experience being with the client and how that provides information to help the therapy.
- Systems is key as well: Our family and culture of origin are the original systems we start in. we study each of those to see how they influence your approach for better or worse. Our clients also come from and live in a complex set of systems including many forms of cultural identity – race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation and many others. Our thinking also includes the school as a system. For example, how the school as a system responds to the mental health needs of their students, or how students of a particular cultural or racial group are treated.

There are a few key distinctions between the two positions:

- The high school position is half-time behaviorist. Prior experience with behavioral work in school settings will be very helpful to have.
- The K-8 position requires strong organizational and relationship-building skills. You will be one of the key contact persons with the other 9 schools in the district. The district staff have been great to work with, but the input is high and requires skill to manage. You would be a key link between the Haven system and the sending school system. That link, along with the family link, helps us be effective.