

Supplemental Information #1

IDEAL APPLICANTS TO THE CONNECTIONS DAY SCHOOL CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Ideal Connections Day School applicants are engaged, enthusiastic learners who are interested in being part of a dynamic multidisciplinary team comprised of: Psychologists, Professional Counselors, Social Workers, Special Education Teachers, Principal, Program Assistants, Restorative Intervention Specialists, an Art Therapist, Substance Abuse Specialist, Speech & Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist, Marriage & Family Therapist and Psychiatrist.

Trainees who thrive in this setting, are those who are committed to the following:

1. Developing and refining their case conceptualization, treatment planning and clinical intervention skills in the areas of Individual Therapy, Group Therapy, Family Therapy, Milieu Therapy and Crisis Intervention.
2. Developing and refining their professionalism, communication and assertiveness skills; and their ability to integrate themselves into, and contribute to, the therapeutic milieu. This is best accomplished by: establishing and maintaining solid working relationships with clients, their families, colleagues and supervisors; presenting therapy cases and any concerns in a clear, organized and concise manner; advocating for clients effectively; and maintaining a consistent openness to new learning from all sources.
3. Developing and refining their awareness and knowledge of individual differences and diversity characteristics, improving intercultural competence skills, gaining a better understanding of implicit bias, and recognizing the critical importance of equity, inclusion and belonging, as they work to individualize their treatment approach to best serve the unique needs of each client and their family.
4. Developing and refining their awareness, and knowledge, of the legal standards and ethical principles that are the basis for a Psychologist's/Therapist's best practices.
5. Developing and refining their skills, comfort and confidence when presenting information to groups of students, colleagues, supervisors and other professionals while leading group therapy and while presenting in Individual Education Plan (IEP) Conferences, group supervision and staff meetings and when doing clinical case presentations.
6. Developing and refining their case management, social/emotional, restorative and behavior intervention skills, and their knowledge of the Special Education system – all of which are critical elements to work dynamically within the Connections Day School milieu. In addition, developing competence in these areas can be extraordinarily helpful to any professional therapist's work with high-risk children, adolescents and their families in the future.