

## 2020-2021 Academic Year Community Service Project Grants



### **Franciscan Community Development Center**

Funding will support a community based psychotherapy center in West New York NJ. Clients are mostly recent immigrants to this country and the majority are undocumented, Almost all clients use their native language (Spanish) to receive services. Franciscan Community Development Center is a multi-disciplinary service center that brings forth an invaluable service to those most in need. The Counseling Services was a journey made possible under the core principles of love, service, and respect for all which are the forefront of our mission and that of Felician University. Students in the Psy.D. program in Counseling Psychology program witnessed how one of their peers was actively addressing the troubles associated with substance abuse within their community. In their effort to do the same, a conversation with our Executive Director led to the fruition of the counseling services. Since the inception of our collaboration, we have set forth a vision for our services that embraces the hardships that our communities face by providing a safe place for our clients. Under the supervision of Dr. Mahoney and Dr. Emmanuel Mercedes, and the preparation provided by the training and the support of the faculty at Felician University, our therapists maintain the best practices in counseling while offering our clients clear and precise treatment plans for addressing the mental health needs of individuals and/or groups. Our focus is to offer a compassionate, community focused, and inclusive service, to a multicultural diverse and challenged client base while striving to maintain the model of service to others by providing quality mental health services guided by empirically validated best practices.



Estrevina Rivera



Marcela Farfan



Salvador Reyes

## **Kean Programs**

### **Kean Social Skills Empowerment Group**

Social Skills Empowerment Group: For High Functioning Youth 12-21 Years old with Austims Spectrum Disorders and a Parent Mindfulness, Training and Support Group (which parents attend while their children attend the group). We will run 2 groups of 8 youths and 2 groups of 8 parents (Parent groups runs simultaneously with the youth group; So 4 groups in total each session), in Fall 2020, Winter 2021, and Spring 2021. All services will be provided either through: Kean Psychological Services, our program's community training clinic, Hybrid or Online depending on public health conditions. Services will be provided free of charge to all participants.



Claudia Emmanuel



Gittie Freeman



Vanessa Vega

### **Kean Adult Community Members Program**

We will be providing no-cost evidence-based individual psychotherapy for adult community members facing health, anxiety, or trauma-related difficulties.



Cristina Galese



Giuliana Stillo



Ritvik Dutta

## **Newark Beth Israel Programs**

### **Newark Beth Israel -General Track**

The doctoral students in this application will be providing treatment and assessment services for an at-risk, underserved trauma population, as part of the General Track externship at the Metropolitan Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. The Metro RDTC is one of New Jersey's four state-designated multidisciplinary centers for the evaluation and treatment of abused and neglected children. We primarily serve the culturally and socioeconomically diverse children and families who reside in Essex County.

The RDTC provides forensic evaluation when child maltreatment is suspected, psychological screenings for children recently placed in foster care, and a multitude of mental health services including group, individual and family therapy using multiple orientations (e.g. cognitive behavioral therapy, eye-movement desensitization, play therapy, and psychodynamic psychotherapy). Incoming externship students will also be trained in and administer psychotherapy and evaluations via telehealth (on a HIPPA approved platform). The mission of the RDTC is to provide a sensitive and caring setting for children and their families in which they can receive professional, compassionate trauma-informed & culturally competent assessments and therapeutic services.



Jessica Elliott



Sekinat  
Kuku



Shaneze  
Gayle



Simonleigh  
Miller



Tania  
Chowdhury



Raghad  
Hassabelna  
by

### **Newark Beth Israel Game Based -CBT**

The doctoral students in this application will be providing treatment and assessment services for an at-risk, underserved trauma population, as part of Child Advocacy Center externship track at the Metropolitan Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center. The Metro RDTC is one of four RDTCs in New Jersey committed to providing medical and psychological evaluations and care for survivors of child abuse and neglect. It is housed in a Child Advocacy Center that bears the distinction of being the first and only fully co-located Child Advocacy Center in New Jersey with all partners onsite. Onsite partners include the Essex County Prosecutor's (ECPO) Special Victims Unit (SVU), Newark Beth Israel Medical Center's (NBIMC) Metropolitan Regional Diagnostic and Treatment Center (RDTC), the Division of Child Protection and Permanency (DCP&P), and a team of not-for-profit professionals, including a Family Advocate. Providing services in this multidisciplinary setting allows for an integrated and coordinated response to abuse and neglect for a community in-need of significant services. Families served at the RDTC are predominantly from economically disadvantaged, urban communities.



Brittany Klimek



Christopher Watkins



Sade Porter



Zerbina  
Valdespino-  
Hayden

## Rutgers Programs

### Rutgers GSAAP Foster Care Counseling Project

All FCCP student clinicians provide individual, family, and dyadic therapy to youth, ranging in age from 3 to 18 years old, with significant histories of trauma. Biological parents, adoptive parents, and resource parents are involved in each child's therapy, whenever possible, to maximize the success of treatment. FCCP attempts to overcome treatment barriers by providing in-home parent management training and family sessions when treatment barriers prevent the client's family from attending sessions at the clinic. While providing treatment, student clinicians offer training and consultation to caregivers, DCP&P caseworkers, community organizations, school personnel, and other professions. They also complete thorough intakes and post-treatment assessments at the beginning and end of treatment, respectively, and make recommendations based on findings to optimize each child's functioning. All clients are assigned an undergraduate mentor to provide an additional level of support for the child. Student Clinicians provide case consultation and supervision to their assigned mentors.



Damilola Kolade



Drew Mendelson



Jessica Reed



Melissa Farsang

### Rutgers DBT Clinic

These students are practica students for 2020-2021 year in the Dialectical Behavior Therapy Clinic at Rutgers University (DBT-RU), directed by Shireen Rizvi. Students learn and conduct comprehensive diagnostic assessments for borderline personality disorder and comorbid problems as well as assessment of suicidal behaviors. Students deliver DBT individual therapy, group skills training, phone coaching as needed, and attend weekly consultation team, in addition to weekly supervision.



Febrian  
Moten



Jesse  
Finklestein



Kate El-  
Sharkawy



Maria Alba



Molly Stern



Kathryn  
Coniglio

### **Rutgers K-5 Elementary School High Poverty Program**

Teacher and paraprofessional behavior support coaching to improve student behavior and learning in K-5 grade high poverty elementary schools in NJ; students will be extensively trained and supervised on a unique behavior support coaching model that uses data to: (a) identify classroom practice and student behavior needs, (b) set goals, (c) identifies functions of behavior, (d) matches student goals, functions to specific evidence-based intervention (from a evidence-based intervention toolkit) that improves student behavior and learning in classroom contexts. Students are also trained to criterion on several classroom and student observational systems, behavior screeners and teacher rating scales (BASC-3, SSIS) to assess and monitor changes in student functioning in relation to adult (school personnel) practices and interactions.



Amy Oliveira



Gabrielle Moya



Sam Barkhordari



Samuel Laverty

### **Rutgers Anxiety Disorders Clinic**

The Rutgers Anxiety Disorders Clinic (ADC) provides intake assessments, individual, and group psychotherapy to both the Rutgers University community and the surrounding community. The ADC provides low cost, evidence-based treatment for anxiety and related disorders. The clinic offers specialized care for anxiety disorders, obsessive-compulsive disorder, an posttraumatic stress disorder. A portion of the clients served by the ADC are Veterans, both Rutgers University student veterans and veterans from the surrounding community. The funded students carry a caseload of 6 to 8 individual clients throughout the year, in addition to having opportunities to co-facilitate groups intermittently offered by the clinic. Groups generally serve 4 to 10 clients. The funded students will also serve as coordinators for the ADC and perform both the clinical work noted above, along with additional administrative tasks that are crucial in supporting clinic operations.



Idil Franko



Joel Seltzer

### **Rutgers Tourette Syndrome Clinic**

The Tourette Syndrome Clinic was developed in partnership between Rutgers' Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology (GSAPP) and the NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome (NJCTS). The Rutgers-NJCTS Therapeutic program is offered through the Psychological Services Clinic at GSAPP, which provides a variety of psychological services to the public. There are an estimated 7,000 people in New Jersey believed to have full-blown TS and very few resources available to assist them. Through this partnership with NJCTS, we have created specialized treatment programs to address the needs of individuals with Tourette Syndrome and their families. While providing a unique, hands-on learning experience for advanced graduate students, we also strive to increase awareness of TS in the professional community. The Doctoral Student Clinicians in the clinic are an enthusiastic team of students from the doctoral programs in clinical and school psychology at Rutgers University. The high quality of the Rutgers programs, along with the intensive level of training and supervision provided, allows the students to become experts in the evaluation and treatment of Tourette Syndrome and its co-occurring disorders.



Amanda  
Austin



Emily  
Hendershot



Erin  
Rosenberg



May Yuan



Nina Dallenbach

### **Rutgers YAD-C**

Each student will serve as YAD-C interviewer and therapist. As interviewers, Melissa and Tian will be scheduled for biweekly diagnostic interviews (potential max 26 interviews, typically 15-20 a year) that includes separate interviews with caregivers and youth, totaling 3-5 hours plus completing an intake write-up. The interviews consist of comprehensive assessment of DSM-5 disorders and open-ended assessment of functional impairment. Students attend weekly interview supervision. On average, this role takes about 4-5 hours per week (assessment, write-up, coordination, supervision). As therapists, Tian will maintain a caseload of 5 youth/family cases at a time (typically 15 cases over the year). In this capacity, Tian will oversee all of the case management for each case and provide one of three evidence-based behavioral approaches for anxiety/depression. She will receive weekly supervision. On average, this role takes about 8 hours per week (case management,

therapy, supervision). Melissa will see a lower therapy case load (about 1-2 cases) so that she can receive training in peer supervision and supervise novice clinicians and also help manage the data set for the research functions of the YAD-C. In addition, Melissa contributes to our Rutgers Community Partnership initiative in which she helps coordinate educational activities with community organizations.



Melissa Pedroza



Tian Saltzman

### **Youth Development Clinic**

Individual and family therapy including Intake Assessments, treatment planning & case documentation School-based social-emotional learning groups and individual counseling Psychological assessments Population includes children, adolescents and their families of African-American and Hispanic heritage, urban and low SES (qualify for Medicaid and/or free/reduced lunch).



Fernanda Moura



Sadaf Khawar



Victoria Interra