

# Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center's Resident Training Program

## About the Program

The Center's Post Graduate Training Program is an intensive two-year program designed for professional counselors and marriage and family therapists seeking continuing education and real-world experience prior to licensure. The training includes classroom instruction, individual/group clinical supervision, psychiatric consultation, case consultation and training in spiritually integrated psychotherapy. Training opportunities are coupled with counseling opportunities with children, adolescents, adults, and couples presenting with a wide variety of mental health needs. Students completing the program are prepared for licensure examination, and poised to provide quality mental health services as fully trained practitioners.

## Schedule

The training year runs from September – June each year. Individual supervision continues throughout the twelve months of the year. Our program is designed to meet the unique needs of interns, and postgraduate students seeking part-time and full-time employment. The majority of the training program's supervision and educational experiences take place on Wednesday between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Grouping educational experiences on a single day of the week allows for residents to have a maximum amount of freedom over their schedules.

## Program Leadership

One of the strengths of our program is the diverse expertise present in our faculty. Our training team is comprised of a psychiatrist, psychologist, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapists, licensed professional counselors and clergy. This team brings decades of clinical experience, coupled with a wide range of clinical interests and areas of expertise.

## Program Cost, Compensation, and Benefits

All supervision and training is provided by the center at no cost to the resident/intern. Our residents are paid a percentage of the fee collected from insured and non-insured clients. Residents who are working full-time qualify for health insurance benefits. Interns do not qualify for compensation.

## Application Requirements

We accept applications for the training program throughout the course of the year.

Timeline:

- Applications received and reviewed throughout the course of the year.
- We do allow for individuals to join a cohort in the middle of the year.
- The training program runs from September – June each year.

To apply, complete the application on our website. You will then be contacted by the training director for a brief conversation, prior to being invited to submit the following documents:

- A resume
- Your transcripts
- Two letters of recommendation from someone familiar with your clinical skills (typically a practice class instructor or a practicum supervisor)

Applications will be considered when all the requested materials have been received. Interviews will be scheduled with applicants who move forward in the process.

## ***Frequently Asked Questions***

### ***Are you accepting interns or practicum students?***

We accept a limited number of interns/practicum students each year.

### ***Do you accept professionals into your program from all the fields who train counselors and therapists?***

No. We are currently only accepting those who are completing the requirements that will lead to licensure as a marriage and family therapist or professional counselor. We are not currently accepting those training to become psychologists, social workers or those with degrees in related human service fields.

### ***What are the Center's expectations of residents?***

- Residents/interns will participate in an orientation prior to beginning training.
- Residents/interns will participate in at least 1 hour of individual supervision weekly and 2 hours of group supervision monthly.
- Residents/interns are required to participate in a 1-hour case consultation discussions with the center's clinical staff weekly on Wednesdays.
- Residents/interns are required to participate in monthly process and spiritual integration meetings on Wednesday.
- Residents are required to present 2 clinical cases at case conference per year.
- Residents will participate in two didactic seminars each year of training.
- Residents will be a part of our counselor on-call system.
- Attendance is mandatory at all the above supervisory experiences, seminars and groups for all trainees unless exceptions are approved in consultation with the trainee's supervisor.

### ***Is Peninsula Pastoral Counseling Center a "Christian Counseling Center?"***

The center is a multidisciplinary, non-sectarian, not-for-profit, mental health clinic that embraces a holistic mind-body-spirit approach to mental health. Our counselors and clients come from diverse backgrounds and our services are designed to respond to the individual needs of each person we walk alongside. Pastoral Counseling is a tradition within psychotherapy that reflects a commitment to respecting and integrating a client's whole person, including any religious or spiritual identity that is important to them. We believe in caring for each individual as a whole person: mind, body and spirit. Spirituality or faith are important to many clients and can be incorporated into a client's experience to the degree the client and counselor agree it would be helpful. The Center is not affiliated with any religion, denomination or faith tradition, and all exploration of faith and spirituality is client-driven.

### ***When does the Center's Training Program begin?***

The Center's Training Program begins in late August or September.

### ***May residents begin their training year at other times during the year?***

Yes. We do accept applications, interview candidates and admit residents into the program throughout the course of the year. Because the center offers an intensive, structured group training experience, we do like for residents/interns to enter the training program in August/September. If an individual joins us before or after our annual orientation, they will be connected with an individual supervisor and a case-by-case decision will be made concern how that candidate is integrated into the training program during that year of the program.

### ***What qualities does the Center seek in its residents?***

Candidates will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Successful completion of all graduate coursework to date
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Openness to learning about clinical practice
- Self-awareness and willingness to learn about themselves as developing clinicians
- Ability to articulate their educational and professional goals
- Ability to articulate their current clinical approach and learning goals
- Personal and professional maturity
- Ability to articulate the ways in which their personal values and goals interface with the Center's mission
- An interest in integrating spirituality into ones work as a therapist.

### **For further information, please contact:**

We are happy to answer any of your additional questions about our program. Please direct your questions to Rev. Brent Seusy, L.C.S.W. He can be reached at [bseusy@hushmail.com](mailto:bseusy@hushmail.com) or 757-873-2273.