



Clinical Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship

Emerging Young Adult Services

**About the Fellowship:**

This Clinical Psychology Postdoctoral Fellowship is embedded in the Emerging Young Adult Services program of the Massachusetts Mental Health Center (MMHC), part of the Department of Mental Health (DMH) in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Emerging Young Adult Service provides individual psychotherapy, medication management, group therapy, substance use counseling, and a milieu environment to DMH-connected young adults ages 18 to 26 diagnosed with severe mental illness. It is staffed by a multidisciplinary team of providers including a child and adolescent psychiatrist, a clinical psychologist, and several clinical social workers.

The activities of the fellowship will be evenly split between research and clinical activities and will include supervision and training activities as well. Applicants should have a strong interest in delivering high quality, evidence-based mental health care to individuals from historically underserved and underrepresented communities and in program evaluation and development. This position provides an opportunity for an early-career psychologist to become invested in building and evaluating programs within DMH in order to ensure that we are providing effective and efficient treatment to the populations we serve.

The fellowship is funded by a DMH training grant through Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), which is an affiliate of Harvard Medical School. The post-doctoral fellow will be employed by BIDMC and will be appointed as an academic fellow of Harvard Medical School.

**Fellowship Aims:**

To provide the Fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the provision of clinical care and conduct of research with young adults with severe mental illness.

To provide the Fellow with experience in working within State agencies and in learning about available resources to support transition age youth with severe mental illness.

To provide the Fellow with knowledge and competencies regarding program evaluation and program development.

To provide the Fellow with knowledge and competencies with clinical research and to provide opportunities to pursue independent research projects and/or publications based on the interest of the fellow.

### **Clinical Activity Plan:**

Approximately 40% of FTE (16 hours/week) should be devoted to providing clinical services. This will take place at the Emerging Young Adult Services program and will involve a combination of: 1) Provision of direct clinical services to young adults in the form of individual, group, and family therapy; 2) Completion of clinical assessments including diagnostic interviews and other assessments to assist with treatment, referrals or discharge planning; 3) Participation in weekly multidisciplinary treatment team meetings; 4) Completion of clinical documentation to maintain accurate records and to document case formulations, assessment results, treatment plans and progress notes in a timely, concise, and clear manner.

### **Didactics Training Activity Plan:**

Didactics will comprise approximately 10% FTE (4 hours/week) and will entail a combination of individual supervision, structured didactics and seminars, and attendance of grand rounds. Dr. Emily Gagen will provide individual supervision for at least one hour per week on clinical activities and program evaluation. Dr. Shirley Yen, who serves as Training Director, will provide supervision on research activities and career development on a biweekly basis. The Fellow will also have the opportunity to attend a series of Law and Ethics seminars in the Department of Psychology. The Fellowship is embedded in a rich educational environment with numerous resources and opportunities. Examples of other educational activities include weekly Grand Rounds at MMHC (Wednesdays), weekly Grand Rounds at BIDMC (Thursdays), weekly psychotherapy seminars through the CEDAR clinic on (Fridays), and webinars through the Massachusetts Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) and the Massachusetts Psychosis Network for Early Treatment (MAPNET).

### **Research:**

Approximately 40% FTE (16 hours/week) of the Fellow's activities will be focused on identifying and implementing research tools and protocols in the Emerging Young Adult Services program in order to engage in extensive program evaluation, including pathways to care and long-term outcomes after termination of treatment. Research activities might also include creating a database to better understand the diagnostic presentations of the population we serve (including the evaluation of transdiagnostic constructs of interest), evaluation of the feasibility and acceptability of specific groups to determine whether they are having an effect on their targeted outcome, and clinical research that could help inform the development of the program, including evaluating the long-term outcome of engagement in the program.

Approximately 10% FTE (4 hours/week) of the Fellow's research activities will be based on the independent interests of the Fellow, in partnership with a research faculty member based within

BIDMC. This may include initiating or collaborating on a manuscript submission and/or poster presentation and/or grant proposal.

### **Supervision and Evaluation:**

Clinical supervision will be provided in the form of one-hour weekly face-to-face individual supervision blocks with licensed clinical psychologists on site (minimum of 1 hour individual, face-to-face supervision weekly). An additional hourly block of individual, face-to-face supervision will be offered for academic/research supervision. The Fellow also will have access to indirect supervision through participation in weekly team meetings.

The Fellow and supervisors will develop fellowship goals and learning objectives early on in the year. At the midpoint and conclusion of the Fellowship, the Fellow and supervisors will provide formal performance evaluations of one another. At each point in time, the Fellow will also provide an evaluation of the program relative to the goals and learning objectives of the Fellowship.

### **Resources:**

The Fellow will be provided with the following resources:

1. Individual office space for scheduled, in-person clinic time.
2. A personal desktop or laptop computer with internet access.
3. Access to printer, photocopying, scanning.
4. Clinical space for meeting with patients/clients.
5. Access to Harvard Medical School library.

### **Fellowship Timeline and Requirements:**

This is a two-year fellowship. The start date is flexible but must be after July 1, 2022.

The position requires a doctoral degree (Ph.D., Psy.D.) in clinical or counseling psychology from a regionally accredited college or university. The strongest preference will be given to students who graduated from an APA-accredited program and completed an APA-accredited or APPIC-member internship.

Interested candidates should submit initial application materials to Dr. Shirley Yen at [syen1@bidmc.harvard.edu](mailto:syen1@bidmc.harvard.edu). The initial application materials must include a CV and cover letter describing your interest in and match to the position.

If we are interested based on your initial application, we will conduct a brief telephone interview and will require 2 letters of reference.