

Program Overview

Valley Health's Doctoral Internship Program is housed within the Department of Behavioral Medicine. All supervising psychologists are employees of Valley Health. All supervising psychologists hold a doctoral degree in psychology and are licensed psychologist in the state of West Virginia. Additionally, they have been approved by the West Virginia Board of Examiners in Psychologists to serve as supervisors.

The Doctoral Internship at Valley Health is designed to provide a broad training experience in behavioral health services within a primary care setting. Doctoral Interns will be referred to as Psychology Intern and will work under the supervision of licensed psychologists. Interns will function as a member of multidisciplinary teams that operate at varying levels of integration in primary care. We are committed to providing a supportive educational environment to interns as they continue to develop into increasingly independent professionals. It is the goal of the training program to prepare interns to be able to take on a variety of roles that exist in primary care settings, particularly in settings that provide access for underserved patients. This internship includes experiences in integrated primary care, integrated approaches to opioid addiction, as well as more traditional outpatient services and assessments that are provided in collaboration with other healthcare professionals. Interns may also have the opportunity to obtain training and experience within our Dialectical Behavioral Therapy program or in ongoing research projects. Through these experiences, it is our intent to contribute to the development of a professional workforce prepared to meet the needs of underserved patients in primary care settings.

Valley Health System Mission

Valley Health is a federally qualified healthcare center with a mission to provide healthcare to all individuals and an emphasis on reaching those who are underserved. Valley Health serves nearly 60,000 patients each year through a system of health care facilities and providers in family medicine, women's health, dentistry, internal medicine, pediatrics, optometry and behavioral medicine. Valley Health also offers specialty programs including Women, Infants and Children (WIC), nutrition services, school-based health centers and programs for the homeless. As part of this mission, Valley Health provides services to patients, regardless of their ability to pay.

To provide the highest possible quality service to our patients, we strive to be aware of the cultural context of the communities we serve. The patients that we serve vary widely in terms of education level and socioeconomic status. Additionally, patients vary in whether they live in a city with access to resources such as public transportation and relatively short commutes to services or whether they live in a very rural community with few resources easily accessible. Awareness of the language used by the patient in their health care encounters, beliefs and values that shape their presentations and experiences, and recognition of the impact of clinician's own experiences on our relationships with our patients is central to our daily work.

Vision:

Valley Health Systems will be the leader in providing excellent community-based primary healthcare.

Values:

Honesty: We will tell the truth.

Respect: We will treat every person as important.

Unity: We will work together.

Trust: We will do what we say and say what we do.