



PRIME NEWSLETTER

Promoting Rigorous and Interdisciplinary Mental Healthcare Education Program



Needs Assessments Report: 2022-2023

Dr. Carrie Smith, Ph.D. leads the program data collection and reporting for the PRIME program.

Dr. Smith interviewed a total of 22 community partners between in the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters. The interviews were conducted over Zoom and telephone and the site supervisors were asked the following set of broad questions:

1. Discuss interns need to know in order to succeed in their placements and careers
2. Discuss what the programs at Millersville University can do to help bolster the students' success in their placements and careers
3. Discuss how the programs at Millersville University could better foster a teams-based approach among current students and interns

Community partners shared that in order for students to be successful there is a need for:

- Specific skills and knowledge
 - Broad knowledge of diagnosis, interventions, and medications
 - Background in trauma-informed care
 - Cultural competency
 - Understanding the connections between the micro, mezo , and macro levels
 - Understanding the importance of administrative tasks and work.
- Approach and attitude
 - Be realistic about success and knowledge
 - Practice self-care and avoid burnout
 - Understand the needs of the work and the organization
 - Begin a transition to a professional self



WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

- **MUA:** Medically Underserved Area
- **MUP:** Medically Underserved Population
- **HPSA:** Health Professional Shortage Area
- **BHWET:** Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training

To learn more about how **rural** areas are determined, click [HERE](#)

To find shortage areas by address, click [HERE](#)



PRIME Student Spotlight Rasheed Osman-MSW Student

Tell us about where you are doing your internship and a little bit about the agency:

My internship is with the South Central Pennsylvania Region of the American Red Cross (ARC). ARC provides disaster relief services to individuals, families, groups, and communities impacted by disaster to alleviate their suffering through mobilizing volunteers and donors' resources and coordinating with federal, state, and local governments, as well as private and non-profit organizations. ARC offers five service lines: Disaster Cycle Services, Blood Services, Service to Armed Forces, Training Services, and International Services.

What is it that you are doing or that you expect to be doing in the course of your internship?

I am an intern with Disaster Cycle Services and a member of the Disaster Action Team (DAT). There are three Group Activity Positions I hold that provide disaster relief services during Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Recovery. We make homes safer through community outreach by installing smoke alarms and educating families on preventing fire incidents as part of our preparedness services. The team can provide immediate assistance in the form of cash assistance, connections to community resources, and psychological first aid when deployed. Among our services are mass care, shelter, and canteens for disaster-affected communities and canteen services and emotional support to first responders. During the recovery phase, we also provide case management and link people with internal and external resources, including disaster mental health, spiritual care, condolence services, and disaster health care. The internship will be so rewarding because it will allow me to make a noticeable difference in the lives of people affected by disasters of all kinds.

PRIME Student Spotlight Stephanie Perez- M.S. Clinical Psychology Student

Tell us about where you are doing your internship and a little bit about the agency:

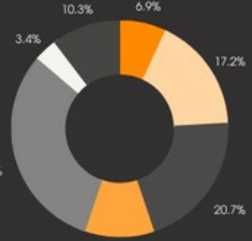
I am completing my internship experience at Realistic Behavior & Therapeutic Services in the Wyomissing PA area. This company strives to create a positive difference and significantly improve the quality of life of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other developmental delays. They provide an array of ABA services catered to each individual client served.

What is it that you are doing or that you expect to be doing in the course of your internship?

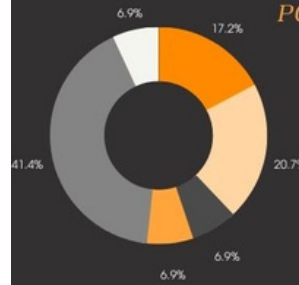
During my time with the company, I will be strengthening my knowledge and expertise on diagnostic reporting. I also will be learning about (and helping to implement) different ABA protocols. I have teamed up with my supervisor to create a socials skills group that incorporates the families of our clients. I cannot wait to see what else I accomplish while being a part of this amazing team!

2021-2022 COHORT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

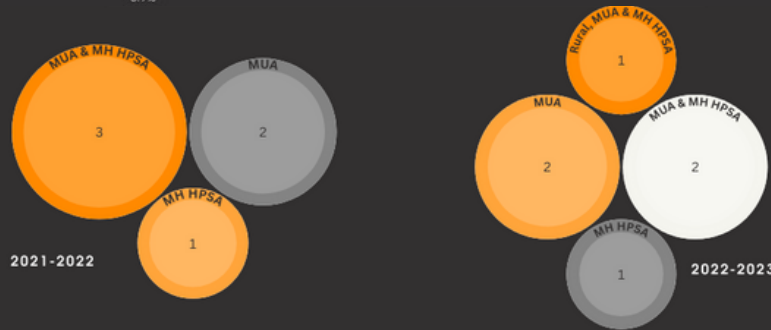
- 31% (9)- Employed or pursuing a career serving at-risk children, adolescents and/or transitional age youth
- 20.7% (6)- Employed or pursuing a career serving individuals with OUD/SUD
- 17.2% (5)- Did not respond to 1-year post survey
- 10.3% (3)- Employed in a medically underserved community
- 10.3% (3)- Other
- 6.9% (2)- Unemployed
- 3.4% (1)- Employed in a primary care setting



2022-2023 COHORT POST-GRAD INTENTIONS



- Pursue employment in a career serving at-risk children, adolescents and/or transitional age youth- 41.4% (12)
- Pursue employment in a medically underserved community- 20.7% (6)
- Pursue employment in a primary care setting- 17.2% (5)
- Pursue employment in a rural community- 6.9% (2)
- Pursue employment working with military personnel, veterans, and their families- 6.9% (2)
- Other- 6.9% (2)



EMPLOYMENT LOCATION DATA



A goal of the PRIME grant is to strengthen the recruitment of students from underrepresented groups in the MS in Clinical Psychology and MSW programs to participate in the program. The program has continued to increase the diversity of the students participating in PRIME.

**Some students fall within multiple identifiers*

STUDENT STATISTICS

30 NEW PRIME SITES (SO FAR!)



PRIME 2023-2024 Trainings

The PRIME program offers four free trainings to all PRIME participants, students, faculty, staff and community members. Free CEUs provided for Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselors.

Friday, October 20, 2023 10AM-12PM: *“Treating Trauma with Evidence Based Practices via Telehealth”* by Dr. Kimberly D. Ernest, Ph.D., LPC

[FLYER](#) [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Friday, November 3, 2023 1PM-4PM: *“Promoting Mental Health in the Refugee/Immigration Community: Challenges and Opportunities”* by Kate Daneker, Jeanne Martin-Sczechowicz, Samickshya Subedi, Saurab Bhandari

[FLYER](#) [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Friday, February 9, 2024 1PM-4PM: *“Utilizing the Community Resiliency Model (CRM): Supporting the Mental Health of Workers and the Community”* by Dr. Kat Walsh, LCSW

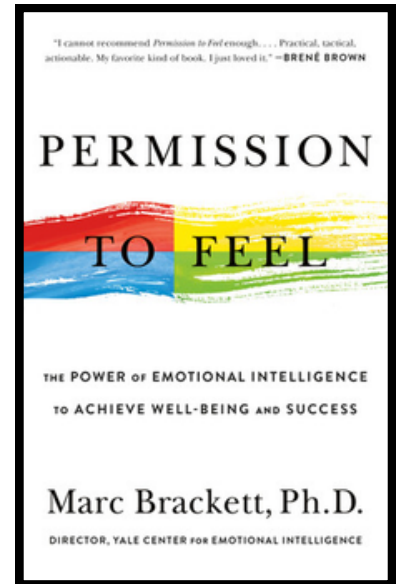
[FLYER](#) [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Friday, April 5, 2024 1PM-3:30PM: *“An Introduction to Using Interactive Biblio-Poetry Therapy”* by Nancy Scherlong, LCSW

[FLYER](#) [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

PRIME Program Special Project: Virtual Bookclub

The PRIME program started a new special project this year to further engage the students, faculty, staff, and community members that are associated with the HRSA grant and/or Millersville University. The program has organized a virtual book club that will be reading and reflecting on the book “Permission to Feel” by Dr. Marc Brackett, Ph.D. The goal of the book club is to showcase the power of bibliotherapy and reflective reading in the community by providing two asynchronous sessions for participants to join. The fall session is currently underway and started September 18 and will go until November 17. There are about 40 participants in the first session, and already 30 registered to participate in the second session from January 22 to March 22. During each session, the group will be provided a timeline to complete the book over three months, and during that time prompts will be provided to guide reflection on the teachings on emotional intelligence and well-being outlined in the novel. Nancy Scherlong, LCSW, will be providing the prompts to encourage discussion over the course of the book club.



TO REGISTER FOR THE NEXT BOOK CLUB SESSION, CLICK [HERE!](#)