

Developmental Psychology Track

In support of the CHS mission, Cherokee has a team of developmental psychologists and developmental psychology interns. The developmental psychology team is committed to high quality assessment, consultation, intervention and training for children, families, schools and community agencies working with children with developmental and learning disorders, including autism, specific genetic conditions, prenatal drug exposure, attachment disorders, and learning disabilities, with the primary focus being autism spectrum. CHS has provided developmental psychology services for over 30 years and is represented on Tennessee's Autism Summit Team.. The developmental psychology program has relationships with the University of Tennessee School Psychology Department, the University of Tennessee Speech and Language Department, the East Tennessee Children's Hospital, East Tennessee State University Pediatrics, Maryville College, and local educational agencies.

Rural Clinic Placements: Talbott

Urban Clinic Placements: Center City and Dameron

Training Objectives: Build and refine advanced skills and knowledge in:

- Advanced assessment and consultation on issues related to the child development, autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disorders
- Consultation and support to promote the integration of medical, clinical, developmental, and educational services for children with developmental challenges
- Education and training to providers and other child-serving agencies that work with the developmental disabilities to disseminate and enhance best practices for children and youth
- Assist medical care providers in screening for developmental, behavioral, and social-emotional problems during well child checkups, including the use of the M-CHAT for autism screening
- Provide consultation to the health care team on issues related to child development and behavior management
- Provide consultation to the families of "typically developing" children to minimize risk for developmental, behavioral, or mental health problems
- Assist school systems in the identification of children with special needs; assist in the development of school based programs for children with special needs
- Review and edit written materials used for anticipatory guidance
- Administrative activities to include program development, coordinating case consultations and serving as a liaison to other developmental service providers and educational agencies
- Provision of services in a diverse outpatient clinic with opportunities to work with specialists in multiple disciplines (e.g., psychiatrists, social workers, nurses, case managers, family physicians, nurse practitioners, pharmacists)
- Provision of services to diverse developmental (early childhood, middle childhood, adolescents, and families) and ethnic (rural Appalachian, African-American, Latino, urban, refugee) populations

Expected proficiencies upon completion of Fellowship:

- Advanced skills and knowledge in assessment, case formulation and consultation on complex cases of children with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental challenges, including making recommendations to parents, developmental therapists (e.g. language pathologists), and educational agencies, in practical and understandable language
- Thorough knowledge of best practice guidelines and evidence-based practices in developmental psychology
- Abilities to provide education and training of providers working with families touched by Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental challenges
- Advanced treatment expertise with children, youth, and families, including specific skills in interventions with complex cases that may include developmental challenges, health problems, social stressors, and systems coordination issues

Developmental Postdoctoral Fellows work in some combination of three of the CHS integrated health care clinics: Center City, Dameron Ave., and Talbott. Fellows will provide the following psychological services:

- Comprehensive record review
- On-site developmental assessments for infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school age children with developmental challenges
- Developmental Psychology evaluation reports identifying strengths, challenges, and recommended interventions
- Consultation in multi-disciplinary meetings involving families, developmental therapists, and educators
- Consultation and collaboration with the developmental team, including participation in Autism Treatment Team Meetings
- Education and training to local child healthcare providers, parents and educators

Supervisors for the Developmental track include:

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