



THE WARREN ALPERT
Medical School
BROWN UNIVERSITY

**Clinical Psychology Training Programs at Brown: A Consortium of the
Providence VA Medical Center, Lifespan, and Care New England
Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program
Postdoctoral Fellowship Description: RESEARCH FOCUS**

Title: Postdoctoral Fellowship in Advancing and scaling innovative
community-engaged brief interventions: Bridging Research and Practice

APA-accredited: ___ YES __X__ NO

Site: The Miriam Hospital

Supervisor(s): Laura Stroud, Ph.D. Primary Supervisor
Chrystal Vergara-Lopez, Ph.D.
Ernestine Jennings, Ph.D.

Description of Site

The proposed training will be carried out at the [Center for Behavioral and Preventive Medicine \(CBPM\)](#) and within the [COBRE Center for Stress, Trauma, and Resilience \(STAR\)](#) at The Miriam Hospital, an affiliate of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University. CBPM is home to multiple research scientists, senior research scientists, and affiliated faculty, as well as numerous fellows and students. CBPM has a 30+ year history of conducting innovative research involving inter-disciplinary, behavioral approaches to the prevention and treatment of disease. Our research ranges from biobehavioral mechanisms to behavioral factors in health and disease, and from translating these discoveries into interventions for health promotion and disease management and implementing and disseminating evidence-based interventions. CBPM serves as a home for the [COBRE Center for Stress, Trauma, and Resilience \(STAR\)](#) and the [Qualitative Science and Methods Training Program](#). Current areas of research strength at CBPM include: stress, trauma and resilience; women's and maternal-child health; complementary and integrative health; tobacco and substance use; mHealth; physical activity promotion, sexual health, qualitative and quantitative methods; and behavioral interventions in chronic illness (e.g., cardiovascular disease, diabetes, HIV, aging). CBPM research covers "cells to society" including laboratory, clinical, community, and online research venues.

Mentorship is a key value of all CBPM faculty. CBPM serves as Brown University's official training site for behavioral and preventive medicine, and stress, trauma, and resilience. We mentor and provide research experiences for postdoctoral fellows supported through multiple NIH-funded T32 training grants as well as investigator-funded fellowships. Our faculty also mentor undergraduate and graduate students, and psychology residents from our world-class clinical psychology internship program. Our culture is highly collaborative and embodies the values of integrity, respect, and inclusion. Our investigators collaborate actively with each other, with other centers and departments, and nationally and internationally.

CBPM and the Lifespan Health system are dedicated to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Employees are expected to embrace and successfully role model Lifespan's values of Compassion, Accountability, Respect, and Excellence as these guide our everyday actions with patients, research

participants, customers and one another. Lifespan is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, ancestry, genetics, gender identity or expression, disability, protected veteran or marital status.

CBPM is launching a new program bridging research and practice to promote physical and mental health at scale in Rhode Island. The focus is on developing, adapting, and delivering innovative brief scalable consultation, intervention, educational and skill-based workshops in partnership with community organizations. This fellowship will offer the post-doctoral fellow the opportunity to engage in brief intervention-based research and practice. Specifically, post-doctoral fellows will conduct program development, community-engaged need and acceptability assessments, and delivery of evidence-based consultation, intervention, and workshop services. To better serve the large Latine community in Providence, RI, and surrounding cities (nearly ~18% of the population), there will be opportunities to develop services and programs in Spanish and English. The post-doctoral fellow will work closely with [Dr. Laura Stroud, PhD](#) CBPM and COBRE for STAR Director, [Dr. Chrystal Vergara-Lopez, PhD](#) CBPM Research Scientists and licensed clinical psychologist and [Dr. Ernestine Jennings, PhD](#) CBPM Senior Research Scientist and licensed clinical psychologist. This fellowship opportunity is best suited for individuals interested in pursuing a clinical psychology scientist practitioner career. The fellow will also be offered the opportunity to take part in all training, mentoring and educational opportunities through CBPM and STAR.

Fellowship Aims

1. To provide the fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the area of developing, adapting, and delivering innovative brief scalable consultation, intervention, educational and skill-based workshops in partnership with community organizations. Including adapting programs to Spanish speaking communities.
2. To provide the fellow with a strong working knowledge of brief scalable intervention program development research and how to conduct community-engaged research.
3. To provide the fellow with research training and experience in preparation for a research career as a scientist practitioner with expertise in program development and brief intervention research.

Fellowship Timeline

The duration of the fellowship is 1-2 years, years with the second-year contingent upon satisfactory progress during the first year and availability of funding. The anticipated start date is negotiable between January and September 2024.

Research Activity Plan (60%)

The fellow will be exposed to various aspects of community-engaged brief intervention development research via participation in the following activities:

- **Literature Review (15%).** Review and documentation of relevant literature in evidence-based brief and single session interventions, and well as community-engaged research.
- **Program Coordination (20%).** The fellow will coordinate and conduct participant enrollment, community-engaged need and acceptability assessments, data curation (e.g., intervention outcome data), and research/program develop meetings on a weekly basis.

- **Scholarly Products (15%).** The fellow will be encouraged to collaborate on manuscript preparation and poster submissions at national conferences. Individually tailored goals will be established in this area.
- **Grant writing (10%).** The fellow will be encouraged to develop a grant idea and submit a grant proposal by the end of the fellowship term.

Clinical Activity Plan (30%)

Opportunities for additional clinical experience will be provided as part of the position.

- Direct patient care and organizational consultation will be delivered through The Miriam Hospital and may be conducted in person or via remote delivery. The scope of services includes delivering innovative brief scalable consultation, intervention, educational and skill-based workshops in partnership with community organizations. These may include cognitive-behavioral approaches to sleep hygiene, stress management, low self-esteem, ruminative thinking patterns, etc. It may also include delivering evidence-based workshop programs (e.g., parenting skills).
- Clinical assessment: The post-doctoral fellow will develop skills in assessment of community organization mental health needs, thereby broadening assessment skills beyond a target individual.

Path toward licensure: YES X NO _____

Didactics (10%)

Postdoctoral Seminars: The fellow will participate in the following postdoctoral seminars through the Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program.

Mandatory Didactics:

- RFP Core Seminar (1 per week)
- Grantwriting Seminar (1 per week)
- DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1 per month)

Optional Didactics and Opportunities:

- Clinical Ethics – if intending to sit for licensure (1 per month)
- Special topics in statistics
- Alcohol Center seminars
- DPHB Diversity Mentoring Program – including opportunities for mentorship from faculty within DPHB conducting work in areas of interest

Supervision and Evaluation

Research supervision will be provided in the form of one hour per week of individual supervision (Drs. Stroud, Vergara-Lopez, and/or Jennings). Clinical supervision will be provided in the form of one hour per week of individual supervision (Drs. Vergara-Lopez and/or Jennings).

Every 6 months for the duration of the fellowship, the fellow and the supervisors will provide formal evaluations, and evaluations of the program relative to the goals and learning objectives of the fellowship.

Please visit the [Brown Faculty](#) page to view supervisor profiles.

Resource Requirements

Fellow will be provided with the following resources:

- Access to space to complete research responsibilities
- A computer and project specific software
- Internet access
- Telephone
- Travel to one conference per year will be supported up to \$1500

Reporting and approval

This fellowship will be part of the Research Fellowship Program. The position has been discussed and approved by the RFP faculty and Training Committee.

Director, Research Fellowship Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program