



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 Adolescent Psychopathology and Psychotherapy

Site: Bradley/Hasbro Children's Research Center

APA-accredited: YES NO

Supervisor(s): Yovanska Duarte-Velez, PhD (Primary Supervisor)
Gisela Gimenez-Colon, PhD (Clinical Supervisor)
Anthony Spirito, PhD (Supervisor)

Description

The goal of this fellowship is to provide training in the assessment and treatment of adolescent psychopathology, including depression, suicidality, non-suicidal self-injury, and trauma, specifically in Latinx youth. Training goals will be met by participating in a clinical research program. The aim of the proposed research is to test a model of providing treatment to Latinx/Hispanic youth, who experience suicidal thoughts and behavior, and their caregivers. An affirmative and culturally relevant treatment will be provided to all youth and half of the families will be assigned to the additional support of a community health worker (CHW). Youth symptoms and family engagement to treatment will be followed for nine months. The potential benefit of adding the CHW intervention will be assessed.

The research program is based at the Emma Pendleton Bradley Hospital, the nation's first psychiatric hospital devoted exclusively to children and adolescents. A Lifespan partner and a teaching hospital of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Bradley Hospital has established itself as a national center for training and research in child and adolescent psychiatry. Each year, Bradley Hospital has over 1,000 inpatient child and adolescent psychiatric admissions and over 10,000 outpatient appointments.

Research participants will receive mental health services through Mi Gente Program (My People), which is based at the Child and Family Outpatient Services Department at Bradley Hospital. Mi Gente Program is an affirmative evidence-based and culturally relevant mental health program devoted to Latinx/Hispanic youth at risk of mood disorders, trauma, and suicidality. Referrals to the Mi Gente Program come from higher levels of inpatient and partial-hospitalization care at Bradley Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital as well as from the community. Collectively, the Lifespan system provides most of the mental health services to children in Rhode Island. Dr. Duarte-Velez is the Director of Mi Gente Program and the InVita Research Lab both part of Bradley Hospital at Lifespan.

Fellowship Aims

- To provide exposure to a comprehensive research treatment program for Latinx adolescents.
- To provide the fellow with training in the clinical assessment of adolescents presenting with suicidal behavior, NSSI, and/or trauma.

- To provide the fellow exposure to structured interviewing to derive diagnoses and assess life events.
- To actively participate in analyzing data, presenting results at national meetings, and writing original peer-reviewed manuscripts.

Fellowship Timeline

The duration of the fellowship is 1 year, with an anticipated start date of July 1, 2024.

Research Activity (60%)

Sixty percent of the fellow's time will be devoted to research, academic/didactic, and professional training experiences. The fellow will participate in the following activities:

- Study Activities: The fellow will participate in the recruitment and evaluation of adolescents with suicidal behavior, provide research psychiatric interviews to assess diagnoses, and NSSI. The fellow will conduct the rating of protocol therapy sessions and provide therapy under a research protocol. 30%
- Statistical Support: The fellow will participate in the process of reviewing the data bank for accuracy and cleaning and running statistical analysis. 5%
- Review of relevant literature: The fellow will review literature in the areas of adolescent suicide, adolescent NSSI, trauma, and the influences of socio-cultural, and individual factors on treatment response for the preparation of manuscripts and grant applications. 5%
- Manuscript preparation and submission: 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. 5%
- Grant preparation and submission. The fellow will be required to participate in mentor grant writing and encouraged to write their own grant application. 10%
- The fellow will be required to participate in weekly research meetings. 5%

Clinical Activity Plan (30%)

Thirty percent of the fellow's time will be devoted to direct and indirect service to adolescent patients to ensure that the fellow receives clinical training in the provision of evidence-based psychotherapy for Latinx youth and their families, specifically culturally centered CBT (Socio-cognitive behavioral therapy for suicidal behaviors- SCBT-SB). Treatment will focus on Latinx youth with mood disorder, suicidal behaviors, and trauma. This will include the following activities:

- Treatment services: The fellow will participate in the care of outpatients through the Mi Gente Program, an on-site outpatient specialized program for Latinx youth. Instruction in evidence-based treatments protocols, (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), SCBT-SB, Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT), Trauma Focused CBT (TF-CBT), will be provided.

Path toward licensure: YES X NO It is anticipated that the number of clinical hours obtained through the clinical activity plan will be adequate for the fellow to be license eligible at the end of one year.

Didactics Plan (10%)

Post-Doctoral Seminars: The fellow will be required to participate in the post-doctoral research seminar series through the Brown University Postdoctoral Training Program.

Didactics:

Core Seminars (1 per month)

DPHB Academic Grand Rounds (1 per month)

Clinical Ethics – if intending to sit for licensure (1 per month)

Relevant Track Seminars

Required Research Seminars: RFP Seminar, Grant Writing Seminar, Special Topics in Statistics (optional)

Supervision and Evaluation

Supervision will be provided in the form of one-hour weekly individual research supervision and one-hour weekly clinical supervision by Dr. Duarte-Velez. One hour of weekly clinical supervision will be provided by Dr. Jimenez-Colon at Mi Gente, and one hour of group supervision by Dr. Spirito. A minimum of one hour of individual clinical supervision will be provided weekly. The fellow and supervisors will develop individualized training goals and training objectives at the beginning of the fellowship year.

At the conclusion and midpoint 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:

- Office space:
- A personal desktop computer and project specific software
- Internet access
- Telephone

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.

Associate Director, Research Fellowship Program

Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Program