Clifford Attkisson Clinical Services Research Training Program

The NIMH-funded Clifford Attkisson Clinical Services Research Training Program (CSRTP) is focused on bridging the dissemination and implementation gap between science and service. For the past 34 years, CSRTP has launched the careers of clinical services investigators by providing high quality education and support to postdoctoral scholars from a variety of disciplines (including psychology, social work, epidemiology, sociology, medicine, health economics, and nursing) who plan to pursue careers in mental health services research.

Graduates of the CSRTP have been extremely successful: eighty-four percent (84%) obtained academic or research positions; by conservative criteria, 66% received research support from extramural, primarily federal, research funds. CSRTP graduates contributed substantively to the extant literature, producing over 500 peer-reviewed publications to date.

Our training goals are to:

- help postdoctoral fellows acquire sufficient methodological knowledge and research skills to conduct high quality clinical services and interventions research
- through study and experiential learning, help postdoctoral fellows acquire knowledge about the most important pressing and contemporary issues in clinical services research
- assist postdoctoral fellows to attain professional skills essential to career advancement in academic and research settings
- help postdoctoral fellows develop a national scientific peer network within specific research areas

The NIMH has determined that there is an urgent unmet need for science focused on improvement and development of interventions for individuals suffering from mental illness that are acceptable and easily disseminated to the service community and supported by policy makers. CSRTP trains junior investigators in the principles of clinical services research, relevant research methods, and professional skills.

Requirements

Applicants must have a PhD or postgraduate degree (MD) by time of appointment.

How to apply

Please send your CV and a letter of interest to Linda Pfiffner, PhD [1].

Curriculum
The program consists of:

- intensive research collaboration and mentorship with a faculty mentor or mentor team
- a required seminar focused on state-of-the-art developments in scientific technologies related to clinical services, interventions and policy research
- a career development seminar and participation in campus-sponsored career planning and development services
- education in research methods through elective seminars and directed reading
- skill development in scientific writing and making scientific presentations
- job search training
- training in scientific ethics and responsible conduct in science

The main research emphases will be on:

- community based treatment development and evaluation
- dissemination and implementation of evidence-based practice into community settings
- developing system/intersystem interventions for children, older adults and populations with severe mental illness
- health policy economics

Contacts

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Related links

• National Institute of Mental Health [19]