Introduction

1. **About Jamaica Hospital Medical Center (Mission and Vision):**

   Jamaica Hospital Medical Center (JHMC) is a 424-bed, community teaching hospital with a large network of community-based ambulatory care centers. MediSys Health Network is the not-for-profit parent organization of Jamaica Hospital Medical Center as well as several other healthcare provider organizations, including Flushing Hospital Medical Center, Trump Pavilion, and Advanced Center of Psychotherapy located at Forest Hills and Jamaica Estates. JHMC offers a full array of acute inpatient, rehabilitation and mental health services. It is the largest voluntary hospital ambulance fleet serving the City’s 911 system, and a Level I trauma center. The hospital provides general medical, pediatric, and psychiatric emergency services, ambulatory care on and off campus, ambulatory surgery, and a broad spectrum of diagnostic and treatment services. JHMC has brought high quality, accessible services to the underserved residents of the neighborhoods that we serve. Jamaica Hospital’s services fill a void for the people in our community, many of whom speak limited or no English, are underinsured or have no health insurance. Our mission is to serve our patients and community in a way that is second to none.

2. **Department of Psychiatry**

   The Department of Psychiatry at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center provides Inpatient psychiatry services, outpatient services, consultation/liaison services and has a Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program which includes three care components; Psychiatric emergency room, mobile crisis outreach, and extended observation beds.

   The division of psychology is currently comprised of licensed psychologists serving in leadership roles within the department. The psychologists work closely with psychiatrists, social workers, creative arts therapists, nursing staff and staff from other disciplines to provide quality, evidence based practices to patient care. Additionally, psychologists also supervise, teach, and consult in various settings. Psychologists are not only involved in the training of clinical psychology graduate students but also teach and supervise psychiatry residents.

   Interns at our facility are part of a robust training experience consisting of collaboration with psychiatry residents, creative arts therapy interns and externs, medical students, nursing students, and clinical psychology externs and postdoctoral fellow. Interns have various training resources through which they are able to learn. In addition to learning from the psychologists, interns also have opportunities to learn from staff from other disciplines who provide didactics, informal supervision, consultation, and opportunities to observe. In the hospital setting, interns have a dedicated office in the hospital as well as the clinic. They have access to testing materials, didactic materials, and computers. Interns document and conduct chart reviews using EPIC, the electronic medical record system utilized by Jamaica Hospital. The clinical and administrative staff at JHMC aim to create a supportive atmosphere for our interns to carry out their responsibilities. In addition to our Internship program in Clinical Psychology, we also have a well established clinical
psychology externship program and a postdoctoral fellowship program giving interns plenty of opportunities to collaborate.

3. Training Goals and Objectives

The psychology internship program at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center offers a generalist training program in clinical psychology which prepares future psychologists to practice the scope of psychological services generally provided in urban hospital settings.

*The program’s specific goals and objectives are for the intern to:*

**a. Gain clinical skills, knowledge and practice to provide a wide range of professional services through the integration of theory and practice:** Intern will have opportunities to further develop and refine his/her clinical skills through provision of various psychiatric services provided by psychologists in hospital settings and through utilization of supervision to hone those skills. A significant portion of intern’s experience will include direct delivery of services to patients. Interns will use an integrative treatment approach - combining psychodynamic, cognitive behavioral, systems, ethno-cultural, developmental, and medical model perspectives as needed.

Objectives:
1. Intern will be able to formulate conceptualizations of patients in a competent manner taking into consideration all socioemotional factors.
2. Intern will be able to use an integrative approach to select and implement appropriate psychotherapeutic interventions for the patients’ presenting problems, diagnoses and level of functioning.
3. Intern will be able to provide effective, culturally-competent, goal-directed psychotherapy in a variety of modalities including individual and group therapy.
4. Intern will be able to evaluate and assess patients for safety and be able to manage safety/crisis situations in a competent manner.

**b. Develop skills to work with multidisciplinary teams:** Intern will have the opportunity to work with multidisciplinary teams including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, creative arts therapist, nurses, patient care associates, patient information representative and other trainees. Intern will learn to take into consideration the clinical opinions of other disciplines in an open-minded manner and utilize them in their treatment approach.
Objectives

1. Intern will be able to maintain effective communication and collaboration with other professionals to ensure that their approach to patient care is integrative and comprehensive.

2. Intern will be aware of different professionals’ roles in the care of and be able to integrate their input into the care of their patients

c. **Develop competence in working with diverse and underserved populations:**
Interns will have the opportunity to provide services to patients from underserved populations and carrying diagnoses including but not limited to Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder, Major Depressive Disorder, Anxiety Disorders, Personality Disorders, ADHD, Adjustment Disorder, substance abuse history etc. Many patients also have legal/criminal histories and chronic illnesses. In addition to learning how to treat patients with severe and persistent mental illness, our program also focuses on educating interns on multicultural competence. Interns will have the opportunity to treat children (ages 5+), adolescents, adults, and geriatric populations.

The population served at Jamaica Hospital is exceptionally ethnically, racially and religiously diverse. Majority of our patients come from the neighborhood in which we are located, which is Queens, NY, one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the world. However, what makes us unique is that our location near John F Kennedy International Airport brings us patients who reside in other states and even other countries which adds an extra element to the multicultural learning experience! Interns will have the opportunity to treat people in various stages of the immigration process some of whom have limited English proficiency.

Objectives

1. Intern will be comfortable with differences that exist between themselves and their patients in terms of race, ethnicity, culture, and beliefs

2. Intern will be aware of and sensitive to their own background/beliefs and be able to recognize how it personally and professionally affects their definitions of normality-abnormality in the process of psychotherapy

3. Intern will be aware of the limits of their competencies and expertise about the patients’ diverse backgrounds

4. Intern will be knowledgeable about communication style differences in patients of diverse backgrounds and how their own personal style may clash with or foster the therapeutic process and impact their patients.

5. Intern will actively seek out educational opportunities to improve their knowledge and understanding of patients from diverse backgrounds
6. Intern will be able to engage patients in a variety of verbal and nonverbal methods to understand and meet the needs of their patients

d. Develop professional identity: Intern will be allowed to practice the scope of professional psychology with a flexible training experience that can be tailored to fit each his/her specific interests, goals, and needs.

Objectives:
1. Intern will be able to develop a professional identity and have ability to deliver services to patients in a manner that fits their own professional style while also meeting the patients’ needs.

2. Intern will be able to handle a variety of cases independently and with confidence.

4. Intern Selection Criteria

The predoctoral psychology internship program at Jamaica Hospital medical center is a member of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC). Our Program code is 2434. The program follows the standard APPIC Guidelines and uses the national matching service (NMS) and AAPI to receive applications during the Match. We will participate in Post Match Vacancy Service if positions remain open after the match process is complete. This site abides by the APPIC policy that no person at the training facility will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any intern applicant.

During Phase I, applicants are expected to submit all documentation required by APPIC. In Phase II and Post Match Vacancy Service, cover letter, CV, three letters of reference and a letter of internship readiness from the training director are sufficient. They should be email to the Director of Clinical Training. Applications will be accepted from all students who are eligible to apply as per APPIC guidelines. Candidates must have completed all academic course work and comprehensive examinations leading to a doctoral degree prior to the start of the internship. Applicants will receive notification regarding their interview status via email. Interviews will be held on site and in person unless applicant is not able to travel to the site. During Phase II and Post Match Vacancy Service, video interviews will be offered unless applicant wishes to come in for site visit.

Jamaica Hospital Medical Center is an Equal Opportunity employer. This program is committed to supporting cultural and individual diversity and does not discriminate on the basis of race/ethnicity, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status in its recruitment and retention of interns, postdoctoral fellows, faculty and staff. We welcome applicants from various racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, religious and cultural backgrounds, as well as those with physical disabilities.
5. **Duration of Internship/Compensation/benefits**

The internship program begins on July 1st and ends on June 30th. Interns are expected to be present on site for a minimum of 42 hours per week so that a minimum of 2000 supervised hours can be acquired for the year. There is some flexibility with respect to the hours in the clinic. It is estimated that interns will spend approximately 20 hours per week providing direct services to patients.

The annual stipend is $25,000 with fringe and benefits.

6. **Clinical Experience**

**Inpatient Services (6 consecutive months – 3 days/week)**

Jamaica Hospital Medical Center has two psychiatric inpatient units with 28 beds each admitting males and females aged 18 and above. The units provide services to patients experiencing acute psychiatric symptoms which impair their ability to function safely in the community. The inpatient units’ treatment teams consist of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, creative arts therapists, nurses and trainees from various disciplines.

On the unit, interns will have the opportunity to be the primary therapist to patients and participate in their care throughout their hospitalization. They will understand how to treat individuals experiencing acute symptoms while hospitalized, and learn the criteria for a successful discharge. Interns will have the opportunity to treat patients in group therapy, individual therapy and family therapy (when applicable). They will also provide support to patients in the milieu. Additionally, Interns will participate in multidisciplinary team meetings and have the opportunity to observe evaluations conducted by other treatment team members. Interns will also learn to develop treatment plans and behavior contracts.

Interns will be assigned to either inpatient unit II or III and the unit psychologist will be assigned as their supervisor. Interns will be assigned to approximately 4 to 5 patients at a time for individual psychotherapy and 1 group therapy session/week. Intern may also be assigned to conduct psychological evaluations.

**Consultation/Liaison Services (3 consecutive months – 2 days/week)**

The Department of Psychiatry provides 24-hour consultation and liaison services (C/L) on the medical, surgical, geriatric, pediatric and obstetrical units. Referrals are made by the attending physician to determine if psychiatric care is required. The C/L team consists of psychiatrists, psychosomatic fellow, medical students, psychiatry externs and psychology intern. Responsibilities of the C/L team include but are not limited to, evaluation for safety, treatment of mental health issues which arise while patient is receiving medical care, capacity evaluations and management of mental health crisis. The C/L team evaluates and/or treats both adults and children.

In Consultation/Liaison services, intern will have the opportunity to join the C/L team to observe and participate in evaluations conducted on days when the intern is present. Additionally, Intern will be able to provide individual psychotherapy to both adults and
children. Frequency and length of psychotherapy session length will vary based on patient needs and intern availability. Interns may also be asked to do assessments when necessary.

**Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (3 months – 2 days/week)**
The Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP) consists of three care components; Psychiatric emergency room, mobile crisis outreach, and extended observation unit (EOU). The CPEP receives both walk-in referrals as well as referrals from the community. The treatment team in the CPEP consists of but is not limited to psychiatrists, nurses, social workers, patient care associates, security officer(s) and trainees.

In this rotation, interns will have the opportunity to observe and participate in intake evaluations and provide individual psychotherapy. There may also be opportunities to provide group therapy and/or conduct assessments.

**Outpatient Mental Health Clinic**
(12 months – 2 days/week while on inpatient rotation and 3 days/week when on CL and CPEP rotations)
The outpatient mental health clinic at Jamaica Hospital Medical Center treats patients who are diverse in age, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and carry a wide range of diagnoses. On average, our clinic has 800 + visits a week! The services provided at the clinic include but is not limited to, medication management, intake evaluations, individual psychotherapy, and group therapy. Clinicians also work with families.

Interns’ responsibilities in the outpatient clinic include individual psychotherapy, group psychotherapy, and intake evaluations. Patient assignments will be made by the clinic manager and/or intern’s supervisor.

**Educational Activities**
Psychology interns will have approximately 5 hours of educational activities per week. Interns will have 3 hours of departmental activities and 2 hours of didactic courses dedicated specifically for them. The courses designed for the interns are; Psychodynamic Psychotherapy, Treatment of Personality Disorders, Seminar on Professional Development and Evidence based Treatments. Each course will be 6 months. Departmental Educational activities include case conferences, journal presentations, grand rounds and other mental health presentations. Interns will have an opportunity to do one 30 minute presentation to the department during their internship year.

7. **Supervision:**
Interns will receive a total of 4 hours of supervision in a week. They will receive two hours of individual supervision from two licensed clinical psychologists (one in the hospital and another in the outpatient mental health clinic). Interns will have group supervision weekly for child therapy cases. Additionally, Interns will also receive one hour of general group supervision weekly from the postdoctoral fellow.
8. **Intern Evaluations:**
Intern will be formally evaluated at a 6-month mark (December) and at end of internship (June), by supervisors. Interns will also be evaluated at the end of their CPEP and CL rotations. Interns will have the opportunity to review and discuss their evaluation with their supervisor. In addition to completing evaluations from the intern’s university, Intern’s graduate program training director will also be sent a copy of their hospital evaluation via email at the 6 month mark and at the end of Internship.