

2025-2026 Cohort Brochure

Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Overview	3
Our Psychology Training Program	4
Training Philosophy	4
Setting	5
The Application Process	5
Admission Policy	5
Applicant Interviews	6
The Fellowship Year	7
Orientation Period	7
Benefits	8
Structure of the Fellowship	8
Inpatient Rotations at WRCH.....	8
Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital	8
Adult Continuing Care Unit	9
Adult Acute Care/Forensic Units	10
Adult Continuing Care Unit - Deaf Inpatient Services	10
Adolescent Continuing Care Units	11
Supervision, Didactics, & Research	12
UMass Chan/WRCH Professional Development Seminar Series	13
UMass Chan/WRCH Social Justice Advocacy Project	13
Research Project	14
Fellowship Leadership.....	15
Heidi Putney, PhD	15
Meredith Ronan, PsyD	15
Emily Padilla, PsyD	15

Danielle Rynczak, JD, PsyD, ABPP (Forensic)	16
Clinical Supervisory Staff	16
Jessica Baroni, PsyD	16
Ariel Ingber, PsyD, DFP	16
Gregg A Januszewski, PsyD	16
Elizabeth McCurdy, PhD.....	17
Debika Paul, PhD.....	17

UMass Chan-WRCH Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS CHAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
WORCESTER RECOVERY CENTER AND HOSPITAL
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Overview

The UMass Chan Psychology Training Program has a long history of preparing emerging psychologists to assume professional employment within the UMass Chan and Memorial health systems, the Department of Mental Health (DMH), and other public sector settings that address the needs of Massachusetts residents with serious mental illness. The program began in 1922 at the Worcester State Hospital, has been accredited by the American Psychological Association since 1957, and is one of the oldest continuously funded psychology internships in the country. After the program was permanently moved to the UMass Chan Medical School, the psychology training program continued its affiliation with WSH (Worcester State Hospital now Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital, WRCH) and was funded under the psychiatry department's Department of Mental Health (DMH) training grant.

Established in 2024 by a training grant from the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH), the UMass Chan Comprehensive Psychology Training Program now includes three levels of sequential clinical training: pre-doctoral advanced practicum training (i.e., for 3rd or 4th year students in doctoral psychology programs), the doctoral internship, and postdoctoral fellows (for those seeking specialization in working with individuals with severe mental illness). The Comprehensive Training Program was designed in response to an identified need to provide a more robust pathway for careers into DMH and Massachusetts' public sector system (notably admittance into any one level of training does not guarantee acceptance into the next tier).

The program will offer two full-time funded post-doctoral fellowship positions in 2025-2026 that will each carry a stipend of \$56,484 per year. Both positions will work on General Inpatient SMI units, although we have the opportunity for applicants to indicate if they are interested in primarily working with adults verses adolescents.

Applicants must be in good standing in an accredited doctoral-level psychology internship and must have completed all graduate coursework including their dissertation project by the start of the

post-doctoral fellowship. Preference will be given to students from graduate and internship programs accredited by the American Psychological Association.

Requests for information and applications should be sent to:

Heidi Putney, Ph.D.
Training Director
UMass Chan - WRCH Psychology Training Program
361 Plantation Street
Worcester, MA 01602
Heidi.putney@umassmed.edu

Deadline: Applications must be received no later than:

11:59pm EST Friday, January 10th, 2025.

Our Psychology Training Program

Training Philosophy

The University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School/Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital post-doctoral fellowship is designed to provide training in SMI based on the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) training guidelines. The overarching aim of our fellowship training is to equip early career psychologists with the knowledge, skills, and experience relevant to offering professional clinical services to individuals with serious mental illness. The program is designed with the goal to prepare fellows to function professionally in a variety of public sector contexts, including the MA Department of Mental Health.

The UMass Chan Medical School is committed to providing care for patients in the public sector, especially those with multimorbidity who have the greatest psychosocial challenges. Psychologists are at the forefront of this commitment and are trained to provide excellent, evidence-based clinical services to this population. The UMass Chan Psychology Training Program has a long history of preparing emerging psychologists to assume professional employment within the Department of Mental Health (DMH) workforce as well as other public sector roles that address the needs of Massachusetts residents with serious mental illness. We have a historic collaboration with Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH), we attract top-quality candidates, many of whom have gone on to work with DMH in psychology positions as well as many leadership positions in the state. Our new integrated longitudinal training sequence establishes strong pathway to employment in DMH and the Massachusetts public sector for psychologists, especially those of diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural

backgrounds, with the goal to create a regular and predictable workforce of clinical experts and leaders in public sector behavioral health care. Note: All fellows are anticipated to be highly competitive for employment within DMH following their fellowship year. **Toward this goal, all fellows are expected to pass the EPPP and file for licensure within six to nine months of the fellowship year.**

Setting

Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital (WRCH) is located on the site of a developing health and research biotechnology park. Formerly named Worcester State Hospital, the current census is dramatically lower than the 2,800 patients served in the 1950's and represents a wide cross section of severe and persistent mental disorders. Between 50 and 70% of the adult population has a co-occurring substance use disorder and significant medical co-morbidities. In addition to the adult admission and continuing care psychiatric units, the hospital has two adolescent long-term treatment units. A forensic service (composed of evaluators from UMass Chan and the Department of Mental Health) provides forensic evaluation services to the hospital. The UMass Chan and WRCH campuses are located within walking distance of each other.

Community

The University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School and Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital provide services primarily to citizens of Worcester and other areas in central Massachusetts, although some clinics or services are statewide. The ethnic and cultural populations in central Massachusetts are diverse. As public-sector institutions, the client populations tend to be from lower socioeconomic groups. Census information for Worcester (2020) indicated the community is approximately 54% White, 23% Hispanic or Latinx, 13% Black or African American, and 7% Asian.

The Application Process

Admission Policy

The Fellowship application includes:

- Three letters of reference (one from your DCT indicating your dissertation is either defended or on track to be defended by the start time of the fellowship and one from an internship director indicating your good standing in the program)
- Graduate transcripts (official)
- Curriculum vitae

- Cover letter stating your interest and the status of your dissertation
- Writing sample of psychodiagnostic evaluation (deidentified)

Each year the program receives many more applications than the number of available positions. Most candidates are highly qualified, both in terms of academic performance and letters of recommendation, and it is often very difficult to differentiate the candidates on these bases alone. Consequently, our criteria for selection must examine other variables.

One factor to which we pay close attention is whether the training experiences that we provide are consistent with the needs and interests of the candidate, insofar as those needs and interests are expressed in the application. The match between candidates' interests and the aims of the fellowship are examined carefully. Therefore, in the cover letter, applicants should clearly explain how their goals align with the public sector/severe mental illness mission of the fellowship, and applicants should identify or list their population of interest. If it is clear to us that the nature or quantity of certain experiences that a candidate seeks are unlikely to be provided on fellowship, we inform the candidate of this and suggest that their training needs would be better met at a different facility. Frequently this decision is not based on the candidates' qualifications but rather on their stated professional goals and needs.

Secondly, we believe peer-group learning is an important aspect of the internship training experience. Our experience is this learning is maximized when the trainees each year come from very different professional backgrounds and represent widely divergent theoretical orientations. The UMass Chan-WRCH fellowship is not committed to a single theoretical position. We believe the issues in clinical psychology can be conceptualized from different theoretical stances, and trainees benefit from having their ideas examined and evaluated from frameworks other than their own. Thus, we attempt to select a heterogeneous trainee group.

Thirdly, as part of our commitment to diversity, the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School seeks to attract and educate students, and trainees who will make the population of health care professionals representative of the national population. We are, therefore, committed to the full and meaningful inclusion of **all** qualified students, trainees, and employees. As part of our holistic review, consideration is also given to clinical hours that have exposed applicants to evidence-based assessment and intervention practices with a variety

Applicant Interviews

One goal of the Postdoc Selection Committee is to match the training needs of the applicant with what our program has to offer. The Selection Committee will thoroughly review each completed application and identify those applicants where there is a "goodness of fit." These applicants will then

be contacted and invited to interview with members of the training staff on one of several interview dates in January and February. The interview day typically runs from about 10:00am to 3:00pm EST, and will include contact with current post-docs to give the applicant a fellow's perspective on the program.

Interview information for applicants applying for the 2025-2026 cohort:

Dates of interviews:

TBD

Interview format: All applicant interviews will be virtual and conducted entirely online. There will be no in-person interviews or planned visits to the UMass Chan-WRCH facilities.

Additional important information for applicants: As outlined in 101 CMR 23.00, all Staff working in these settings must be vaccinated annually against seasonal influenza and remain up to date with available COVID-19 vaccines. Alternatively, Staff may choose to decline vaccination, in which case they must provide a signed declination statement certifying that they have received information regarding the risks and benefits of the COVID-19 and/or influenza vaccines. To comply with regulatory requirements, 100% of Staff must be accounted for in one of two categories: vaccinated or declined.

Additionally, the UMass Chan Medical School requires all employees to receive the annual flu vaccine. Certain exemptions may be available for individuals with approved medical or religious reasons. Flu vaccines are available at WRCH and UMass, but if you receive it elsewhere, you will be asked to provide proof of vaccination. If you have questions about required vaccines or would like to learn more about this policy, please contact the UMass Chan-WRCH Training Director.

The Fellowship Year

Please note: Training Opportunities are Subject to Change

Orientation Period

The training year typically begins on the first Monday in July, with an orientation period lasting approximately three to four weeks. During this period, the fellow becomes acquainted with the daily routines of UMass Chan and WRCH, is given a formal introduction to the staff and programs of various

departments within these facilities and is systematically introduced to the principal emphases and lines of work within the two psychology departments. As part of their orientation, the fellows may be asked to participate in staff conferences, engage in diagnostic interviewing, observe admission procedures, and attend lectures on administrative and legal aspects of hospital procedures. By the end of the orientation period, fellows will have also met with their SMI rotation supervisors as well as the training directors to develop goals and schedule for the year.

Benefits

Fellows in Psychology are employees of the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School. Interns receive a stipend of \$56,484, a choice of employee health insurance plans (cost varies), and paid vacation and holidays. All fellows are provided with 80 hours (10 days) of vacation time as well as sick time. Additionally, all three fellows are provided a professional stipend to use toward EPPP costs, educational materials, conference travel, or other approved professional needs.

Structure of the Fellowship

Each fellow engages in training activities in the following areas throughout the year:

- Inpatient assessment and treatment,
- Supervision, didactics, research, program evaluation

Inpatient SMI Rotation at WRCH

All fellows are expected to put approximately 80% of their time toward their core SMI inpatient rotation throughout the year at WRCH.

Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Most individuals hospitalized at WRCH have been admitted for evaluation and treatment under court order. On the adult side, there are two court evaluation units, and ten units for continuing care treatment, which also includes some specialized units for deaf/hard of hearing patients, and those with complex medical needs. There are also two 15 bed continuing care units for adolescents (who also have a select number of beds for forensic admissions). All of the units are closely connected to the hospital-wide Skills Training and Rehabilitation program which includes therapeutic, vocational, educational, and recreational elements.

The treatment units at WRCH focus on preparing individuals from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds in the transition process from an inpatient stay to community living. The treatment approach is multidisciplinary in nature and aimed at assisting the individual in engaging in

treatment, maintaining adequate behavioral and emotional control, and taking the steps necessary to successfully return to the community. The treatment model incorporates a thorough diagnostic work-up, psychosocial rehabilitation, relapse prevention, motivational interviewing, and Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) / Cognitive Behavior Therapy models. Individuals receiving inpatient care are empowered to understand symptoms associated with mental illness and follow through with strength-based interventions and plans that will maximize adjustment and transition to less restrictive alternatives to hospitalization.

At WRCH, treatment groups have been implemented on several treatment units, with several members of the staff trained intensively in CBT for Psychosis among other evidence-based treatment modalities. The psychology SMI fellows participate in all phases of the individual's hospital course from initial assessment, specialized risk assessment and/or psychological testing to providing treatment interventions to help the individual work through an integrative discharge plan. The staff at WRCH have implemented an Illness Management and Recovery (IMR) treatment program, an evidence-based group and individual treatment protocol to assist individuals in learning more about their psychiatric disorders and effective coping skills. Additionally, WRCH has a robust dual recovery program for people in all stages of change and has developed a relapse prevention model for mental health and substance abuse related issues. As the staffing levels of a large state-run hospital change throughout the year, on-unit group therapy opportunities are limited by the availability of trained group facilitators.

During the SMI Fellowship year, opportunities may include:

Adult Continuing Care Unit

WRCH continuing care units house longer term patients committed to the hospital for a variety of reasons including forensically (e.g., incompetent to stand trial and/or not guilty by reason of insanity) and civilly (e.g., those without criminal charges found to be a danger to themselves or others due to a mental illness). Fellows will assist with the responsibility for the care and treatment on an identified continuing care unit of approximately 27 individuals with severe and persistent mental illness. Under the supervision of the team psychologist, opportunities may include:

- Conducting admissions assessments.
- Attending Treatment Team Rounds.
- Specialized evaluations for risks of violence, suicide, and fire setting.
- Making referrals to Department of Mental Health risk consultants for individuals with more serious histories of violent crime or sexually problematic behavior.

- Providing individual and group psychotherapy addressing Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Relapse Prevention Planning, Dual Recovery Treatment, and/or Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy.
 - Attending CBT-P Case Consultation Group Weekly and presenting one to two cases per year.
- Conducting full batteries of cognitive and personality / performance based psychological tests for diagnostic formulation and treatment / discharge planning.
- Supervising interns in the hospital's Psychology Internship Program.

Adult Acute Care/Forensic Units

WRCH acute care/court evaluation units house short-term patients (20-30 days) committed to the hospital from the courts for further evaluation (e.g., incompetent to stand trial and/or criminal responsibility related to open legal charges). Fellows will assist with the responsibility for the care and treatment of approximately 27 individuals with severe and persistent mental illness on an identified acute care/forensic unit. Under the supervision of the team psychologist, opportunities may include:

- Conducting intake admissions assessments to include:
 - MoCA
 - Suicide Risk
 - Violence Risk
 - Trauma History
 - Substance Use
- Attending treatment team meetings.
- Providing individual and group psychotherapy addressing Competency Restoration and Substance Use.
 - Attending Dual Recovery Case Consultation Group Weekly
- Conducting full batteries of cognitive and personality / performance based psychological tests for diagnostic formulation and treatment / discharge planning.
- Supervising interns in the hospital's Psychology Internship Program.

Adult Continuing Care Unit – Deaf Inpatient Services

Within one of WRCH's continuing care units is the Deaf Inpatient Services program. WRCH Deaf Inpatient Services is the only inpatient mental health service in Massachusetts designed to meet the needs of d/Deaf and hard-of-hearing (HoH) individuals who live anywhere in the state. WRCH Deaf Inpatient Services is committed to providing accessible, culturally affirmative expert mental health assessment, stabilization, and treatment services that efficiently restore individuals to community

functioning. Fellows will be exposed to both assessment and treatment services with d/Deaf and HoH clients. Under the supervision of the team psychologist, opportunities may include:

- Conducting admissions and annual assessments.
- Attending Treatment Team meetings.
- Attending morning Rounds.
- Specialized evaluations for risks of violence, suicide, and fire setting.
- Making referrals to Department of Mental Health risk consultants for individuals with more serious histories of violent crime or sexually problematic behavior.
- Providing individual and group psychotherapy addressing Cognitive Behavior Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, Relapse Prevention Planning, Dual Recovery Treatment, and/or Cognitive Rehabilitation Therapy.
 - Attending a bi-weekly Deaf Services Program Meeting.
- Conducting full batteries of cognitive and personality / performance based psychological tests for diagnostic formulation and treatment / discharge planning.
- Supervising interns in the hospital's Psychology Internship Program.

Adolescent Continuing Care Units

The Adolescent Continuing Care Units (ACCU) is the only long-term inpatient psychiatric facility for adolescents in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is comprised of 2, 15 bed units. Post-doctoral fellows will have the opportunity to serve adolescents with complex psychiatric and psychosocial issues, frequently including pronounced histories of developmental trauma, child maltreatment, substance use, disordered eating behaviors, recurrent suicidal ideation and behaviors, serious aggression toward others, multiple psychiatric admissions and out-of-home placements, emerging psychosis, and burgeoning personality disorders. Patients range in age from 13 to 19 and hold unique racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, gender, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic identities. Assessment and treatment of clients is provided using a trauma-informed, integrative, multidisciplinary approach.

Because of the treatment refractory nature of this population, youth admitted on a clinical status typically stay for several months, which enables patients to receive extensive and comprehensive clinical services. Extended length of stay affords fellows an opportunity to participate in efforts to bring about qualitative changes in the patient's approaches to problem solving. Patients are supported, through evidence-based and relational interventions, to alter the way that they make meaning of their lived experiences. Within the context of supervision, consultation, and participation in team meetings, fellows will have the opportunity to formulate cases and gain experience in various approaches to treatment. Creative interventions are required where conventional approaches have

been insufficient. Family therapy approaches typically combine structural and strategic approaches that are dependent on collaborative partnership with families.

In addition to our clinical service, the ACCU continues to be responsible for providing care for youth admitted to the hospital on a forensic evaluation status. Working with these youth is a unique training opportunity for fellows with an interest in forensic psychology. Youth are referred for short-term admissions from the courts for assessment of competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility, or aid in sentencing. Forensic referrals may remain at the ACCU for continuing psychiatric services if determined to require hospital level of care.

Under the supervision of the team psychologist, opportunities may include:

- Fellows will be expected to carry a caseload of 1-2 adjunctive individual therapy cases and 1-2 adjunctive family therapy cases.
- Fellows will also be expected to complete specialized risk assessments and admission evaluations.
- Fellows will be expected to support the various groups as a co-facilitator, which include DBT, CBT, and other clinical groups.
- Opportunities for psychological testing are dependent on needs of the youth (e.g., IEP testing support, diagnostic clarification, assistance with treatment approach and recommendations); it is anticipated that fellows will have the chance to complete one integrated report over the training year.
- There are opportunities for involvement in program development, staff education/training, and milieu enhancement for fellows who are interested.

SUPERVISION, DIDACTICS, & RESEARCH

Supervision Opportunities

All fellows will participate in the supervision of a doctoral intern year-round. Additionally, fellows will engage in a monthly Supervision of Supervision 'Sup of Sup' Group where we meet to discuss issues within the supervisory relationship, the development of a supervision style, and providing feedback on progress notes and assessment reports. Furthermore, fellows have been given the opportunity for the last past few years to join the Harvard Medical School Brigham and Women's Hospital training program supervision seminar series facilitated by Dr. Christopher AhnAllen. This series allows trainees to broaden their network with other trainees and learn new perspectives in topics related to conflict in supervisory relationships and cross-cultural supervisory relationships and antiracist action.

Didactics

Fellows have an extensive series of didactics. Major topics include: culturally competency treatment and assessment; professional development; psychopathology and psychopharmacology; social justice advocacy, and psychological treatment modalities with particular emphasis on SMI populations. The seminar series also includes topics such as empirically based treatment interventions, psychosocial rehabilitation, and the importance of integration of ethnic diversity in assessment. Tuesday mornings (8am-12pm) are reserved throughout the year to provide an opportunity to cover these assessment and intervention topics in some detail. Fellows are also welcome to attend weekly UMass Chan Grand Rounds on a variety of mental health topics, which are held at the Medical School, as well as other regular seminars and workshops (e.g., biweekly UMass Law and Psychiatry Seminars; monthly WRCH Grand Rounds).

1. UMass Chan/WRCH Professional Development Seminar Series

Facilitator: Heidi Putney, Ph.D.

In 2002, the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) initiated a conference aimed at establishing competencies essential in professional psychology practice and identified Professional Development as a core competency area. Toward this end, the UMass Chan/WRCH has developed monthly Professional Development Seminar Series aimed to increase career readiness, improve professional quality of life, explore professional identity, and develop a comprehensive understanding of self-care. Each month, three professionals from around the country virtually speak to our interns on important topics such as pathways into private practice careers, wage negotiation skills, barriers for women in psychology, and the business of psychology. Further, various seminars specifically target the area of self-care with a discussion of new research and skills developed on this topic. Informal and personal, the format of this seminar series allows for life-long networking with panelists and various interns from other programs around the country.

*For an updated schedule of upcoming Professional Development Seminar topics, please visit:
[professional-development-seminar-flyer-2024-2025.pdf \(umassmed.edu\)](https://umassmed.edu/professional-development-seminar-flyer-2024-2025.pdf)

2. UMass Chan/WRCH Social Justice Advocacy Project

Facilitator: Emily Padilla, Psy.D.

The American Psychological Association has indicated the training and expertise in psychology uniquely qualifies psychologists to contribute to the development of policies and programs. Further, working for social justice is part of their mission and vision and the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) has incorporated understanding research and developing consultative skills when engaging in social service into their core competencies. The UMass Chan/WRCH training program is committed to encouraging social justice advocacy through action-

learning strategies. The goal of the social justice advocacy project is to increase professional development opportunities while developing culturally responsible and socially involved psychologists.

During the fellowship year, trainees will facilitate discussions around social justice issues in a monthly journal club session. Additionally, trainees have the opportunity to engage with a local nonprofit agency, build relationships with this agency and the population with whom they work, as well as collaboratively develop and conduct a needs assessment. The needs assessment may take any form but will focus on helping the agency or community to further its social justice mission. The needs assessments are conducted collaboratively with the agency/community and the postdoctoral fellows with a final technical report including data (broadly defined) to be provided to the agency.

Research Project

Supervisor: Timothy Sannes, Ph.D.

Notably, the UMass Chan/WRCH fellowship is not a research focused fellowship. However, research skills with SMI populations are important for any psychologist aiming to work in an inpatient facility. Fellows will be required to complete a research project during their fellowship year. Either an original idea or using established UMass Chan/WRCH databases, the fellow will design a study, analyze the resulting data, and present the results to the faculty and trainees to assist in helping everyone with staying up to date in the latest research in our field.

Finally, there are numerous teaching conferences, grand rounds presentations, and other professional activities in the Worcester/ Boston area. There are often teaching conferences that utilize the case presentation format both at UMass Chan and WRCH. For example, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Psychology Internship, the UMass Chan Psychology Network hosted a poster session during a Psychology Day Celebration at UMass Chan Medical School in October of 2024. All postdocs present their dissertation during the year.

PSYCHOLOGY FELLOWSHIP FACULTY AND SUPERVISORS

FELLOWSHIP LEADERSHIP

Heidi Putney, PhD

Training Director of UMass Chan-WRCH Comprehensive Psychology Training Program
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School
Designated Forensic Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education	Central Michigan University (2020)
Rotation	Professional Development Panels, Social Justice Advocacy Project, Case Law
Interests	Forensic evaluations, training and education, research in the areas of forensic public policy, professional development, and diversity training

Meredith Ronan, PsyD

Assistant Training Director of UMass Chan-WRCH Comprehensive Psychology Training Program
Acting Director of Psychology Department, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital
Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

Education	William James College (formerly Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology, 2015)
Rotation	Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBS) Consultation Service; WRCH General Psychology Rotation
Interests	Positive Behavior Interventions and Support consultation and intervention; assessment and treatment of persons with severe and persistent mental illness; cognitive and psychological/personality assessment; Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Psychosis (CBT-P); program development and evaluation

Emily Padilla, PsyD

Assistant Training Director of UMass Chan-WRCH Comprehensive Psychology Training Program
Forensic Evaluator, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education	Alliant International University, San Diego (2023)
Rotation	Social Justice Advocacy Project
Interests	Forensic mental health assessment; risk assessment; severe and persistent mental illness; inclusive teaching and education in psychology; cultural humility; DEIB in training and forensic practice; social justice

Danielle Rynczak, JD, PsyD, ABPP (Forensic)

Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging, UMass-WRCH Comprehensive Psychology Training Program

Director of Legal Education and Training, UMass Chan Law and Psychiatry Program

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

Designated Forensic Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education	Chicago School of Professional Psychology (2012)
Rotation	UMass Forensic Inpatient Rotation and Diversity Seminar Series
Interests	Adult and juvenile forensic evaluations; criminal competencies and responsibility; risk assessment; civil commitment; delinquency; child protection; legal education; anti-racist curriculum; inclusive teaching, supervision, and mentorship practices

CLINICAL SUPERVISORY STAFF

The rotations within the UMass Chan / WRCH internship are led by an incredible group of psychologists who are passionate about teaching and supervision. Below is a sample of our current training staff.

Jessica Baroni, PsyD

Staff Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education	Antioch University New England (2018)
Rotation	WRCH Adolescent Continuing Care Units
Interests	Treatment of trauma in children & adolescents, severe mental illness, the integration of psychodynamic theory and brief interventions tailored to an inpatient setting, inpatient group therapy, Trauma-Informed Care and milieu management, vicarious traumatization and systemic/organizational barriers and influences on staff satisfaction and treatment outcomes.

Ariel Ingber, PsyD, DFP

Staff Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education	William James College (2020)
Rotation	WRCH Clinical Risk Assessment and Mitigation, Deaf Inpatient Services
Interests	Treatment of Severe and Persistent Mental Health Diagnoses, Individual Psychotherapy, Individual and Group Based Interventions utilizing Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Psychosis.

Gregg A. Januszewski, PsyD

Staff Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Massachusetts Chan Medical School

Education	University of Hartford (1997)
Rotation	WRCH General SMI – Acute Forensic Units

Interests Suicide assessment and treatment, CBT-I, Dual diagnosis treatment, Individual psychotherapy.

Elizabeth McCurdy, PhD

Staff Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education Drexel University (2019)

Rotation WRCH Adolescent Continuing Care Units

Interests Treatment of adolescents with complex mental health challenges, treatment of developmental trauma, juvenile justice policy and practice reform

Debika Paul, PhD

Clinical Psychologist, Worcester Recovery Center and Hospital

Education Suffolk University (2005)

Rotation WRCH General Psychology Rotation

Interests Treatment of Severe and Persistent Mental Health Diagnoses, Individual Psychotherapy, Individual and Group Based Interventions utilizing Cognitive Behavior Therapy for Psychosis.