

Behavioral Medicine Center

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“One Loma Linda” is truly represented through the clinical training and research taking place at Loma Linda University Behavioral Medicine Center (BMC). The BMC partners with students and clinical supervisors from a majority of schools within Loma Linda University (LLU). This training environment has flourished due to the close relationship between LLUBMC practitioners, LLUBMC supervisors and the University students and faculty.

One of the focus areas over the last several years was increasing the collaboration and training opportunities for the School of Behavioral Health (SBH). Last year, the BMC created a Department of Clinical Training to work exclusively with the SBH regarding student internships. This includes the practicum and internship placement for the psychology department, counseling and family sciences department and social work department. These therapy students are given a unique opportunity to experience a live supervision training model by licensed therapists in a wide array of behavioral healthcare service lines. The BMC is dedicated to integrating students at all levels of care which includes the inpatient hospital setting, partial hospital programs, intensive outpatient programs and the outpatient clinic. Therapy students have the unique opportunity to be integrally involved in a multidisciplinary treatment team led by board certified psychiatrists. Students are able to participate in individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy and educational workshops for parents and community members. The BMC accepts 50-60 therapy students each training year.

The BMC promotes student integration by having a formal onboarding and orientation process for each student and listening to the student’s needs to best align the internship year with their professional goals. We are proud to promote that 20% of the clinical staff at the BMC

are former students or interns. Last year 90% of the entire class of incoming MFT and LPCC students were placed at the BMC. In addition, the psychology practicum students and interns are given the opportunity to work closely with the School of Medicine's child psychiatry fellowship program. The child fellows attend weekly didactics and supervision classes with the psychology students and interns for a truly integrated training model.

The "One Loma Linda" approach has also fostered a strong partnership in research as well. Currently there are nine active research studies being conducted at the BMC. Each of these studies have multidisciplinary teams where the lead researcher is from LLU School of Behavioral Health or LLU School of Medicine-Psychiatry. BMC practitioners are involved in the research as well as the patient care aspects of the study. Since 2008 we have partnered in 26 total studies, 19 peer reviewed journal publications, and over 40 academic presentations. Our "One Loma Linda" approach has also resulted in four externally funded research/service grants. Out of these collaborative partnerships' innovative programs like MEND (Managing Each New Direction), which focuses on the behavioral health needs of patients with chronic diseases and Wisdom, which focuses on the special behavioral health needs of our seniors, have been created.

The partnership between LLU and BMC has fostered tremendous growth and teamwork that has been beneficial to patient care, research and academic curriculum. We at the BMC are proud of our "One Loma Linda" approach as we work together to deliver the highest quality clinical training program and ensure we fulfill our overall mission "To continue the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus Christ."