Matching Clients to Therapists: Crucial Component for Success

Pro Bono Counseling continues to conduct volunteer outreach to be representative of client populations. Over 35% of PBCP’s active volunteers identify as Black, Indigenous and People of Color or Latino/a/x, and 20% speak languages other than English. Currently, 79% of volunteers are offering counseling either by video, telephone, or both.

Donor Gives in Memory of Sister, a Mental Health Counselor

Thank you to Jani Bedrick, who recently gave to Pro Bono Counseling in memory of her sister, Miffi Bedrick, a mental health counselor. “Miffi was passionate about her work and adored by all,” stated Jani. “She was a beautiful person, inside and out, a strong advocate for peace, and was very generous and giving.”

Miffi, who passed away in 2016, was originally from Massachusetts, having attended Boston University, before settling in Montgomery County, Maryland. She worked as an elementary school counselor in Prince George’s County and also had a private practice.

Meet PBCP’s Interns

Pro Bono Counseling offers undergraduate and graduate level internships in clinical work, public policy, or both. The students gain valuable experience, which is often required for their programs, while PBCP also benefits from all of their efforts.

Meet the current PBCP interns:

Eva Bialobrzeski - Eva is pursuing a Master’s in Social Work/Master’s in Public Policy dual degree at the University of Maryland School of Social Work. Her expected graduation date is 2023. Eva stated, “Once I interviewed with PBCP, I knew instantly that this organization would provide me with a well-rounded first-year social work internship.”

Alexa Biddle - Alexa is an undergraduate at Towson University majoring in Psychology with a Clinical Psychology focus and will graduate in May 2021. “The PBCP staff has offered me opportunities to excel by adapting the undergraduate internship experience to fit my skills and interests,” Alexa said. “This experience has offered crucial insight in terms of what my future career path may look like.” Alexa plans to pursue a Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology, and open her own private practice.

Daniel Bedrick - Daniel is enrolled in Towson University’s Clinical Psychology Graduate Program. “My internship is for an entire year during which I work with Pro Bono Counseling while also conducting individual therapy sessions with a private practice clinician who is affiliated with the organization.”

Zainab Sohail - Zainab is an undergraduate student at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, majoring in Psychology. “Once I graduate in May 2022, I plan to go to graduate school with a focus on art therapy,” said Zainab.

Ada Trump - Ada is an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, majoring in Psychology and minoring in Biology, and will graduate in May 2021. “Once I graduate, I hope to work fulltime as an EMT to gain more clinical experience for a year before applying to medical school,” stated Ada.

2020 Donor Gifts

The Pro Bono Counseling Project (PBCP) sincerely thanks the many donors who have given the gift of therapy. We are thankful to all of you who see PBCP as an essential community service. Click here for the 2020 Donor List with all of those who generously gave to PBCP between January 1 and December 31, 2020.

Continuing Ed Workshops Scheduled for April

Spring is just days away—Ever thought about utilizing what nature has to offer in your practice? On Wednesday, April 7, PBCP presents “Nature Informed Therapy: An Introduction to Integrating Nature into Clinical Practice.”

Participants will learn about current research on the intersection of nature and mental health, learn specific suitable therapeutic approaches, as well as the practical elements to consider when taking clients outdoors. Featured presenters are Heidi Schreiber-Pan, PhD., LCPC; and Zoe Jack, MS, LMSW, RYT.

Also in April, the focus will continue on human rights, access, participation, and equity. PBCP presents “Social Justice: Being ‘JUST’ in a Society that is Divided,” on Friday, April 30.

This workshop will explore social justice and how practitioners are responsible for the moral and ethical treatment of clients: individually and communally. Featured presenter Lisa Connors, LBSW, LCPC, NCC will discuss systems that oppress and marginalize certain groups, challenge practitioners to understand their role in advocating for clients, and motivate practitioners to be “change agents of justice.”

Click here for more information or to register for these workshops.