

KRISTI



HOUSE

CHILDREN'S  
ADVOCACY  
CENTER

## Kristi House Post-doctoral Training Program

Kristi House is the Child Advocacy Center (CAC) for Miami Dade County. A Child Advocacy Center is a child-focused, facility-based program in which representatives from core disciplines – law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, mental health, medical, and victim advocacy – collaborative to investigate child abuse reports, conduct forensic interviews, determine and provide evidence-based interventions, and assess cases for prosecution. CACs are founded on the belief that child abuse is a multifaceted problem, requiring a multidisciplinary approach to support the needs of all children and their families.

**Site Supervisor:** Vanessa Ramirez, Psy.D., Clinical Psychologist and Chief Program Officer at Kristi House

Psychology post-doctoral trainees have the opportunity to participate in and conduct the following activities and services, depending on interests, scheduling, and needs of Kristi House:

### **1. Evidence-Based Trauma Therapy**

- Individual and Family Therapy
  - Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
  - Risk Reduction Through Family Therapy
  - Alternatives for Families Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
- Group Therapy
  - Prevention and education groups (PRAC components of TF-CBT)
  - Problematic Sexual Behaviors Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

### **2. Biopsychosocial Trauma Evaluations**

- Two-hour evaluation utilizing clinical interview and standardized assessments

### **3. Psychological Testing**

- Learning and developmental disability testing, as needed

### **4. Multidisciplinary Team Participation**

- Kristi House partners with the Department of Children and Families, Child Protection Team, various police departments, Guardian Ad Litem, and the State Attorney's Office around child disclosures of sexual abuse and other victimization.
  - There are opportunities for the trainee to participate in weekly staffing regarding case status and discuss any safety concerns with the partners.



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- Collaboration with Kristi House Family Advocates on shared clients, opportunities to join their case reviews to staff clients.
- Collaboration with Nicklaus Hospital Psychiatry Fellows who complete a rotation at Kristi House once a week, with opportunities for participation in Psychiatric Case Review.

### **5. Group Supervision**

- Opportunity for participation in twice a month group supervision, which is an interactive training opportunity with review of evidence-based trauma interventions using therapist case presentations.

### **6. Forensic Experience**

- As a CAC, many of our clients are involved in criminal, dependency, or family court systems. As such, the trainee can learn how to document and testify for court if they are called to testify.

### **7. Prevention and Education**

- Our Prevention and Education team educates the community (children and adults) as well as child-serving professionals on trauma. The team at times needs a mental health professional to accompany them to assist any children that need emotional support as a result of the material shared. The trainee will have opportunities to shadow and observe the curricula as well as assist with their outreach efforts by providing mental health support as needed.

The trainee's primary training in the above opportunities will be provided through weekly individual supervision and, when possible, participation in group supervision and consultation/training from other clinical supervisors and directors at Kristi House.

### **Trainee Eligibility and Expectations**

Due to the population served, trainees interested in completing their postdoctoral training at Kristi House should meet the following requirements:

1. Bilingual in Spanish or Creole is preferred.
2. Ability to work evening hours.



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