

OVERALL MISSION STATEMENT

The psychological services department values recognizing the dynamic individual needs and strengths of our students and the communities that we serve. Our core tenets include evidence-based and effective service provision, research-supported training and supervision, community outreach, and efforts to expand the practice of psychology.

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EFFECTIVE SERVICE PROVISION

Our highly skilled interdisciplinary staff implement evidence-based service provision, including assessment and interventions, tailored to each individual's unique background. When conducting evaluations, we ensure our evaluations use evidence-based assessment tools that promote fairness and respect to the individual and their family. We consider the validity of a given instrument and interpret data, with the knowledge of cultural and linguistic factors. As service providers, we are aware of reference populations and possible limitations of instruments. We believe that effective consultation is dependent upon our understanding of the populations we serve and our ability to work with individuals with a multitude of possible disabilities, backgrounds, and needs.

RESEARCH SUPPORTED TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

The department acts to ensure a supportive and encouraging learning environment. The doctoral internship training program is a foundational component of the department and features a variety of didactic and experiential training opportunities throughout the district. Supervision is a key component of the program and involves a collaborative working relationship between the supervisor and supervisee. Engaging in research-supported training and supervision is a core competency of our professional practice.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We value collaborating with stakeholders through a variety of community outreach programs, including but not limited to periodic district and school-based parenting classes, parenting workshops (offered in multiple languages), participation in the annual community health expo, Mental Health Intervention Team Mental Health Fair, and the provision of community-based resources for parents. We also collaborate with district stakeholders, families, and the community at large to gauge needs.

EFFORTS TO EXPAND THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGY

CFISD is a majority minority district with over 100 languages and dialects spoken. As school psychologists, we value the importance of the department well representing the cultural and linguistic needs of the community we work within. Our staff routinely engage in a variety of training methods to continue to pursue growth within the field and challenge our own learned beliefs through dialogue, discussion, readings, and speakers. **As providers within the field of psychology, we embody nondiscrimination in all areas of practice.**