



Greetings!

I'm excited to share information about a professional development and workforce opportunity through Delaware Guidance Services for Children and Youth, Inc. (DGS).

About DGS

This year Delaware Guidance Services for Children and Youth, Inc. (DGS) celebrates over 70 years of providing clinically excellent behavioral health care to children, youth, and families in the First State. DGS operates offices in Wilmington, Newark, Dover, Lewes, and Seaford, and we are the only statewide not-for-profit outpatient behavioral health organization for children and adolescents accredited by The Joint Commission. In 2020, we were honored as a Compassionate Champion for our dedication to serving youth and families using a trauma-informed approach. Through DGS, clients and families have access to outpatient counseling, group therapy, parent-child interaction therapy, and school-based services. Our community-based service lines serve youth and families who require a more intense therapeutic protocol. DGS' 24-hour statewide Mobile Response and Stabilization Services (MRSS) dispatches skilled crisis intervention clinicians to provide immediate care to children experiencing behavioral health crises. Therapeutic options are available for a wide range of diagnoses including depression, anxiety, mood disorders, eating disorders, traumatic stress-related disorders, and suicidal ideation. In 2024, DGS clinicians provided over 33,000 direct care hours to children, youth, and families in Delaware. Over 93% of clients report improvement in their level of functioning following treatment, and therapeutic benefits derived from trauma-informed care extend to clients' siblings, caregivers, classmates, and peers.

Over the past 13 years, DGS has provided unique clinical training opportunities for university students as well as those who have already earned their graduate degree. I'd like to take this opportunity to share with you and your faculty about the opportunity available to your students through DGS and how we may help them as they grow professionally.

DGS' Advanced Clinical Training Program (ACTP) launched in the Summer of 2014 and provides relevant and practical clinical training for those graduates seeking professional state licensure. This two- year program prepares clinicians to utilize clinical skills in the outpatient and community settings. Clinical supervision aligns with clinical licensing requirements and supports growth in the areas of knowledge, competency, and self. DGS is currently hiring graduates across 5 locations in Delaware and aspires to assemble a new cohort in the next 2-3 months.

Please share this opportunity with colleagues and students who may be interested in joining the DGS team! I am available to discuss any questions you may have regarding our programs, and I welcome the opportunity to connect.

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