

MISSION & HISTORY

The San Francisco Child Abuse Prevention Center is dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect, the promotion of healthy families, and the mental health of children. We focus on high risk families, especially those with children five and under. Our program began in 1974 with a 24-hour parental stress line, the T.A.L.K. Line, which continues to be a core component of the Center.

In 1987 we established a family resource center, the T.A.L.K. Line Family Support Center in the Haight Ashbury district, which provides a broad spectrum of services for families including long and short term counseling for individual, children and families; job support services; substance abuse and recovery services; parent education and support; and therapeutic respite care serving children under ten years of age. Some home-visiting services are provided as well. Our goal is to offer services that are accessible, flexible, and non-judgmental.

THE TRAINING PROGRAM

We offer a multidisciplinary training program that accepts interns in Marriage and Family Therapy (pre- and post-graduates), Clinical Social Work, and Psychology (2nd and 3rd year practicum students and pre-doctoral interns), with appropriate supervision for each discipline and appropriate clinical work at each level. The placement is half-time (20-24 hours) and year-long (September to August). Our basic theoretical approach is psychodynamic, with object relations, self psychology, and control mastery points of view represented by our clinical supervisors. In addition, we also draw on experiential and family systems approaches.

POPULATIONS SERVED

T.A.L.K. Line Family Support Center serves parents and caregivers of children under the age of 18. We work with them both individually and with their families. The populations served are diverse in every way: culturally, socio-economically, and clinically. Many of our clients are struggling with issues such as homelessness, mental illness, and substance abuse, and seek assistance with parenting their children.

SERVICES PROVIDED

We provide individual therapy for adults and children, groups, couples and family therapy, telephone counseling, case management, drop-in services for parents and their children, and respite care. There are a variety of psycho-therapeutic, skill building, and support groups provided for parents and children.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Training

For the adult track, there is mandatory training on Friday mornings (from 10:00AM – 1:00PM). Child track training is on Thursday mornings. Overall, training will include case conferences, didactic seminars, milieu training, intern peer support group meetings and all center staff meetings. Seminar content will differ for interns with a child focus or adult focus.

Direct Client Services

All interns and trainees participate in the following programs:

- Counseling on the **T.A.L.K. Line** (a parental stress, crisis, and counseling phone line): Interns work one 4-hour shift per week on the crisis line and do one overnight shift per month. All trainees and interns will work for the duration of their placement. A 50-hour training (in the spring before the internship begins or the fall) is required prior to starting work on the T.A.L.K. Line.
- **Parent Drop-In Center:** Interns work one five-hour shift per week (from 9am to 2pm) in the Parent Drop-In Center, during which they provide two hours of brief therapy, and one to two hours of milieu therapy to parents. This may include intake interviews and crisis intervention. Crisis situations include all varieties of family crises, major psychiatric decompensation, substance abuse, domestic violence, and other forms of traumatization. There may also be the opportunity to co-lead support groups for parents. Interns receive two hours of group supervision for these activities per week, with continuously available support during their parent drop-in shift.

- **Long-Term Psychotherapy:** Interns apply to work with either adults OR children in long-term psychotherapy, and will carry a maximum caseload of 7 long-term therapy clients. Interns receive one hour of individual supervision of these cases per week. All trainees will be expected to be available to see clients *either* one evening *or* one weekend day each week.

Interns may also be able to participate in the following programs, at the discretion of the Director:

- Interns may work in our Playroom, a therapeutic childcare center (which is a model program in San Francisco), offering drop-in and routine childcare services for children of families served at the T.A.L.K. Line Family Support Center.
- Interns may also work at our Respite Care site, a pioneer program in the U.S., which has been running over 25 years.

PSYCHOLOGY PRACTICUM TRAINEES

The expectations of psychology practicum trainees are similar to those of MFT and CSW interns. Psychology practicum trainees participate in all of the above training activities. In addition, psychology practicum trainees may be able to conduct psychological assessments on children referred from within the Family Support Center. We use and teach a model of client-centered, therapeutic assessment in which trainees and interns are trained and closely supervised.

STIPEND

Post-graduate MFT Interns and pre-doctoral Psychology Interns receive a monthly stipend.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Application materials should be submitted by February 28. Materials should include a resume/CV, cover letter, and three letters of recommendation. Please indicate in the cover letter whether you are interested in the child or adult focus for long-term clients. A transcript is helpful, especially for interns applying to work with children, but not required.

Candidates will be asked to attend a group interview in order to learn more about our training program. At this time, individual interviews for those candidates who are interested will be scheduled. The individual interview takes place with the training director and two program directors and lasts approximately 1-1/2 hours. Candidates will be asked to describe their clinical experience and discuss particular cases in some detail. Candidates will also be asked to provide information regarding their personal family background. Placement offers are made within two weeks of individual interviews.

SEND APPLICATION MATERIALS TO:

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Child Abuse Prevention Center
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**San Francisco
Child Abuse Prevention
Center**

**Clinical
Training Program**



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