



## **I. Summary of Program**

The Professional Counseling Program's personnel at the end of academic year 2022-2023 totaled seven core faculty and one Program Coordinator. Our adjunct faculty includes two CACREP trained counselor educators, and a doctor of pharmacy. The program accepted 39 students from an applicant pool of 53, who began the program. We had 79 students in seats this year. Our student body is currently 72% female and 28% male, 85% white, with African American, Asian, Foreign National, and other making up the remaining 15%.

## **II. Faculty Achievements**

Faculty in the program made 34 presentations, attended more than 12 professional meetings, served on 6 University committees, served on 2 state committees, and were involved with several other leadership positions as indicated below.

### **Faculty Committees & Leadership Positions:**

- President of Arkansas Counseling Association
- Coordinated CACREP site-visit
- Coordinated response to CACREP site-visit
- Academic Leaders committee
- Faculty Advisor for the Chi Sigma Iota Chapter of CSI.
- Arkansas Board of Examiners in Counseling Board Chair
- Faculty Evaluation Committee
- Community Committee for Lament
- Interprofessional Experiential member
- Mental Health and Wellness Leadership committee
- DESE - School Counseling licensure review
- Board Member of the Botham Jean Foundation, Inc
- HEAL (University Wellness)
- Disaster Drill- Liaison

- Harding University's Global Outreach Mission Trip to St. Lucia
- Supervision Training Department Committee
- Internship Review Department Committee

### **Faculty Awards & Authorships**

- Technical Reviewer and writer of the forward of “Shepherding the Flock: Transforming the People of God into a Community of Care & Encouragement”

### **Faculty Presentations Included:**

- Harding University Parent Network Breakfast Presenter
- Excellence in Mental Health Virtual Conference Presenter
- “Catastrophic News Delivered Compassionately”
- FUN virtual conference Presenter
- “The Importance of Hope and Resiliency”
- Lunch and Learn Consultation/Speaking, (workplace wellness).
- “Courage for Spiritual Warfare”
- “Anxiety and The Leisure of Eternity”
- “Can I Be Angry and Not Sin?”
- Holding Tight and Letting Go: A Conversation About Parenting New Adults
- “Equipping Educators to Create Cultures of Wellness”
- “Issues Related to Distance Counseling and Technology”
- “Multicultural Supervision”
- “Mind Your Gaps; Mental Health Panel”
- Understanding Reactions to Childhood Trauma
- “Disciples Forgive; Understanding How Forgiveness Heals, ”
- “Restoring A Sense of Calm, Both In and Out of the Classroom”
- “Stress Pathways: Anxiety or Resilience”
- “Comfort Zones & Strategies for Provider Growth”
- “Self-care while in Graduate Training”
- “Mindfulness as a Part of CBT”
- “Response to ADHD Profiles in H.S. & College Students”
- “Strategies to Address Adolescent Cutting and Self-Harm”
- “Digital Supervision”
- “The Importance of Connection in Counseling”
- “Created for Connection”

- “The Ethics of Self-Care”
- “New Year’s G.O.A.L. setting”
- “Relationships Thrive with Commitment, Understanding and Fun”
- “Discover Identity in your Heritage”
- “The Importance of Emotions”
- “Summer Fun”
- “If You Disagree with Co-Workers”
- “Vacation Strategies”

**Workshops, Professional Meetings, and CEs attended Included:**

- ArCA State Conference
- ArACES State Conference
- ACA Conference
- AAMFTRB Annual Conference
- AASCB Annual Conference
- ARBOEC Supervision and Ethics Workshop
- Arkansas Counseling Association Leadership Development Conference
- Arkansas ASPA Conference
- Mental Health & Wellness Dept--Generational Differences
- CSI- Community Training
- Mental Health in Higher Education- John DeLony
- “Be With: Attachment and Regulation in Clinical Practice”

**III. Program Achievements**

The program was once more involved with community events, recognitions, and trainings. The program continued to see growth in the 2022-2023 school year. The counseling program’s Advisory Committee, which is comprised of representatives from CASA, Prime Care, Cabot and Searcy schools, Arisa Health, Child Safety Center, Families, Inc. and several private practice therapists once again met in October and were given an update on all that had been accomplished across the year. This is a scheduled annual activity to distribute program evaluation and vital statistics to stakeholders. Discussion included topics such as addressing the mental health needs locally and across the state, educating school-based services due to the high need and best practices in counselor education. Teaching about the collaboration and relationship between therapists and school faculty, getting a sense of desired workshops and support groups, working to bring diversity to the

program/areas of counseling, helping student learn how to interview for jobs, and addressing gaps in understanding of child welfare and hotline information and the specifics of that, especially focused on AR

We had several physical events and presentations sponsored by our Chi Sigma Iota chapter for the 2022-2023 school year. We had an in-person induction ceremony, mental health screenings, several mental health panels, and a presentation on “Pornography Addiction and Prevention.”

Inter-professional experiences were provided. Students and faculty participated in an ongoing inter-professional experiential (IPE) collaboration with the Health Sciences programs (e.g. pharmacy, physician’s assistant, speech pathology, exercise science and others) on campus for collaborative case studies. The Professional Counseling program was active in leadership in both fall and spring IPE activities with faculty acting as emcees and discussion leaders and multiple students serving as round table facilitators.

The Professional Counseling program teamed with the Health Sciences, Public Safety, local law enforcement, paramedics, and the hospital in April for the annual Disaster Drill on campus. This year’s simulation focused on tornado drill.

Academically, the program finalized our re-accreditation and preparation for adherence to the 2016 standards as well as preparing for the new 2024 standards. The marriage and family therapy program has begun to be integrated with the clinical mental health and school counseling entry level specialty areas as it prepares for initial accreditation. The site visit was conducted in February of 2023 and re-accreditation for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling as well as initial accreditation of the Marriage, Couple and Family Counseling program was obtained in July of 2023.

We noted a shift to requests from more and more students for digital delivery of program courses and we are eagerly awaiting CACREP’s response to our Digital Delivery Report.

#### **IV. Counseling program/student outcomes**

In 2022-2023 academic year, 100% of Professional School Counseling candidates from the Professional Counseling program who took the Praxis II School Counseling Exam

0421 (which measures knowledge and skills and is required for licensing in School Counseling) made a passing score. In the 2022-2023 academic year, 100% of Clinical Mental Health Counseling candidates from the Professional Counseling program who took the National Counselor Exam (NCE) or comprehensive exam assessing knowledge, skills, and abilities made a passing score (which is determined using the Angoff formula) on first attempt.

The program had 12 students graduate in December 2022, 18 students graduate in May 2023, and 7 students graduated in July 2023. Completion rates are currently at 88% for clinical mental health students and 82% for school counseling students. We believe that completion rates for MCFC students is about 99% based on data from 2022 and 2023.

**Fall 2022- 12 grads**

- o Seacy (CMHC: 8, MFC: 0, SC: 2)
- o Rogers (CMHC: 1, MFC: 0, SC: 0)
- o Memphis (CMHC: 1, MFC: 0, SC: 0)

**Spring 2023- 18 grads**

- o Seacy (CMHC: 6, MFC: 7, SC: 0)
- o Rogers (CMHC: 2, MFC: 0, SC: 0)
- o Memphis (CMHC: 2, MFC: 0, SC: 1)

**Summer 2023- 7 grads**

- o Seacy (CMHC: 5, MFC: 1, SC: 0)
- o Rogers (CMHC: 1, MFC: 0, SC: 0)
- o Memphis (CMHC: 0, MFC: 0, SC: 0)

Current program job placement rate for the last year, defined as the number of students who, within six months of receiving their degree have obtained employment in the field they were trained or a related field, is 78% for clinical mental health and 33% for school counseling (this is due in part to low graduate numbers), and 86% for marriage family counseling.

\*NOTE\* Due to a change in internal software systems at the institutional level that were used to track some of this data and the departure of our previous program coordinator, there is a significant lack of confidence in some numbers that are reported. As an example, lack of contact with graduates may artificially depress the job placement rates and reflect only those that responded out of graduates rather than the actual number of those with or without counseling related jobs.