



Gulf Coast Mental Health Counselors Association

Membership for Professionals

\$75.00 per year
will include access
to all events

Membership for Student

\$25.00 per year will
include access
to all events

All memberships include:

- 4 luncheon workshops with expert trainings and CEUs.
- Option to be included in the GMHC directory
- Networking for referrals and potential employment opportunities
- Scholarship opportunities for mental health graduate students and registered interns
- Legislative updates for the mental health profession

www.gmhc.net

*A special Thank you to
Dr. Silva Casabianca
for sharing your knowledge with our
GMHC members at the April Educational
Luncheon*

Upcoming Workshops

- July 22, 2019, 11:15-2:00 PM
 - Cohen Center 214- Medical Marijuana by Dr. Gregory Sonn
- October 28, 2019, 11:15-2:00 PM
 - Suicidality- A Growing Concern by Pam Peters
- January 27, 2020, 11:15-2:00 PM
 - Title by Relational Trauma, Addiction, and Family Treatment with Ryan Soave
- April 27, 2020, 11:15-2:00 PM
 - Parenting in the 21st Century: A guide to Helping Kids Stay out of High-Tech Trouble by Dr. Russell Sabella

2019 Gulf Coast Mental Health Counselors Board:

President: April Brown
Vice President: Anthony Garcia
Secretary: Wendy Powell
Treasurer: Pam Peters
Members at large:
Mary Nuosce
Elizabeth Martin
Jama Thurman
Kelly Lepore
Charity Godfrey
Webmaster: Jody Magras
Registered M.H. Intern:
Katie Stabile
Graduate Student: Kendel Cooper
Past President Council –
David Sarchet, Douglas Fowler, George Drobinski

Congrats to the Scholarship Recipients



\$1,000.00 Scholarship went to Elizabeth Martin

Elizabeth joined GCMHC and has Board experience with the organization. She graduated in 2015 and would utilize the scholarship funds to increase her supervision hours towards licensure. She has experience working in a psychiatric hospital setting, community mental health, and felony drug court.

She recognizes challenges within our industry and wants to be able to help address them locally and legislatively to aid the clients we serve.



\$500 Scholarship went to Melanie Fisher

Melanie joined GCMHC in 2019. She is scheduled to graduate in 2020 and has a goal to work as a clinician for children with mental illness. Her work as a Therapeutic Mentor led her to the direction to become a Mental Health Counselor. She would use scholarship funds towards, tuition, books, and supplies related to her counseling program at FGCU.

If you applied and did not get it or you did not get a chance to apply the next scholarship deadline is July 1, 2019.

Here is the link to apply: <https://gmhc.net/2019/03/12/taking-applicants-for-gmhc-scholarship-for-mh-graduate-students-and-registered-interns/>

How to Become a Registered Intern

Congratulations! You've graduated with your master's degree! Now you're interested in becoming a Licensed Mental Health Counselor. In order to do so, you will need to become a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern with the state of Florida first. To become a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern in Florida you will need:

1. Official Transcript- Transcripts must be sent in the official sealed envelope from the university
 - a. Minimum of an earned Master's Degree from a mental health counseling program accredited by a CACREP program that consists of at least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours of clinical and didactic instruction including human sexuality and a course in substance abuse. For more information to equivalent programs accepted please visit <https://floridamentalhealthprofessions.gov/licensing/registered-mental-health-counselor-intern/>
2. Qualified Supervisor- Applicant's must have a **letter** from a Board approved qualified supervisor containing the supervisor's name, license number, the applicant's name (as it appears on the application), and a statement saying the supervisor has agreed to provide the applicant with supervisor while a registered intern.

Once you are approved by the FL Board as a Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern you will need to complete these next things:

1. 1500 face-to-face client contact hours in no LESS than 100 weeks. You cannot be licensed earlier than 100 weeks
2. 100 hours of supervision, also to be completed in no LESS than 100 weeks.
 - a. You can have supervision weekly, or biweekly.
 - b. You cannot go more than two weeks without supervision.
 - c. Even if you have 0 clients, you still have to meet with your supervisor.
 - d. Group supervision is considered 3-6 supervisees, and individual supervision is considered 1-2 supervisees.
 - i. You can have as much individual supervision as you want but you can have no more than 50% group supervision.
 - e. As of 2016, distance supervision (via teleconferencing or video conferencing) is allowed for 50% of supervision and can be for individual supervision ONLY.
 - f. If you have earned 100 supervision hours BEFORE you have completed the other requirements for licensure you are STILL required to see your supervisor until you have received your license in the mail.
3. Pass the Licensure Exam
4. Complete an 8 Hour Laws and Rules Course from a board approved provider.
5. Complete a 3 Hour HIV/AIDS Course from a board approved provider.
6. Complete a 2 Hour Domestic Violence Course from a board approved provider.

Helpful Tips:

- Log all hours and keep track to help you stay organized
- The state will not accept personal logs with signatures, they only accept their hours sheet so have your supervisor send in the state's sheet with your hours every couple of months. You never know what could happen in the future, so it's better that the state starts to get some of your hours and doesn't wait until the end.
- Study Guides-
 - o <https://clinicalexamworkshop.com/index.html>
 - o <https://counselingexam.com>
- Board Approved Courses
 - o <https://www.aarossfamilycounseling.com>
 - o https://www.ace-classes.com/lms/_portal/account/account.php?page=30001&
 - o Becoming a member of GMHC can be beneficial for registered intern's due to the availability to access networking opportunities and qualified supervisors who are also involved with the organization!

Written by *Katie Stable Registered Mental Health Counselor Intern*