EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

In my role as the Julie and Keith Thomson Director and Faculty Chair for the HEDCO Clinic, I am continuously grateful for the opportunity to execute the vision of expanding care to members of the UO community, and Oregon at large, and working with a tireless team of center directors and supervisors who are training the next generation of providers in evidence-based practices.

This past year we have seen the vision of expanding services become a reality. To address an increased need for assessment and diagnostic evaluations, Dr. Karrie Walters expanded the number of clinicians conducting diagnostic assessments for learning difficulties and attention deficit disorders and has quadrupled the number of assessments over the past 4 years. In addition to increasing our assessments, the clinic continued to provide free or low cost services to families facing financial challenges and supports to children whose parents or siblings were receiving services.

As the HEDCO clinic director, I am proud to report that the high quality and nationally recognized research generated by COE faculty continues to inform our treatment and expand our impact on an increasing number of individuals and families. This reach extends to those facing challenges associated with stuttering to helping parents navigate concerning child behaviors and to individuals working through relational issues.

The HEDCO Clinic also brings together faculty and students from diverse backgrounds and perspectives who all believe in positively impacting our current and future communities.

Please read on to learn more about how each of our clinical centers has expanded and increased their impact over the last year.

Wendy Hadley
Julie and Keith Thomson Faculty Chair and HEDCO Clinic Director
SIBLING SUPPORT SERVICES

This past year, the HEDCO Clinic expanded sibling support services for the siblings of children receiving clinical care or for caregivers seeking couples counseling.

This support is provided during clinical sessions, in an on-site location, and is delivered by undergraduates enrolled in the College of Education’s Family and Human Services degree program who are then supervised by graduate students in the Counseling Psychology program. Through this service we not only provide hands on training to undergraduates in child development and brief preventative interventions, but also eliminate barriers to accessing clinical services for caregivers.

“It’s always a joy seeing the relief on our client’s faces when they’re able to utilize the Sibling Support Services. They’re more relaxed, and our interns get a lot from being able to work with these children and this program.”

- Talia Keene, HEDCO Clinic Assistant Manager
GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR
NEW AND CONTINUING INITIATIVES FOR 2023-24

• Looking forward, the HEDCO Clinic will continue to pursue an avenue to relaunch tutoring services. We will focus on identifying expert leadership and graduate student populations whose training goals align with this service.

• Due to increasing wait lists across all service lines, the Clinic will continue to develop resources for identifying ways to provide increased clinical services to a larger number of individuals, couples, children, and families with a relatively stable number of student clinicians and supervisors.

• An increase in clinical service provision will result in the need to identify new clinical space. Currently, the Clinic is borrowing space from the College of Education to help support its growth. In 2023-24 the Clinic will work to identify more permanent space solutions to manage this growth.
AUTISM SUPPORT SERVICES

The HEDCO Clinic continues to focus on the development, evaluation, and accessible implementation of interventions to support children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and neurodevelopmental disorders, their families, and the practitioners who support them.

Our faculty are working with communities to:

- Maximize the early development of children with ASD by building on strengths and supporting individual needs.
- Help practitioners adopt and implement intervention strategies to best serve children and their families, and
- Contribute to scientific advances in early intervention and special education to continue to optimize outcomes.

“The goal of this work is to support greater health equity by making evidence-based interventions more accessible, particularly to families in rural and remote communities, by developing and offering multiple ways for caregivers to connect with early intervention practitioners in their communities.”

Stephanie Shire
Associate Professor in Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education
SPÉECH-LANGUÅÆGE-HEARING CENTER

The SLHC has offered premier speech and language assessments and interventions while simultaneously training future speech-language pathologists. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts and dedication of the clinical faculty and students, and the generosity of donors, the SLHC offers individual and/or group treatment in social skills/pragmatic needs training, cognitive rehabilitation after brain injury or concussion, stuttering/cluttering therapy, alternative tools for complex communication needs, language and speech rehabilitation following stroke, speech, language and cognitive services for degenerative diseases, voice disorders, and dysphagia.

In FY23, the Speech Language Hearing Center expanded its services and now provides care to adults and elderly clients at the Avamere Riverpark Skilled Nursing & Care Facility.

“Our collaboration with Avamere has provided services to residents of the skill nursing facility who would otherwise not be eligible for covered services. The opportunity for student clinicians to enter a medical setting allows them to see what their future career may look like and better prepares students for medical externships and their clinical fellowship year after graduation.”

- Jennifer Meyer, Clinic Director, Communication Disorders and Sciences

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: HANNA FOLEY

Hanna Foley, anticipated master’s in Communication Disorders and Sciences ’24, recipient of the Kasey Elizabeth Lindeleaf Memorial Scholarship for Communications Disorders and Sciences, received the Student Clinician Appreciation Award in Spring 2023. Hanna is training to provide evidence-based speech-language assessment and treatment for clients at the HEDCO Clinic and with a focus on phonology, phonetics, and syntax. After graduation, Hanna plans to work in a pediatric hospital or public school, treating children with speech sound disorders.
COMPREHENSIVE DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENT CENTER

The CDAC offers strength-based, comprehensive evaluations for Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Learning Disabilities (including dyslexia, dyscalculia, and dysgraphia). Services are available to children (age 7 and older), adolescents, college students, and adults. The CDAC externship provides doctoral students the opportunity to build skills in a strength-based, holistic approach to assessment and diagnosis for learning disabilities and ADHD.

This year, the CDAC performed autism diagnostic assessment for students referred from the University of Oregon’s Accessible Education Center. This collaborative effort will allow students at the University of Oregon more access to comprehensive assessments.

“It’s almost like we’re gathering all the puzzle pieces to put together a more comprehensive and strength-based picture. We highlight the individual in context and see the ‘dis’ in ‘disability’ as often a mismatch between the individual and the environment, instead of something solely intrinsic to the client.”

- Karrie Walters, Clinical Director, CDAC

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: KARRIE WALTERS, PH.D.

As the clinical director of CDAC, Karrie Walters oversees the services offered at the center and provides training and supervision to doctoral students in school, counseling, and clinical psychology. In her work with students, Karrie regularly translates current research to applied practice, integrating her twenty-two years of clinical experience with current best-practice, offering robust training experiences to her undergraduate and graduate students. This year, Karrie was recognized with the UO’s Distinguished Award for Excellence in Teaching. Karrie’s future plans for the clinic include offering evaluations in Spanish and expanding the ability to assess for autism spectrum disorder.
The CFC is a student-led clinic that uses the Family Check-Up model, an evidence-based treatment, to promote positive parenting practices for Oregon families. The CFC offers assessment, intervention, and referral services for children ranging from age two through eighteen years. The low-cost services are appropriate for parents concerned about children and teenagers experiencing difficulties at school, home, or both. The approach is family-centered, with special attention given to supporting parents as they learn to address the multiple needs of their children.

CFC Director Beth Stormshak was on academic sabbatical in 2022-23. During this time Anne Marie Mauricio filled in as director of the center.

“\textit{In this post-pandemic era when demand for mental health services is unprecedentedly high, it was rewarding to offer the community culturally responsive, evidence-based services that are affordable to everyone and help make counseling accessible to underserved families. It was also rewarding to make a meaningful contribution to the Eugene community by offering Spanish speaking families these same services, given that culturally and linguistically sensitive services are scarce.}”

- Ann Marie Mauricio, Director of Clinical Training, CFC

**STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: FRANK MOJEKWU**

Frank Mojekwu, anticipated PhD. in Counseling Psychology ’25, is currently in his fourth year as a doctoral student. Frank serves as the Child and Family Center’s Graduate Assistant and is a recipient of the Tesia M. Smith Excellence scholarship. Frank’s training has included rotations in community mental health settings wherein he has delivered evidence-based interventions to adults and children in the context of individual and family therapy. He approaches the delivery of cognitive and behavioral interventions with an ecological lens—by understanding that society’s structures can uniquely impact each client’s lived experiences through individual and cultural identities. Frank assists clients in developing self-compassion in the face of difficulties and the confidence to respond to life challenges.
CENTER FOR HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

The CHR is a low-cost counseling center staffed by COE Couples and Family Therapy graduate students seeking a master’s degree. The inclusive clinic serves couples, families, and individuals, some of whom are UO students.

Over the last year, the CHR has increased outreach in the community. In November, CHR director, Tiffany Brown, provided a public talk titled, “How to Support Grieving Teens,” about grief and suicide at South Eugene High School. In April, two COE students joined Dr. Brown in presenting “Building Healthy Relationships” to the UO community. Brown was pleased to integrate the students in the presentation about what makes a relationship healthy and how healthy relationships are necessary for well-being. “I am so glad to preview what CHR students can offer the communities they join after graduation.”

“With the increasing rates of teen suicide deaths in Lane County, talking about how to support teens who are affected is important. The talk opened the conversation about how grief is experienced so that parents, guardians, and school staffs can best attend to the normative experiences of a friend or classmate dying by suicide.”

- Tiffany Brown, Director, CHR

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT: DAY HANCOCK-MURPHY

Day Hancock-Murphy, MS ’23, clinician of CHR, is interested in supporting populations that typically get hit hardest by substance abuse. After two years of leading a sober social space for LGBTQ+ individuals in San Diego, Day became interested in becoming a clinician and joined the Couples and Family Therapy Program. With the goal to open a group practice oriented as a teaching clinic providing supervision to marginalized therapists, Day is now working at “Second Growth,” a counseling center that is passionate about closing the gap of accessibility for BIPOC therapists.
ACCOLADES

- Jody Ferguson, HEDCO Clinic Manager, won UD’s Outstanding Employee Award (June 2023).

- Clinician Day Hancock-Murphy was awarded the prestigious American Association for Marriage & Family Therapy Minority Fellowship (October 2022).


- HEDCO Clinic receptionist Maria Maroun won CDS Class of 2023 Award for Friendliest Student (June 2023).

- Anne Marie Mauricio, Interim Director of Clinical Training, CFC, won the College of Education award for Excellence in Supervision, Career Track Faculty (June 2023).

- Jennifer Meyer, SLHC Director, won 2SLGBTQIA3+ Outstanding Faculty Member at Lavender Graduation (June 2023).

- Karrie Walters, CDAC Director, was recognized with the award for Excellence in Teaching, Distinguished (June 2023).

- HEDCO Clinic receptionist Aislinn Williams won the College of Education Student Staff Excellence award for undergraduate students (June 2023).
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The University of Oregon is located on Kalapuya Ilihi, the traditional indigenous homeland of the Kalapuya people, many of whom are now citizens of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians.

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