



**Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Psychology
South County Psychiatry
2025-2026**

Position: Methods to Improve Diagnostic Assessment and Services (MIDAS) Clinical Research Project
Title: Postdoctoral Fellowship in Assessment and Diagnosis
Contact: Kristin C. Davidoff, PhD

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in a postdoctoral fellowship with South County Psychiatry! Our site offers postdoctoral level training for recent graduates of psychology doctoral programs. This placement is designed to provide fellows with an enriching training experience in semi-structured diagnostic assessment, and to prepare them for independent practice.

Start Date: September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026*

*flexible start/end times available, please contact us with questions/concerns

Time Commitment/Duration: The duration of the fellowship is 1 year, and the position is full time; Monday through Friday, 8AM - 4:30PM. This program will meet the minimum requirement of 1500 hours of supervised experience for state licensure in Rhode Island.

Compensation: \$65,000 annually; health, dental and eye coverage; paid time off

Training Committee:

Mark Zimmerman, MD (primary supervisor)
Theresa Morgan, PhD
Kristin Davidoff, PhD
Abigail Mansfield Marcaccio, PhD

South County Psychiatry

South County Psychiatry (SCP) is a rapidly growing, academically focused psychiatric and behavioral health practice serving Rhode Island and southern New England. At SCP we are committed to providing evidence based, values driven treatment and training. Our primary supervisors have had faculty appointments at Brown in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior from previous positions, although SCP is not affiliated with Brown. As a result, there is a strong interest in delivering high quality empirically supported treatments, and in translating evidence-based principles to a private practice setting.

The Methods to Improve Diagnostic Assessment and Services (MIDAS) Project

The Assessment Program at SCP was originally founded over 25 years ago in coordination with Brown University as the MIDAS Project (Methods to Improve Diagnostic Assessment and Services), which seeks to integrate research methodology into routine clinical practice. This project recently migrated to a private practice setting at SCP. It now represents the largest existing clinical epidemiological study using standardized measures that has been conducted in routine clinical practice. Centered around rigorous clinical assessment training, the project has amassed over 10,000 individual participants across 30 years and 3 data sets of psychiatric outpatients, partial hospital patients, and pre-surgical assessments of bariatric surgery

candidates. We are currently in the process of establishing a fourth, largely unstudied sample of patients referred for treatment at the intensive outpatient level, a largely unstudied but increasingly accessed level of care in US healthcare settings.

Instead of a typical clinical intake, a subset of individuals presenting for care at SCP receive a comprehensive evaluation including the SCID for Axis I disorders, SIDP for Axis II disorders, psychiatric family history evaluation, childhood trauma assessment, psychosocial functioning assessment, and collection of demographic features. Data on the patient experience such as satisfaction is also actively collected and used for ongoing program evaluation and improvement. Fellows will take a leading role in the MIDAS assessment process, including serving as a team member, mentor, and additional point of consultation for research assistants assisting with SCID interviews.

Population Served

Our outpatient programs serve a diverse, adult (18+) patient population of all gender identities, with the goal of providing culturally sensitive and inclusive care to all patients. Demographics are generally reflective of the broader Rhode Island community. Common presenting concerns include mood disorders, anxiety disorders, suicidality, personality pathology (e.g., BPD), post-traumatic stress disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorder, among others.

Fellowship Aims:

1. To provide the fellow with broad post-doctoral training in the area of diagnostic precision and psychiatric comorbidity.
2. To provide the fellow with a strong working knowledge of clinical assessment in a private practice setting, including: assessment procedures, clinical scale implementation, treatment decision-making, and treatment outcome clinical research conducted with adult populations presenting with diverse psychiatric problems.
3. To prepare the fellow for a clinical assessment career by active participation in assessment projects, data collection, data management and analysis, development and implementation of fully integrated research methodology into routine clinical practice.
4. To enable the fellow to accrue hours toward Rhode Island licensure through clinical assessment activities

Clinical Responsibilities (80%):

1. With increasing independence, conduct, interpret, and write up 3-4 comprehensive semi-structured clinical assessments weekly consisting of the following:

- Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV (SCID)
- Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia (SADS)
- Treatment Response to Antidepressant History (TRAQ)
- Structured Interview for DSM-IV Borderline Personality (SIDP)
- Family History – Research Diagnostic Criteria Interview (FH-RDC)
- Extracted Hamilton Depression Rating Scale
- Psychosocial and Occupational Functioning Assessment

2. Attend scheduled didactic/coordination sessions to include:

- Weekly case/journal meetings with the PI
- Weekly, SCP wide case and administrative meetings

- Monthly didactic sessions with all SCP trainees
3. Function as an integral member of our multidisciplinary treatment team, including:
 - Participating in regular SCID consultation meetings
 - Communicating with and providing consultation to colleagues around assessment issues
 - Maintaining consistency in adherence to a clinical-research protocol
 - Supporting the development of an effective treatment milieu for all patients
 4. Attend 2-4 hours of combined group and individual supervision weekly

Individualized Training Opportunities (20%)

The remainder of the fellowship is tailored to the individual interests and needs of the trainee, consistent with our goal to facilitate each fellow's professional development and help them to move towards their own independent practice and career goals. We offer additional training opportunities in the following areas, accompanied by additional supervision as needed:

1. **Clinical Research:** We strongly encouraged fellows with an interest in clinical research to participate in and/or initiate research projects using MIDAS data. We take seriously our commitment to integrated clinical and research work, and actively support analysis and publication of our existing data. To date, over 350 scientific publications speaking to diagnosis, functioning, and the patient experience in routine clinical care have been generated from this work.
2. **Outpatient Psychotherapy:** Fellows are welcome to pursue additional opportunities within the broader outpatient department at SCP to enrich their clinical training experience, including aftercare groups for IOP patients. We will do our best to facilitate opportunities with specific patient populations, clinical presentations, or treatment modalities in the larger SCP practice in whatever capacity is appropriate and aligns with training goals.
3. **Program Evaluation, Improvement, and Development Project(s):** Fellows are welcome to initiate projects that would benefit the patient experience at IOP or SCP in the areas of program evaluation, improvement, or development, based on their interests, program needs, and capacity.

This training experience will be a good fit for you if... you love (and get frustrated by) the many idiosyncrasies of our diagnostic system; you are interested in a career that includes clinical work *and* research; a finely tuned assessment report thrills you; you have (or are willing to develop!) a high tolerance for interesting presentations, comorbidity, and people generally; you have an interest in learning about how we translate the evidence-base to real-world clinical work; private practice intrigues you; you like the idea of working with a clinical research team; and/or you are alternately intimidated, nervous, and excited by learning the many ins and outs of the DSM.

***A Note on Virtual Treatment/Provision of Telehealth Services:**

Our intention is to provide high quality, personalized, and superior training in an increasingly preferred and common telehealth format. We offer patients clinical assessment using a virtual format. As such, your training experience will also be fully remote. Trainees who do not have access to a private setting with a stable internet connection may request office space in our

Cranston, RI location. Please let your supervisors know your needs and we will accommodate to the best of our ability.

Consistent with our commitment to integrative research and clinical care, our group was one of the first research programs to publish data comparing in person and virtual care. Our findings suggest that remote treatment: increases access to people who may not otherwise have presented to treatment; increases patient attendance and retention in treatment; and results in comparable outcomes to in-person treatment (Zimmerman et al., 2021). However, we have been unable to find similar studies on the experience of supervision and training in a virtual format, and recognize this may present challenges to trainees seeking a different experience.

To Apply:

Please direct any questions to our Director of Postdoctoral Training, Dr. Kristin Davidoff, via email at drdavidoff@scp-ri.com.

If interested, please email the following materials to Dr. Davidoff at the email address above. Put "IOP Postdoctoral Fellowship Application" in the subject line, and ensure all files are clearly labeled with your name in the file name. For example, "CV_JSmith"

- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of interest
- Letters of recommendation (3)
- Transcripts (unofficial)

Deadline: Applications will be accepted until 1 January, and reviewed on a rolling basis as long as the position is available.

Interviews will be conducted annually in January.