

FOUNDATION
Of the Consortium of
Multiple Sclerosis Centers



THE CONSORTIUM OF
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS CENTERS

CALL FOR LETTERS OF INTEREST

MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship Program Sites 2020/2021

Additional Funding has come available for West Coast MS Comprehensive Care Centers

Background

The Foundation of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers is proud to continue a series of specialty training opportunities for MS mental health professionals. There is a national shortage of mental health practitioners knowledgeable about neuropsychiatric disorders in MS. Now in its' second year, programs of this type have been established to encourage growth and excellence in the comprehensive clinical care of MS.

This call for applications seeks letters of interest from qualified CMSC Comprehensive Care Center training sites for the 2020/2021 MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship Program.

Because training sites must be vetted and approved prior to commencement of the MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship annually, we welcome letters of interest from potential training sites.

Guidelines

Your training forum will provide health professionals with a special interest or specialty in MS with new information about challenges of the disease. Candidates for this program are nursing professionals with a mental health interest or background, social workers, psychologists, and psychiatrists. They will be provided with new information about the unique challenges faced by persons living with multiple sclerosis, screening strategies for recognizing the presence of mental health issues, and best practices for mental health care to maximize outcomes.

Each selected site is required to have a mental health professional provide oversight for the overall training/curriculum, that is approved by the MS Center director. This mentorship program will pair the mental health experts with professionals who are contemplating a focus on multiple sclerosis mental health care, or are 1-3 years into their specialty careers. Mentors will share their knowledge and experience with their MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship trainees over the five-day mentorship experience. Two trainees will be awarded an additional scholarship to attend the CMSC Annual Meeting in June 2021 in San Diego, CA.

Funding for three MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship training sites is available, with training sessions expected to take place between late Summer 2020 and March 2021. An allocation of \$7500 will be available to each site; the site receiving \$5,000 and the mental health Program Director receiving \$2,500.

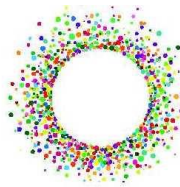
The exact dates are at the discretion of each selected site. A total of twelve multiple sclerosis professionals will be selected to participate in specialized MS training with expert multidisciplinary faculty at three CMSC member institutions. Each selected site will provide two 5 day training experiences for a total of four trainees (2 per week).

Trainee applicants will be required to hold appropriate licensure, certification and/or registration in the state/province of their current employment or be currently enrolled in an accredited mental health graduate program and be prepared to spend 5-7 days (including travel) for the program. Eligibility is limited to nursing professionals with a mental health interest or background, social workers, psychologists, and psychiatrists new to MS work who have not previously been awarded and completed an MS Mental Health Mini Mentorship Program. Each trainee participant will be provided with scholarship funds for travel and lodging expenses.

Training Site Criteria

To be considered as a Training Site the following criteria must be met:

- **Must be a member of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC).**
- **A letter of interest is due to the CMSC by June 3, 2020. It must be accompanied with a statement of support from the site's director or department head which should include:**
 - 1. What programs/clinics of the comprehensive center will the trainees be exposed to?**
 - 2. List of professionals (with credentials) that the trainees will be able to observe/interact with during their time in your clinic.**



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3. A rough outline of the curriculum or proposed schedule you will provide for the trainees (See proposed curriculum outline).

Sites will be notified of their award by mid-June, 2020.

- Site applicants are limited to **CMSC member centers** offering multidisciplinary comprehensive MS care, staffed with a licensed mental health professional in the areas of social work, counseling, psychology, or neuropsychology. (For more information about becoming a CMSC member, contact Marguerite Herman, 201-487-1050, X105 or email mherman@mscare.org. To check if your center is a CMSC member, contact Ryan Francia at 201-487-1050, x103 or email rfrancia@mscare.org)
- Training sites must have administrative capability to schedule sessions, contact participants, and provide information regarding available local lodging and program logistics. Each trainee participant will be responsible for making their own travel and lodging arrangements based on information provided by the site coordinator.
- Approved training sites will receive a site fee of \$7500 (\$5000 for the site and \$2,500 for the Program Director) to compensate site training costs which may be utilized by your program to provide trainer honoraria and expenses for program administration. Per the Sunshine Act reporting requirements, documentation will be required on portions of your site fee funds supporting food or other fees for HCPs presenting or participating in the program. This includes any HCP (prescribing or not). A reporting form will be provided at the completion of the sessions. (Trainee participants will complete their own Sunshine Act report form.)
- Complete the Training Site Request Form below, attach the documentation requested above and submit via email or fax by **June 3, 2020** to: Cindy Bobowski, FCMSC Program Manager, cindy@cmscfoundation.org or fax to **(866)-920-6813**.

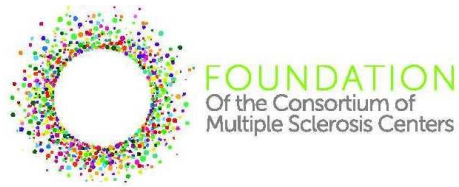
Sample Curriculum Elements/Outline:

1. **Medical Management in MS – neurological and nursing care (ideally includes lectures on DMT and symptomatic treatments + shadowing neurologist and nursing professionals).**
2. **Psychological and neuropsychiatric screening, assessment, and interventions in MS (ideally includes lectures on neuropsychiatric syndromes/diagnoses common in MS, cognitive function, neuropsychological screening and assessment, depression screening, psychotherapy and counseling practices in MS; may or may not include shadowing mental health professionals)**
3. **Wellness services offered or referrals made for health promotion**
4. **MS-Specific rehabilitation programs**
 - **Overview of rehab services offered – basics to advanced lecture(s) as identified by the trainees prior to the site visit (may include OT, PT, Speech, or cognitive rehabilitation; ideally includes shadowing a rehab professional)**
5. **Exposure to active clinical research programs, if the site has this capacity (discussion and/or participation in ongoing program)**

Thank you for your collaboration with the CMSC and FCMSC, and your role in promoting the best and latest in care for Multiple Sclerosis.

Sincerely,

June Halper, MSCN, APN-C, FAAN, MSCN
Chief Executive Officer, CMSC



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**LETTERS OF INTEREST INFORMATION FORM
MS Mental Health Mini-Mentorship Program Sites 2020/2021
West Coast MS Comprehensive Care Centers**

Process

The application and selection process will be administered independently of grantors through a board review process of the Foundation of the CMSC, and the CMSC. As previously mentioned, applications are due June 3, 2020, with award notification on mid-June, 2020.

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact: June Halper, CEO of the CMSC at 201-487-1050 ext 101 or june@mscare.org.

To summarize, please include the following in your application letter with the form below:

- **Must be a member of the Consortium of Multiple Sclerosis Centers (CMSC).**
- **A letter of interest is due to the CMSC by June 3, 2020. It must be accompanied with a statement of support from the site's director or department head which should include:**
 1. **What programs/clinics of the comprehensive center will the trainees be exposed to?**
 2. **List of professionals (with credentials) that the trainees will be able to observe/interact with during their time in your clinic.**
 3. **A rough outline of the curriculum or proposed schedule you will provide for the trainees (See proposed curriculum outline).**

Letter of interest is due to the CMSC by June 3, 2020.

Please fax or email applications to: Cindy Bobowski,

Fax: (866) 920-6813 or

Email to: cindy@cmscfoundation.org

Site Name:	
Site Program Coordinator & Credentials:	
Site Coordinator Email:	Direct Contact Telephone:
Site Address:	
Site Coordinator Signature:	Date: