

## THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The Department of Psychological Services consists of a team of ten psychologists and psychology associates. Ten of the psychologists are licensed by the state of Virginia as Clinical Psychologists. We have assembled a diverse team from this region and beyond, with experience working throughout the country in a variety of clinical settings. Each department member is either licensed as a clinical psychologist or works under the supervision of a licensed clinical psychologist. The mission of our department is to provide high quality psychological assessment, consultation and treatment services to advance the facility mission of promoting mental health in Southwest Virginia by helping people to recover. We are committed to following the highest ethical standards of the profession guided by the ethical guidelines of the [American Psychological Association](#).

Psychologists at Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute work as part of team. We work as members of multidisciplinary treatment teams, and see our department and ourselves as part of a team, which encompasses all staff of the facility, dedicated to promoting mental health recovery. Services provided by psychologists include assessment including psychological testing, forensic evaluations, treatment planning and provision of treatment for any of a broad range of disorders and behavior problems that may lead to admission to our facility. Psychologists are involved in modalities of treatment including: consulting to help develop the optimal treatment milieu and programming to promote recovery, individual therapy, group therapy and behavioral treatment interventions. Beyond our role of helping those who are admitted to our facility, the psychology department also provides forensic evaluation services to the courts for individuals who require psychological evaluation related to pending criminal charges. All of our psychologists receive training from the [Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy](#) at the University of Virginia in forensic evaluation and risk assessment on an ongoing basis to maintain their skills in forensic evaluation.

At the present time our department is engaged along with all staff at our facility in an endeavor to make advances in our capacity to promote recovery among the persons we serve. Our goal is to use our expertise in psychology to help our facility make change at an unprecedented rate to transform our facility and mental health care in the region to a new standard of performance that promotes individual recovery and addresses the complex mix of mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse issues that challenge those whom we serve. It is a time of tremendous opportunities and challenges, and we are excited about the prospect of applying our diverse skills and experiences in pursuit of this endeavor.