

CIIS MHSA Stipend Program



Program Outcomes:

15 total stipends successfully awarded over years 2012, 2013 and 2014

9 recipients graduated so far - of those, 3 have already completed their one-year stipend obligation, 5 are currently serving

6 remaining recipients will graduate and enter the field this year, 3 of those have already secured post-doc placements

Successes:

Had a large enough pool of applicants each year to easily find the most qualified and deserving students

Grant generated a lot of excitement and interest for our students, as well as increased passion for community mental health

Stipend recipients have all reported that the funds they received were instrumental in helping them complete their degree and get out into their chosen field faster

The grant as a whole raised awareness for our program around issues of diversity. All of our students and faculty got to take advantage of the enhanced curriculum and workshops that we offered as a result of the grant.

Challenges/Lessons Learned:

Given the length of a typical PsyD program, it would have been much more helpful to have the graduation requirement year be 4-5 years from date of initial contract. That would have allowed us to use the stipends as a recruiting tool as well as provide support throughout the program to students who were interested in community mental health.

Would have preferred to delay disbursement of funds until right at the point of graduation, so it could have helped the recipients support themselves during their most-likely unpaid post-doc commitment.

Recommendations:

Allow more than one school to administer future grants, to get a cross section of psychologists out into the field

Allow extra funds in grant for workshops and trainings

More support from OSHPD around finding eligible community mental health post-doc placements in California

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS