



COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Behavioral Health

CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING REHABILITATION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT 2022 – 2023 & 2023 – 2024

1. A Historical Overview

In 1968 the Masters Program in Rehabilitation Counseling (RCP) originated at Coppin State College, now Coppin State University (CSU). The RCP was accredited through the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) for over 25 years. Many students have graduated from the RCP to become our future leaders, scholars, and highly esteemed professionals in the field. For many years the RCP at CSU has maintained a strong partnership with the Maryland Division of Rehabilitation Services, the DC Division of Rehabilitation Services along with other local rehabilitation agencies and service providers to ensure that our students are provided with an unparalleled graduate education. The mission of the RCP was to provide high quality graduate education in rehabilitation counseling leading to a master's degree, which prepared graduate students to be qualified rehabilitation counselors. Through the RCP curriculum students were also prepared to specialize as rehabilitation counselors to demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to address varied issues within the rehabilitation counseling context. Rehabilitation counselors work collaboratively with individuals with disabilities, their support systems, and their environments to achieve their personal, social, psychological, and vocational goals.

The RCP also provided students with sufficient quality academic and internships, practicum, and experiential opportunities to ensure the provision of high quality professional vocational and other rehabilitation services to individuals with disabilities and individuals with most significant disabilities. Students completed the internship hours in CSU's state-of-the-art community outreach Independent Living Lab. Through the years the RCP expanded to provide four post baccalaureate certificate programs in Rehabilitation Technology, Job Placement and Development, Forensics Rehabilitation, and Vocational Assessment & Evaluation. Also approved was a post master's certificate for students pursuing advanced coursework that will qualify them to sit for the National Counselor Exam (NCE) in preparation to become licensed clinical professional counselors in the State of Maryland.

On 07/17/17 the RCP became accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP). As accrediting agencies the CORE and CACREP boards made their decisions to merge based on a number of factors affecting accreditation, its accredited programs, students in its accredited programs, and those served by its graduates.

The Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Rehabilitation (CMHCR) program at CSU equips students with the essential skills needed for a successful career in the field. Through this program students gain a comprehensive understanding of counseling theories, evidence-based research, and effective strategies for preventing, diagnosing, and treating mental health disorders. The curriculum is designed to prepare students for specialization in various areas such as rehabilitation counseling, school counseling, or family therapy. Upon completion of the program, students are well-prepared to apply for licensure as a Clinical Mental Health Counselor and a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. This opens opportunities for them to work in hospitals, community-based organizations, or even establish

their own private practice. The program is led by a team of highly qualified faculty who are dedicated to ensuring the success of their students and making a positive impact on the lives of those they serve.

Program Highlights:

The CMHCR program has continued to support students with the grant/contract through the Baltimore City Office on Aging, which allows the Program Director of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) and the Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) at CSU's Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Behavioral Health to recruit senior citizens for direct employment at the university. These programs, in essence, provide free manpower that allows faculty and staff more time to dedicate to teaching, service, and learning activities for our students.

Students enrolled in the CMHCR program come from diverse backgrounds: urban, suburban, public and private colleges, as well as multiple religious experiences and ethnicities and are representative of the economic spectrum including many from low to middle income families. Through grants awarded to the CMHCR program over the years by the U.S. Department of Education, many students have benefited as scholarship recipients in the CMHCR program.

The CMHCR program offers a curriculum of 60-credit hours with more than 25 elective courses for students to further develop their individual interests and goals. Most of the courses enroll 12 or fewer students, with Internship and Practicum courses enrolling 6 students in each class section. We have a full-time and adjunct faculty actively engaged in teaching and scholarly research that are very proud of a 98% graduation rate. Students are encouraged to participate in the Rehabilitation Counseling Student Association, to become members of the Chi Sigma Iota National Honor Society, and to become members of the large offerings of professional associations.

For several decades, CSU has been educating counselors who have made significant contributions to the profession. They have impacted change on local, state, and national levels. Many of our students have become Certified Rehabilitation Counselors (CRC), Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors (LCPC) at the state and national levels; others have completed their doctoral studies, while others are currently pursuing their doctorate degrees. We encourage individuals to consider enrolling in our program that are committed to excellence, focused toward achievement, and dedicated to making significant contributions to the field of rehabilitation counseling to become a part of our growing tradition.

For additional information on the CMHCR program visit the CMHCR Program-At-A-Glance at: https://www.coppin.edu/info/202590/rehabilitation_counseling_med_program-at-a-glance

2. Program Highlights

- The Substantive Change Application has been successfully approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) and Middle States for:
 - a) a 60-credit hour program as required by CACREP
 - b) the name change from Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling to Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Rehabilitation Program (CMHCRP)
 - c) the degree change from M.Ed. to M.S.
- Students have attended and presented at conferences:
 - DORS Maryland Rehabilitation Conference, Baltimore, MD
 - American Association of Behavioral & Social Sciences Conference, Las Vegas, NV
 - American Counseling Association
 - Coppin State University Technology Conference

-The National Council on Rehabilitation Education

- Students are inducted into the National Honor Society by the Chi Sigma Iota Association
- The chapter of the Rehabilitation Counseling Student Association developed the constitution and by-laws for this association and plan the National Disability Awareness Month that takes place in October and participated in a virtual panel with the Maryland Rehabilitation Association (MRA). Additionally, these students had a virtual fundraiser walk-a-thon to benefit individuals with disabilities.
- The Graduate Council has approved a new certificate in Forensic Rehabilitation Counseling developed by the CMHCR program, which has been submitted to the MHEC.
- The University Systems of Maryland approved four post baccalaureate certificates and one post master's certificate.
- The Undergraduate Rehabilitation Services Program has been developed and serves as a feeder into the CMHCR program.
- The grant from the Baltimore City Office of Senior Programs (SCSEP) and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) was renewed, which will continue to provide a work force of senior citizens who will assist with the daily operations of the CMHCR program as well as other departments across the university.
- The CMHCR program is a recipient of a State of Maryland Grant to provide services through an inclusive higher education program for students with developmental disabilities. It is a program for students with Intellectual Disabilities. The Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) at CSU provides integrated academic, career, and independent living instruction in preparation for gainful employment. The CTP provides internship opportunities for students as well as stipends, scholarships, and mentorship opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students.
- The CMHCR program has a cooperative agreement with Baltimore City Public Schools and hosts the Transitioning Students Program at CSU. CMHCR program students receive internship and practicum experiences from this program by providing independent living skills training to the transitioning students. Services and workshops are provided in the Independent Living Lab at CSU.
- The CMHCR program has been awarded Employment Network status with the Social Security Administration's Ticket-to-Work Program. CSU is one of few universities in the U.S. with this status. Rehabilitation counseling services are provided to SSA beneficiaries and CMHCR program students receive practicum and internship experiences from this program, which operates in the Independent Living Laboratory at CSU and provides practicum and internship experiences for our students.
- The CMHCR program has a collaboration with the Baltimore City Department of Aging to provide employment/training opportunities to senior citizens looking to maintain and develop marketable skills. Although the ultimate goal is matching skills with employment needs at CSU, the program also supports independent living by applying practical skills for senior citizens to become active job seekers for suitable gainful employment. Additionally, the program benefits CSU by expanding and adding to the administrative structure at the university.
- The CMHCR program has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with St. Peter's Adult Learning Center in Baltimore, MD to provide vocational, evaluation, and assessment services to their consumers. CSU's CMHCR program Internship & Practicum students receive practical training experiences from this collaboration.
- The CMHCR program offers the Post-Master's in Professional Counselor Licensure for those students seeking this professional status.

- Graduate students have the opportunity to obtain additional training and skills in vocational assessment and evaluation through MOU with Pro Bono Counseling Services of Maryland. Through these experiences students are able to obtain valuable internship experiences as well as receive clinical hours toward professional counselor licensure requirements.
- The CMHCR program hosted the Maryland Counseling Association Conference on 09/28-29/2023. The details of the conference are provided in <https://mdcounseling.org/event-5160052>. Graduate students from the CMHCR program served as volunteers and 12 students received paid registration from the Ticket-to-Work program. Faculty from CUS's Psychology, Counseling, and Behavioral Health department attended.
- Seven (7) CMHCR program students registered to participate in the Maryland Mental Health First Aid Training held at CSU on 09/25/23.
- The CMHCR program hosted the National Disability Awareness Month activities and shared information on disability awareness during the week of 10/22-28/2023. A panel was presented consisting of experts in the field of counseling and community providers to share information on social justice and the treatment of minorities with disabilities. Panel experts consisted of representatives from Disability Rights of Maryland, faculty from the Department of Criminal Justice, Department Psychology, Counseling, and Behavioral Health, alumni, the Maryland Commission on Individuals with Disabilities, and law enforcement. The panel was held 10/26/23.

3. Program Outcomes

The CMHCR program offers the Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling and the Post-Masters in Professional Counselor Licensure. For students interested in applying to the CMHCR program, the deadlines for submission of all credentials are May 15 for the fall semester, and October 15 for the spring semester. The program admits an average of 12 students per cohort in both the fall and spring semesters.

Currently the CMHCR program has an enrollment of 119 students. The program has five full-time faculty and 7 very committed, dedicated, and credentialed part-time faculty. The instructor to student ratio in the CMHCR program is 1:12. For the Internship and Practicum courses the ratio is 1:8. Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA each semester to remain in good academic status.

Graduates from the CMHCR program and the RCP was 13 students for May 2022, 8 students for May 2023, and 10 for May 2024.

95% of the CMHCR program students continue with coursework to meet the requirements to take the Professional Counselor Licensure Exam. The CMHCR program offers a Post Master's in Professional Counselor Licensure Certificate Program, which is fully approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission and the University Systems of Maryland for those students seeking this professional status.

Students completing the CMHCR program at CSU qualify to sit for the CRC exam. Students are required to complete a total of 100 practicum hours, and 600 internship hours as well as the required coursework of the curriculum.

For information on the CRC application requirements, refer to the [Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification](#) (CCRC) website.

Students from the CMHCR program are in the process of preparing to sit for the National Counselor Exam (NCE). Outcomes will be documented as received.

CMHCR program students may elect to take a Comprehensive Examination or the Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) exam. The comprehensive exam is offered twice a year and the current passing rate for CMHCR program students is 100%.

Information on the Comprehensive Examination may be accessed from the 2023-2025 Graduate Catalog link: <https://catalog.coppin.edu/content.php?catoid=12&navoid=502#graduate-program-regulations>

Information on the CRC exam may be obtained from the [Commission on Rehabilitation Counselor Certification](#) website.

4. Enrollment/Retention/Graduation Efforts

The CSU media department has completed a photo session with the CMHCR program to begin developing marketing material. The marketing material will be distributed to local colleges, regional colleges, community businesses, etc. to promote the program. Having funding for students has continued to be an effective recruitment tool. Maintaining a strong collaboration with the DORS has also been beneficial with program recruitment and retention efforts. Providing placement assistance for the CMHCR program students has positively impacted retention. Maintaining the CACREP standard student/faculty class ratio positively impacts recruitment and retention in addition to taking the time to listen and provide individualized advisement to students as required during office hours and on an extended basis, as needed. The CMHCR program has a very committed Advisory Council which has continued to include the discussion on recruitment and retention as an agenda item. Alumni and current students of the CMHCR program are invited to an annual Meet-and-Greet, which includes providing panel discussions for current students. Some of the continued suggestions made for recruitment and retention include:

- a. Continue to have alumni as part of a panel and speak to current students about their experiences and opportunities in the field. Sessions have been planned for the Fall 2024 semester;
- b. have alumni serve as marketing resources for current students, providing them with valuable information to enhance and cultivate their interest in the field; and,
- c. have alumni to serve as mentors to current students and to assist them with developing research interests and career directions.

UNOFFICIAL ENROLLMENT BY RACE/ETHNICITY CORH / COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY FALL 2021-2023			
Race/Ethnicity	F21	F22	F23
Unknown	0	0	3
Black/ AA	11	61	90
Hispanic	0	0	3
White	0	0	2
International	2	21	2
Multi-Race	2	3	3
TOTAL	15	85	103

**UNOFFICIAL ENROLLMENT BY STUDENT AGE
CORH / COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY
FALL 2021-FALL 2023**

Age Band	F21	F22	F23
20-21	0	0	2
22-24	1	4	8
25-29	3	6	12
30-34	3	12	13
35-39	1	12	17
40-49	3	17	27
50-64	4	30	19
65 and over	0	4	5
TOTAL	15	85	103

5. Recruitment

The Recruitment Plan will cover the following three main topics:

- Development of a weekend program
- Develop in-service training opportunities
- Distribution of CMHCR program information to advertise the program locally and nationally

6. Program Goals & Accomplishments

- Received final approvals for the development of The Center on Disability Programs, Studies, Services, and Research at CSU
- Developed the CMHCR program as a fully on-line program
- Finalize the proposal developed for a doctoral degree offered within the Department of Psychology, Counseling, and Behavioral Health
- Received final approval for the post baccalaureate in Forensic Rehabilitation Counseling
- Work with the CSU Marketing Department to submit surveys to ranking outlets such as the US News Best Health Schools and other ranking sources on behalf of the CMHCR program

7. Exclusivity

- CSU’s CMHCR program is the only program that offers five exclusive opportunities for students to be trained on campus through collaborative programs with the State of Maryland, schools, agencies, and community businesses.
- CSU is one of two universities to receive a federal grant to operate the Social Security Administration’s Ticket-to-Work Program as an approved Employment Network (EN).



- CSU is the first recipient of the Governor’s grant to offer the Comprehensive Transition Project (CTP), and is in its second year with continued funding



- Through the Baltimore Transition Connection (BTC) CSU is one of three State of Maryland higher education institutes to provide opportunities for Baltimore City Public Schools students with disabilities to spend five days per week on campus to complete their high school education and receive the college experience

8. The CMHCR Program Commitment

Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, no otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the U.S. shall, solely by reason of their disability, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. Students with disabilities must be given an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from all postsecondary education programs and activities. That includes any course, course of study, or activity offered.

The CMHCR program prepares master’s students to provide counseling services to meet the educational, personal, social, medical, vocational, and psychosocial needs of individuals with disabilities. These services will assist them with functioning to their maximum ability within the home, community, and at work. The CMHCR program is committed to developing student vision that will impact the communities they serve by enriching those communities to realize both diversity and the value of all individuals, to see these individuals by their unique abilities and not their disability, and to help them realize their highest potential.