

Courtney N. Buis, PsyD

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Education

2024

Spalding University, Louisville KY

Doctor of Clinical Psychology (APA Accredited)

Emphasis Areas: Child/Adolescent/Family & Forensic

2021

Spalding University, Louisville KY

Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology (APA Accredited)

Emphasis Areas: Child/Adolescent/Family & Forensic

2018

Lindsey Wilson University, Columbia KY

Bachelor of Arts in Human Services and Counseling

Minor: Psychology

Licensure

2025 Licensed Psychologist- HSPP Designation- Indiana Psychology Board

License # 20043916B

2025 Licensed Psychologist, HSP Designation- Kentucky Board of Examiners of Psychology

License # 297630

Clinical Work Experience

2024 Providence Self Sufficiency Ministries

Supervisor: Dr. Liz England PsyD HSPP

Site Type: Hybrid (Residential treatment facility with outpatient clinic)

Duties:

- Provide individual, family, group, and parenting psychotherapy for individuals placed at facility through Department of Child Services (DCS).
- Develop/Implement Emotions and Trauma Group Curriculum.
- Assist with development of Outpatient Therapy Program.
- Participate in monthly Child Family Team Meetings (CFTM) for each assigned family.
- Conduct psychological, neuropsychological, attachment/bonding, and clinical assessments for individuals across the life span who are involved with the Department of Children's Services (DCS). Common referral questions include diagnostic clarification, treatment recommendations, parental mental health, parenting recommendations, malingering, and trauma evaluations.
- Supervise master's level clinicians conducting a variety of psychological assessments.
- Provide individual and family therapy to outpatient program clients with a variety of treatment presentations

2024 Kaplan Forensic Psychological Services

Supervisor: Dr. Lauren Kaplan PsyD HSP, HSPP

Site Type: Forensic Private Practice

Duties:

- Assist with the provision of forensic psychological assessments to address a variety of legal referral questions including risk of violent recidivism, psychosexual risk, competency to stand trial, and criminal responsibility in both juvenile and adult criminal courts
- Conduct clinical and psychosexual interviews with defendants over the course of several day evaluations
- Review records associated with forensic cases, to include discovery, medical records, and correctional records, and complete thorough summaries with clinical interpretations for juvenile and adult criminal cases, as well as civil referrals
- Conduct collateral interviews to assist with the overall forensic evaluation process by collecting several points of data in relation to answering the ultimate referral question posed by courts or private attorneys

Supervised Predoctoral Clinical Experience

Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health (APA Accredited Pre-doctoral Internship)

Site Type: Community Mental Health

Emphasis Area: Juvenile Justice/Sexually Inappropriate Behavior Mediation Program (SIB-R)

July 2023 to July 2024

Clinical Supervisor: Dr. Seandra Walker PhD

Internship Director: Dr. Colin Christensen PhD

Duties:

- Provided court mandated individual/family therapy services with adjudicated youth utilizing the Pathways model of juvenile sex offender treatment.
- Provided individual therapy services for youth referred by the department of Job and Family Services (JFS) displaying sexually reactive behaviors including inappropriate online usage and pornography addiction. Utilized Healthy Sexuality Psychoeducational Curriculum.
- Led multi-disciplinary care coordination meetings for high acuity clients involved with the Ohio Rise Program. Clients in this program are at risk of placement in a residential treatment facility or placement at a juvenile detention facility.
- Conducted psychological assessments for diagnostic clarification surrounding disorders such as Borderline Personality Disorder, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Dissociative Identity Disorder, and Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders
- Assisted with the completion of Competency Evaluations for youth (aged 10-18).
- Assisted with the completion of Psychosexual Risk Assessments and Psychosexual Risk Assessment updates (aged 10-21).
 - Measures used included: Sexual Behavior Inventory, Youth Needs and Progress Scale (YNPS), PROFESSOR, Sexual Arousal Graph, and review of collateral court documentation.
- Worked collaboratively with probation for court involved youth in Tuscarawas, Stark, Summit, and Medina Counties
- Attended weekly Stark County Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings to discuss treatment referrals and coordinate care for victims of child sexual abuse.
- Provided gender affirming care, medical necessity documentation, and care coordination for gender diverse clients.

Home of the Innocents

Site Type: Outpatient Behavioral Health and Residential Treatment Center

August 2022 to July 2023

Site Supervisor: Dr. Megan Paxton PhD

Duties:

- Conducted individual and family therapy for youth at the outpatient center. Common symptom presentations included prodromal psychosis, ADHD, chronic suicidality, aggression, and trauma.
- Conducted crisis evaluations and care coordination for youth at outpatient center.
- Conducted individual therapy and crisis intervention with adolescent and teen clients in a residential treatment setting
- Completed psychological evaluations for residential and outpatient center clients (aged 4-18).
- Work collaboratively with community stakeholders including parents, teachers, Department of Community Based Services (DCBS), Child Against Children Unit (CACU).
- Utilized Animal Assisted Interventions while conducting individual and group therapies in conjunction with evidence-based practices.

Commonwealth Therapy Louisville

Site Type: Private Practice

September 2022 to July 2023

Site Supervisor: Dr. Allyson Bradow, PsyD

Duties:

- Conducted individual therapy with clients across the lifespan via telehealth with a variety of symptom presentations including mood disorder, personality disorders, and trauma.
- Emphasis on utilizing Dialectical Behavior Therapy with clients (aged 10-45).
- Conducted crisis intervention, safety planning, and care coordination for clients at high risk for self-harm and suicide.

Silverleaf Sexual Trauma Recovery Services

Site type: Child Advocacy and Rape Crisis Center

August 2021-August 2022

Site Supervisor: Dr. Jillian Carden, PsyD

Duties:

- Provided trauma-focused individual therapy services for victims of sexual abuse across the lifespan utilizing evidenced based modalities such as TF-CBT, narrative therapy, polyvagal informed interventions, and DBT.
- Addressed co-occurring mental health conditions such as mood disorders, borderline personality disorder, and somatic symptom disorders.
- Conducted family therapy sessions with an emphasis on strengthening parent-child relationships impacted by trauma and educated families about the effects of trauma on the family unit.
- Collaborated with members of a multi-disciplinary team including prosecutors, local and state police departments, and the KY Department of Community Based Services (DCBS) to best serve victims of sexual abuse.
- Conducted crisis intervention and worked collaboratively with clients to assess risk and create safety plans.
- Utilized evidenced based measures (TSCC and TSI-2) to track symptom severity and inform treatment interventions.

Communicare

Site Type: Community Mental Health Agency

August 2021- August 2022

Site Supervisor: Dr. Jillian Carden, PsyD

Clinic Supervisor: Tracey Wathen LCSW

Duties:

- Provided individual and family treatment to children, adolescent, and adult clients with treatment presentations including substance abuse, severe mental illness, trauma, and mood disorders.
- Provided court mandated treatment to individuals involved in various specialty courts (Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Veteran Treatment Court).
- Provided gender affirming care to gender diverse clients.
- Utilized Animal Assisted Interventions while conducting individual and group therapies in conjunction with evidence-based practices.
- Provided psychological assessments to address referral questions of diagnostic clarification and disability status.
- Conducted hospital discharge and crisis evaluations with the goal of evaluating risk of harm to self and others, along with determining the appropriate level of care.
- Assisted with Mental Health Inquest Warrant (MIW) procedures in the clinic and county jail setting.
- Co-facilitated Substance Use Treatment groups.

Home of the Innocents

Site Type: Outpatient Community Behavioral Health

June 2021 to July 2022

Individual Supervisor: Dr. Megan Paxton, PhD

Duties:

- Conducted psychological evaluations for outpatient clinic clients (aged 8 to 17) to assist with diagnostic clarification, and treatment planning, in addition to conducting psychoeducational assessments, autism evaluations, and trauma evaluations.
- Received referrals from DCBS and community-based providers.
- Conducted client feedback with DCBS staff, caregivers, and treatment providers upon request.

Providence House, Family Preservation Program (FPP)

Site Type: Residential Treatment Center

September 2020- July 2021

Individual Supervisor: Dr. Liz England, PsyD

Duties:

- Provided individual, family, and coparenting psychotherapy for justice involved families working towards reunification after involvement with the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) due to child abuse/neglect.
- Provided live one-on-one parent skills training.
- Co-facilitated Emotion Focused Group therapy.
- Participated in a monthly Child Family Team Meetings (CFTM) for each assigned family.
- Communicated with members of the treatment team including DCS, Child Protective Services, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), and other service providers.
- Conducted social emotional and psychoeducational assessments for clients referred by DCS.

Steve Simon

Site Type: Private Practice

January 2021- May 2022

Individual Supervisor: Dr. Steven Simon, PhD

Duties:

- Completed psychological assessments associated with referral questions including disability eligibility, worker's compensation, and accident/injury civil case evaluations.

Healthy Lifestyles Program, Luther Luckett Correctional Complex

Site Type: State Prison

September 2020- January 2021

Individual Supervisor: Dr. Martine Turns, PsyD

Duties:

- Assisted in the implementation of the *Healthy Lifestyle Program*, a rehabilitation program aimed at reducing recidivism of youthful offenders (aged 18-24).
- Administered psychological testing to assess recidivism risk and provided treatment recommendations for clients involved with the *Healthy Lifestyle Program*.
- Utilized a variety of forensic-based measures including the Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (LS/CMI), Inventory of Offender Risks Needs and Strengths (IORNS), Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles (PICTS), and Paulhus Deception Scale (PDS).
- Utilized the Risk-Needs-Responsivity (RNR) model of criminality to assess recidivism risk and determine the intensity level of services needed.

Relevant Work Experience

Providence House, Psychological Assessment Program- Psychology Assessment Intern

July 2023-July 2024

Supervisor: Dr. Elizabeth England, PsyD HSPP

Duties:

- Conducted psychological, neuropsychological, and clinical assessments for individuals across the life span involved with DCS.
 - Common referral questions included: determining diagnostic clarification and treatment recommendations, parental psychological evaluations and parenting recommendations, potential symptom malingering, and trauma evaluations.
- Provided assessment feedback sessions to treatment teams, as requested by DCS.

Hardin Memorial Hospital- Pet Therapy Program Coordinator

June 2019- February 2022

Supervisor: Jessica Jasper M. Div.

Duties:

- Assisted with continued development of policies/procedures for Pet Therapy Program.
- Organized Pet Therapy visits throughout Hardin Memorial Hospital conducted by volunteer teams.
- Screened and trained new Pet Therapy Handlers and Pet Therapists.
- Conducted individual and group Pet Therapy visits with populations including Geriatrics, Critical Care, Behavioral Health, Med Surg, Rehabilitation, Emergency Services, Sexual Trauma (SANE Program), Palliative and End of Life Care.
- Participated in community education and awareness of Pet Therapy Program.
- Educated staff and patients about pet therapy and benefits.
- Worked closely with marketing and management to implement strategies to raise awareness for the Pet Therapy Program.
- Oversaw day to day operations of Pet therapy Program such as record keeping, charting, and maintaining records of Pet Therapists and their handlers.

Community-Based Presentations

- 2024 What's the difference between Emotional Support Animals, Service Animals, & Therapy Animals (Conducted for Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health)

- 2023 Animal Assisted Therapy in Community Based Settings (Conducted for Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health)
- 2023 Animal Assisted Therapy in Community Based Settings (Conducted for Home of the Innocents)
- 2022 Animal Assisted Therapy as an Adjunctive Therapy (Spalding University)
- 2021 Animal Assisted Therapy in Outpatient Therapy (Conducted for Communicare)
- 2020 Speaker at Hardin Memorial Hospital Behavioral Health Symposium (Topic: Animal Assisted Therapy and its role when working with behavioral health patients)

Research Experience

Dissertation Research: A Study on the Correlation of Therapist's Factors and Attitudes Toward Animal Assisted Interventions

Chair: Norah Chapman, PhD

Proposed: June 2022

Defense Date: September 1, 2023

- The dissertation was designed to examine how therapist factors, to include gender, education level, discipline, population served, views toward animals, and views toward evidence-based practice impacted views of Animal Assisted Interventions as a legitimate treatment.

Dissertation Research Assistant: The Collective Care Center Youth Discrimination Scale and Internalized Racism Projective Measure: A preliminary investigation of reliability and construct validity

Supervisor: Dr. Steven Kniffley, PsyD

Dates: March 2023 July 2024

- Assisted with administration of the youth discrimination scale and other internalized racism measures to parents and their children. Assisted with participant recruitment.

Research Assistant: Home of the Innocents Outpatient/Residential Behavioral Health Services

Supervisor: Dr. Megan Paxton, PhD

Dates: August 2022 to July 2023

- Assisted with literature review surrounding best practices regarding working with sexually reactive behaviors in youth to inform treatment interventions and policies for outpatient and residential programs.

Dissertation Research Assistant: A Study on the Correlation Between a Parent's Trauma and Their Children's ACE Score

Supervisor: Marie Allen-Jenkins, PsyD

Dates: May 2022 to July 2023

- Assisted with the collection and interpretation of archival data.

Spalding University Forensic Psychology Research Interest Group Member

Dates: 2020 to 2023

Supervisor: Dr. Ida Dickie

- Participated in multiple forensic related research projects. Met as a group monthly to assist other students in formulating research ideas/hypotheses and data collection. Research interest included creation of a White paper on youthful offenders to be presented to Kentucky State Legislature, and Animal Assisted Therapy with forensic populations.

Honors & Awards

2021 Kosair Charities Scholarship
2018 Graduated Summa Cum Laude
2016-2018 Lindsey Wilson University Dean's List
2015 Kentucky Governor's Scholar

Professional Affiliations

2022 to present Certified Therapy Dog Handler through Love on a Leash
2022 to present Member of Association of Animal-Assisted Intervention Professionals
2021 to present APA Division 17 Section 13 (Human Animal Interaction Student Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APAG (American Psychological Association Graduate Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APA Division 35 (Society for the Psychology of Women Student Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APA Division 32 (Society for Humanistic Psychology Student Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APA Division 37 (Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice Student Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APA Division 37 Section 1 (Section of Child Maltreatment Student Affiliate)
2020 to 2024 APA Division 56 (Trauma Psychology Student Affiliate)
2019 to 2024 KPAG (Kentucky Psychological Association Graduate Affiliate)
2017, 2018; 2021 to 2024 Student Branch of the Kentucky Counseling Association Member

Supervisory/Leadership/Volunteer Experience

2023 Peer Supervisor, Spalding University
2021-2022 Student Mentor, KPA Student Mentorship Program
2021-2022 Intro to therapy volunteer, Spalding University
2021 APA Division 35 Student Mentorship Program
2018 Darkness to Light Program Facilitator
2017-2018 Facilitator for Kentucky Counseling Association Conference
2017 Human Trafficking Awareness Conference, Lindsey Wilson University

Continuing Education/Trainings

Crisis Intervention:

- Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM)
- Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality (CAMS)
- Completed 4 hour Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality for Teens (CAMS 4 Teens)
- Completion of Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (ASMR) Certificate Program
- Completion of Child Advocacy Center Staff/Crisis Intervention Training

Trauma Treatment and Assessment

- EMDR Institute Trained (Weekends 1&2 with consultation)
- Completion of Kniffley Youth Racial Trauma Therapy Model
- Completed 10-hour course in Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) for Traumatized Children
- Completed 9-hour course in Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT)
- Completed 11-hour course in Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT)
- Treating Complex Trauma with Internal Family Systems
- DBT Basic Skills Series
- DBT STEPS: A curriculum training

- Unseen Wounds: Contribution of Psychological Maltreatment to Child & Adolescent Mental Health
- Trauma-Informed Psychological Assessment
- Identification and Group Treatment of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)
- Shame, Dissociation and Enactment in Complex Trauma Disorders
- Understanding and Stabilizing Safety Problems with Severely Dissociative Clients
- Understanding, Assessing, and Treatment of CSEC Survivors
- Trauma, Dissociation, and Attachment: Core Concepts and their Relationships
- Trauma Treatment and Assessment, an 8-part series

Forensic Treatment and Assessment

- LS/CMI and YLS Scoring and Interpretation, Ida Dickie PhD, Spalding University
- Completion of 24-hour KYRAS & Correctional Case Planning training
- Completed Becoming Trauma Informed: An Essential Element for Justice Settings Webinar Series
- Putting Science into Self-Injury Risk Assessment and Prevention
- Working with Victims of Intimate Partner Violence, Community Seminar
- Intro to Juvenile Justice Training
- Introduction to Juvenile Competency Evaluations
- Protecting Children in a Digital Age
- Juvenile Risk Assessment and Recidivism
- Promoting Sex Wise Parenting
- Addressing Problematic Sexual Behavior in Schools K-12
- Impact of Pornography on Youth
- Treatment of Problematic Sexual Behavior in Youth- 1 Hour
- Use of EMDR in the Treatment of Problematic Sexual Behavior
- MASOC Module 1-4 Training Series, Problematic Sexual Behavior in Youth
- Sexual Wellbeing in Those Who Cause Harm
- Overview of Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment
- Clinical Assessment of Problematic Sexual Behavior
- Caregiver Engagement in the Assessment of Problematic Sexual Behavior
- Overview of Treatment for Children who have been Impacted by Problematic Sexual Behavior
- Safety Planning with Families of Children with Problematic Sexual Behavior
- Best Practices in Documentation when working with Children with Problematic Sexual Behavior

Information current as of 1/16/2026