Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia
COUNSELING TEAM

Courtney Owen, LCSW, is the Chief Program Officer for all direct-service programs. Courtney received her MSW from Tulane University and her BS in Psychology from University of Oregon. She has over 14 years of experience providing community-based mental health and social services in Philadelphia and New Orleans. Prior roles at the organization include JFCS Director of Individual and Family Services (2017-2022) and JFCS Program Manager for Hoarding & Care Management (2015-2017).

Michael Byrne, LCSW, provides one-on-one individual psychodynamic and DBT-supported therapy to older adults, including in-home sessions for seniors in a more comfortable environment. In addition, Michael facilitates many groups including the following: Confronting Grief, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy, You are Not Alone (which focuses on depression or anxiety), as well as a mindfulness group called Minding our Store. Michael meets each of his clients from a person-first perspective, focusing on increasing agency and learning skills to address emotional regulation, distress tolerance, and interpersonal relationships.

Michael was just named one of the 49 most influential people in the LGBTQ community for his work with elder LGBTQ individuals, was the 2022 recipient of the Ed Bomba Award for Advocacy by the LGBT Elder Initiative at William Way, and is honored to serve as the Board President of Philly AIDS Thrift. He takes special pride in supporting older adults to foster resilience, connection, and gratitude. For, happiness does not bring gratitude, gratitude bring happiness.

Carly Chodosh, LCSW, CST, PMH-C, is the Clinical Program Director, overseeing clinical services and staff working with individuals, families, youth, and adults. She supervises the clinical staff by providing weekly clinical supervision, supporting relationship management with campus and school partners, and coordinating the day-to-day implementation of clinical programming. Carly also maintains a case load of clients where she provides holistic care to the individuals, couples, and families with whom she works.

Carly received her Master's of Social Services (MSW equivalent) from Bryn Mawr College, with specialized training and certification in perinatal mental health through Postpartum Support International (PMH-C) and holds an AASECT Sex Therapy certification. Carly has extensive experience serving the Orthodox Jewish community in Philadelphia and beyond. She previously supported JFCS' BLOOM program, a peer-led initiative for postpartum mothers, and contributed to outreach and training efforts through SafeSPACE, a school- and community-based suicide prevention program. Carly brings deep expertise in trauma-informed care, sexual and reproductive health, and culturally responsive mental health services.

Carly has guest lectured at the Sarah Schenirer School of Social Work and has presented at multiple national and international conferences, including Postpartum Support International and the Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies PowerNET Conference.

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Sue Duberstein, LCSW, has been a social worker for 40+ years. She received her MSW degree from Washington University in St. Louis. She has worked at JFCS for 23 years as a licensed clinical social worker providing counseling and as a care manager, aiding with resources and coping strategies to age safely at home. She provides holistic care, with interests in aging with dignity and integrity, in helping individuals cope with life transitions, and in helping families with "failure to launch" adult children. Sue focuses on building rapport and listening with empathy, using both client-centered and cognitive behavioral therapy skills, as well as wisdom gleaned from life experience to help clients gain clarity and to feel more empowered.

Sara Francesconi, LCSW, is a therapist on JFCS' counseling team and the Program Manager for the Mental Health Network (MHN), a collaboration of Philadelphia-area providers striving to increase access to specialized and affordable mental health services and quality professional development. In the day-to-day, Sara balances her time between providing individual therapy with adult clients and coordinating referrals and partnerships within the MHN.

Sara received her Master of Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania. She specializes in working with complex trauma and PTSD and is certified in Janina Fisher's Trauma-Informed Stabilization Treatment (TIST) model, EMDRIA certified in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), and informed by Internal Family Systems (IFS). Sara recognizes that her work with clients is a deep privilege. She prioritizes collaboration, curiosity, and compassion-focused care, striving to work with each person to determine their specific needs and the therapeutic styles that work best for them.

Kylee Gathercole, MSW, is a mobile therapist serving primarily older adults and those with mobility challenges in their homes. Kylee has a passion for supporting older adults and providing counseling services that promote emotional well-being, dignity, and independence. Kylee is dedicated to empowering individuals as they navigate life transitions, grief, and challenges related to aging. Her approach is grounded in empathy, active listening, and evidence-based practices promoting resilience and connection.

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Sofy Maxman (she/her), MSW, MEd, is thrilled to be working with Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia, and to be returning to Penn Hillel as a Clinical Therapist. Having earned her dual master's degree in Social Work and Education with a concentration in Human Sexuality Studies from Widener University, Sofy is passionate about supporting young and emerging adults as they navigate life's transitions, relationships, identity development, and mental health challenges.

Before joining JFCS, Sofy completed her clinical training at UPenn's Student Health and Counseling Services, where she provided individual and group therapy to undergraduate and graduate students. She has previously worked at Penn Hillel in student engagement roles, and was the Director of Ramah Day Camp. Sofy is especially excited to join JFCS, an organization whose commitment to compassionate, community-centered mental healthcare aligns closely with her own values. Sofy's therapeutic approach is collaborative, relational, strengths-based, and trauma-informed, integrating therapeutic techniques and modalities to help clients build resilience and create meaningful change.

Sofy is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of both the JFCS and Penn Hillel communities, and cannot wait to support students in a place that has already given her so much.

Tatiana Molina MSW, BSW, is a bilingual (Spanish/English) clinician who provides trauma informed mental health services to vulnerable and older adults living. In her tenure at OIC, she helped launch student mental health services in the Supportive Services Department, created protocols and new curriculums, and provided individual and group therapy across vocational cohorts.

Prior to working at JFCS, Tatiana provided Spanish-language therapy at La Puerta Abierta to immigrant survivors including individuals sex and labor trafficked in partnership with legal and case management teams for housing, medical care, and safety planning. She also delivered trauma-informed care for migrant youth navigating the effects of migration, acculturation, and family separation. At Action Wellness, she delivered medical case management for clients living with HIV/AIDS and chronic illnesses. Her background includes work as a Therapeutic Staff Support at Progressions Behavioral Health with children aged 5-14 across Philadelphia schools. At Congreso Unidos she co-facilitated parenting classes in both Spanish and English and worked with truancy-involved youth. At The Salvation Army she worked directly with women experiencing sexual exploitation and substance use. She holds an MSW (Fordham University), BSW, and AS (Eastern University).

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Adriana Muriella, MSS, LSW, is a psychotherapist who works with children, adolescents, and young adults, supporting individuals and families coping with various challenges such as anxiety, depression, and life transitions. She holds a Master of Social Service from Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. Guided by a psychodynamic perspective, she incorporates CBT and mindfulness to meet each client's unique needs and promote meaningful, sustainable change.

Before joining JFCS, Adriana worked in a community mental health clinic serving clients across the lifespan, gaining extensive experience with a wide range of emotional and behavioral challenges. She also has a background in school-based work, where she supported children by collaborating closely with teachers, staff, and families to create consistent and responsive care. Adriana is passionate about providing trauma-informed treatment and strives to cultivate a therapeutic space that is collaborative, trusting, and grounded in curiosity, where clients and families feel empowered, understood, and supported.

Rachel Slater, MSW, MAT, is a therapist embedded in JFCS' Hillel Therapy Partnership, where she provides individual and group counseling to Jewish college students at Temple and Drexel Universities and the University of Pennsylvania. Rachel offers culturally sensitive, trauma-informed mental health services in a trusted campus setting and consults with Hillel staff on student well-being and safety needs.

Rachel holds a Master of Social Work from Widener University, a Master of Arts in Teaching from Clark University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Clark University. Her previous experience includes school-based counseling internships with Mastery Prep Elementary and JFCS' Adult Therapeutic Counseling Program, where she supported clients across the lifespan through clinical assessment, treatment planning, and case management. Rachel also brings a strong background in education, having worked as a middle school humanities teacher in Los Angeles and an associate teacher in New York.

Ronni Troodler, LCSW, serves as the Orthodox Community Services Program Manager, where she leads culturally responsive initiatives to support Orthodox Jewish individuals and families impacted by a wide variety of mental health, behavioral health, and care management challenges. In this role, Ronni provides direct services to clients, oversees program operations, and engages in strategic outreach to Orthodox communal leadership. She also facilitates training workshops for rabbis, female spiritual leaders, high school students, and mainstream service providers to expand culturally competent care across systems. Ronni manages the Orthodox Community Services Hybrid Program, which she helped design, and supervises a team of staff and students engaged in outreach, education, and care. She additionally oversees the Safety Kid child sexual abuse prevention program and its implementation in Jewish day schools.

Kiarra Williams provides individual and group art therapy to adults and youth. She utilizes a variety of art materials to meet the unique needs of each client, creating a space that encourages creative exploration and self-expression. Using a person-centered approach, Kiarra adapts art directives and materials for clients with physical and learning disabilities to ensure accessibility and emotional safety. She collaborates closely with other JFCS programs to design art therapy groups based on the needs identified by program directors. In addition, Kiarra partners with community groups and organizations to facilitate group art therapy sessions both in person and virtually. Her goal is to help clients grow, heal, and progress through the creative process.

Jen Willner, MFT, passion is to empower individuals, couples, and families with the mindset and tools they need to achieve their goals, heal emotional pain, and overcome personal challenges. After a rich and rewarding career in law, Jen pursued a Master's in Family Therapy to focus on helping others explore what it means to live a life filled with purpose and meaning. Her work may focus on areas such as relationship dynamics, communication, empathy, self-esteem, self-alignment, assertiveness, confidence, perspective, decision-making, childhood trauma, anxiety, self-compassion, forgiveness, and coping skills. Jen provides a safe, supportive, and nonjudgmental space for clients to share their thoughts, feelings, and experiences while working collaboratively toward restoring a sense of balance and well-being.