



2023-2024 Annual Report

Prepared by Dr. Carrie Merino, Program Director, CMHC Program 6/1/2024

The 2023-2024 academic year was an exciting year. We welcomed a cohort of 26 new CMHC graduate students who will graduate in 2025. We also celebrated the graduation of our second cohort with 21 graduates!

Utah Valley University CMHC Program 2023-2024 Graduate Stats			
Number of Graduates	Pass Rates on Credentialing Exams	Completion Rate	Job Placement Rate
21	100% *Based on graduate self-report*	91%	100% *Hired before Graduation

Ongoing CMHC Program Evaluation

As a new program, we continue to make important changes to curriculum, both with the addition of courses, streamlining those offered, and ensuring our graduates are prepared to excel as clinical mental health counselors. Below are some of these highlights:

- Reorganized class sequencing
 - Ex: Multiculturalism in the first year, Crisis Counseling in the first year
- Combined classes
 - Ex: ACA Ethics & Professional Orientation
- New Classes
 - Ex: Child & Adolescent, Couples & Family, Special Topics
- Created third section of practicum/internship to allow for growth

We also welcomed a new full-time faculty member, Dr. Carrie Merino, to the program. Dr. Merino is a CMHC and Counselor Educator who joined us from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, where she taught in their counseling program for eight years. Dr. Merino specializes in program and practice evaluation, trauma treatment, psychopharmacology, addictions, and working with individuals with severe and persistent mental illness.

Other Highlights

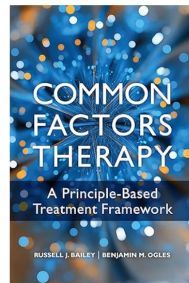
Our students and faculty have been busy this year contributing to improved mental health in our communities.

Student Service

As part of their internship experience, our graduating cohort provided over 5,000 hours of direct client service. Way to go!

Faculty Scholarship

Dr. Bailey and colleagues published an excellent book with the APA! Look for him as the star of an instructional therapy video as well later this year.



Dr. Bailey has presented at several local conferences about inclusion and mental health, in addition to invited presentations on Common Factor Therapy.

Dr. Law presented with several colleagues on integrating spirituality and behavioral health at the Generations Conference in May 2024.

Dr. Merino presented creative approaches to developing a personal guiding theory for counseling at the Association for Humanistic Counseling conference in June 2024.