

Fact Sheet

Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy Internship

Internship Site

Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy Program
Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health
705 Riley Hospital Drive, Room 4510, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Internship Director

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Description of Population

Riley Children's Health is Indiana's largest and most skilled pediatric health system and is one of the nation's leading healthcare networks specifically for children. Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health is the only pediatric research hospital in the state and ranked among the top hospitals in the nation in 10 categories of specialized healthcare for children.¹

James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children opened in 1924 as Indiana's first and only pediatric hospital. In 1997, Methodist, Indiana University, and Riley hospitals united to form Clarian Health, and in 2011, Clarian Health became Indiana University Health. IU Health is now Indiana's most comprehensive healthcare system, providing care to children and adults at more than 80 locations throughout the state. IU Health partners with the IU School of Medicine to provide unique access to cutting edge treatment options. Riley at IU Health is a teaching hospital, providing clinical experiences for students from the IU School of Medicine and many other colleges and universities throughout the United States.

The music therapy program at Riley at IU Health is funded and branded by the Riley Cheer Guild. Riley Cheer Guild is a volunteer auxiliary that provides comfort and cheer to patients and caregivers at Riley at IU Health and the IU Health adult hospitals on the academic health center in downtown Indianapolis. The mission of the Riley Cheer Guild is to support hospital programs that enhance the experience of a hospital stay for patients and their caregivers while at one of the hospitals they serve.

The Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy program provides music therapy services on the inpatient units at Riley at IU Health as well as the inpatient pediatric units at IU North Hospital. Music therapists treat

¹ Information gathered from <https://www.rileychildrens.org/about/>

patients on any medical service, depending on the specific needs, but music therapy is especially utilized within the following medical service lines:

- Cardiovascular Surgery/Cardiology
- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Maternity and OBICU
- Hematology/Oncology
- Stem Cell Transplant
- Plastic Surgery/Burn
- Pediatric Intensive Care
- Gastroenterology
- Pulmonary
- Developmental Pediatrics
- General Surgery
- Neurology/Neurosurgery
- Transplant
- Rehabilitation
- Behavioral Health

Riley music therapists have received advanced training and certifications in neonatal intensive care, behavioral health, neurologic music therapy, grief work, and hematology/oncology.

Entry Level Requirements/Competencies

For a successful internship experience with the Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy program, applicants should:

- Demonstrate basic knowledge of pediatric medical music therapy
- Demonstrate willingness and ability to build a basic repertoire of children's songs and popular adolescent songs
- Demonstrate willingness to work within a team of people with varied approaches to patient care
- Demonstrate understanding of the therapeutic relationship
- Display flexibility and responsibility
- Demonstrate effective communication skills (verbal and written)
- Display a willingness to incorporate constructive criticism into practice
- Have experience working with children and adolescents
- Demonstrate ability to create individualized goals
- Demonstrate ability to sing in tune with pleasing vocal quality
- Demonstrate ability to accompany themselves competently with guitar
- Demonstrate competency in at least one other instrument besides voice and guitar
- Demonstrate ability to sight read simple sheet music and lead sheets
- Demonstrate ability to transpose music

- Demonstrate basic improvisational music skills

Evaluation of Entry Level Requirements/Competencies

Students interested in the Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy Internship must submit an official application, as well as a letter of eligibility/verification from the academic advisor, two letters of recommendation, a resume, transcripts, and an original narrative essay describing why the applicant is pursuing music therapy as a career. For more details, refer to the application.

Applicants under consideration will be invited for an on-site or video chat interview and audition. The interview will include questions related to the applicant's previous experiences, personal philosophy, and knowledge of medical music therapy. The audition should consist of at least two prepared songs using voice and one accompanying instrument (guitar, piano, or ukulele preferred). More specific instructions regarding the audition will be communicated when the applicant is invited for an interview. If the applicant is able to interview on-site, a brief tour of the facility will be included, and the applicant will have the opportunity to meet other team members that work closely with the music therapists.

Description of the Internship Experience

The Music Therapy Intern (MTI) will work 40 hours a week during the majority of the internship, with the exception of planned time off and holidays. The internship begins with a 2-week orientation period, during which the MTI will have the opportunity to learn about the setting, develop initial relationships with team members, and observe each of the music therapists. The rest of the internship will consist of the MTI observing, co-leading, and then leading individual and group sessions. The speed of progression through those three stages will vary depending on the individual MTI's needs.

After the initial orientation period, MTI's areas of strength, growth, and interest will be taken into consideration as the internship director, music therapy supervisors, and MTI decide on two to three areas of focus for the remainder of the internship. Potential areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- Neonatal Intensive Care
- Pediatric Intensive Care
- Stem Cell Transplant
- Cancer Center
- Pulmonary
- Heart Center/Cardiovascular Intensive Care
- Rehabilitation
- Behavioral Health
- Complex Care

The MTI will spend the greatest percentage of his or her time in individual sessions and will have the opportunity to observe/co-lead/lead small and large groups as well. Specific group schedules are subject to change based on the needs of the hospital.

When the MTI has progressed through the observation and co-leading stages and is leading independently, the MTI will continue to take on additional responsibilities. These will include developing and implementing music therapy treatment plans, attending meetings about patients, charting on sessions, conferring with team members (social workers, nurses, chaplains, child life specialists, physicians, etc.) and attending presentations as appropriate. All music therapy supervisors will be available to the MTI throughout the internship, even outside of scheduled supervision time.

The MTI will have a list of assignments in advance, including readings, session planning worksheets, an evidence-based practice project, new repertoire and specific music techniques. Other assignments may be requested throughout the internship and may be created for the individual MTI's individual learning needs.

The MTI will meet weekly with the internship director for formal supervision, during which they will discuss the MTI's progress, strategies for growth and areas of focus.

Description of Professional Staff

The Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy program consists of the following team members:

- Lauren Servos, MT-BC (internship director and Creative Arts Therapies manager)
- Caitlin Krater, MS, MT-BC
- Jenny Kaufman, MT-BC

The MTI will routinely collaborate with and engage in cross-disciplinary dialogue with:

- Art Therapists
- Dance/Movement Therapists
- Case Managers
- Chaplains
- Child Life Specialists
- Medical Doctors
- Nurse Practitioners
- Occupational Therapists
- Patient Care Assistants
- Physical Therapists
- Psychologists
- Registered Nurses
- Respiratory Therapists
- Social Workers

- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Other support staff throughout the hospital (i.e. housekeepers, food service, maintenance, facilities)

Other On-Site Student Training Programs

Riley at IU Health is the primary pediatric training hospital for IU Health. The hospital has routine rotations of medical students, interns, fellows and residents. In addition, the following disciplines offer student training or clinical education programs:

- Art Therapy
- Central Service Technology
- Chaplaincy
- Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology
- Occupational Therapy
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Psychiatry
- Nursing
- Radiology
- Respiratory Therapy
- Surgical Technology

Educational Opportunities

The MTI will have access to most of the professional educational opportunities available to the music therapists through IU Health. A vast library of online training and education courses is available through the eLearning Management System. The MTI will also have the opportunity to attend regular educational meetings such as grand rounds. Grand rounds are weekly hour-long lectures that cover a variety of topics related to pediatric healthcare. Additionally, a variety of workshops and learning opportunities are offered by particular units and disciplines. Music therapy supervisors will alert the MTI to opportunities as they arise and will work with the MTI to determine how to best balance time between educational opportunities and patient care.

The Association of Indiana Music Therapy meets in the fall and spring. These meetings typically include educational offerings and are often located in or near Indianapolis. The MTI may also be interested in attending regional or national music therapy conferences, or other educational opportunities during the internship. Any educational opportunities that will cause the MTI to take time away from the hospital need to be discussed with the internship director so that the internship schedule can be adjusted accordingly.

Available Resources

- Housing: Not provided
- Meals: Not provided
- Stipend: None
- Transportation: Pass provided for on-site parking
- Liability Insurance: Required, but not covered by IU Health

Administrative Requirements

Once an offer for internship is made by the Riley Cheer Guild Music Therapy program team members, a member of the Health Sciences Education department at IU Health will contact the MTI's school to establish a legal affiliation agreement. The affiliation agreement will include specific information about the following items, which may not be provided by IU Health:

- COVID-19 Vaccination
- Medical Insurance
- Criminal Background check
- MMR Vaccines
- Rubella AB Titer
- Rubeola Measles AB Titer
- Mumps AB Titer
- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis Vaccine
- Annual Influenza Vaccine (must be for the current flu season)
- Hepatitis Vaccine or Titer (or declination form)
- Varicella Vaccine or Titer
- Annual TB Test
- Drug Screen
- CPR Certification
- N95 Fit Testing