

# Get To Know Our Current Fellows



## **Christina Dandar, PhD**

*First Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Christina Dandar received her bachelor's in psychology from Kalamazoo College. She received her doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from Wayne State University. Dr. Dandar completed an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, University of Tennessee Professional Psychology Internship Consortium.

Dr. Dandar's prior research has focused on the influence of perinatal risk factors and early brain insult/vulnerability on neurocognitive outcomes. A portion of her research has also focused on identifying early predictors of neurocognitive outcome in children and adolescents with sickle cell disease.



## **Holly Dustin, PhD**

*First Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Holly Dustin completed a bachelor's in psychological science from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA. She received her doctoral degree from Georgia State University in the joint Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology/Cognitive Neuroscience Program. Dr. Dustin completed an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology at the Texas Children's Hospital.

As a research assistant prior to graduate school, Dr. Dustin's research focused on the neural mechanisms of executive and social-cognitive functioning after pediatric moderate to severe traumatic brain injury as well as in survivors of childhood brain tumor. Her doctoral research focused on utilizing neuropsychological and neuroimaging methods to identify neurocognitive outcomes in long-term survivors of childhood brain tumor and adolescents and adults with congenital heart disease. During fellowship, she is looking forward to expanding her research and clinical experiences through working with patient and families of diverse and complex medical, developmental, and cultural backgrounds.



## **Noor Qasmieh, PhD**

*First Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Noor Qasmieh earned a bachelor's in psychology from the University of Maryland at College Park. She received her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Maryland at College Park. Dr. Qasmieh completed an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Qasmieh's research has focused on improving assessment of social anxiety disorder in youth, with an emphasis on exploring multi-modal and multi-informant approaches. During fellowship, she is looking forward to further developing her clinical and research experiences through working with families with a variety of medical conditions, neurodevelopmental disorders, and cultural backgrounds.

For more information, please visit  
[KennedyKrieger.org/DepartmentofNeuropsychology](https://www.KennedyKrieger.org/DepartmentofNeuropsychology)  
or call 443-923-4442.



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## **Anthony Gioia, PhD**

*Second Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Gioia received his bachelor's in Psychology from the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. He received his doctorate degree from University of Houston in the Clinical Psychology program with a Major Area of Study in Neuropsychology. Dr. Gioia completed an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Gioia's research has focused in neuropsychological outcomes of children diagnosed with pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL), brain tumors, and neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) as a research coordinator prior to graduate school. Throughout graduate school his research focused on investigating the role of executive functioning and attention in academic achievement. During fellowship, he is looking forward to expanding his research and clinical experiences through working with patient and families of diverse and complex medical, developmental, and cultural backgrounds.

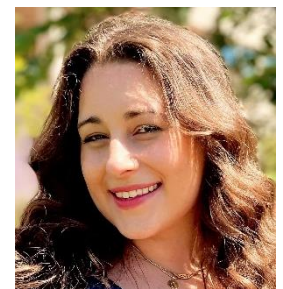


## **Rella Kautiainen, PhD**

*Second Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Rella Kautiainen completed a bachelor's in Psychology from the University of California Berkeley in Berkeley, CA. She received her doctoral degree from Georgia State University in the joint Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology/Cognitive Neuroscience Program. Dr. Kautiainen completed an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology at the University of New Mexico School of Medicine.

Dr. Kautiainen's prior research has focused on utilizing neuropsychological and genomic methods to understand the variation in outcomes for long-term pediatric brain tumor survivors. She is interested in the relationship between genomic variation and treatment related response or injury variables for acquired brain injury survivors. During fellowship, she is looking forward to expanding her clinical and research experiences with a wide range of neurodevelopmental and medical conditions while providing culturally responsive care to children and their families.



## **Becca Slomowitz, PhD**

*Second Year Pediatric Neuropsychology Fellow*

Dr. Slomowitz received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the Pennsylvania State University. She received her master's and Ph.D. in Clinical Child Psychology from the University of Denver, with a focus in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience. Dr. Slomowitz complete an APA-accredited internship in pediatric neuropsychology Dell Medical School/Dell Children's Medical Center.

Dr. Slomowitz's prior research focused on examining cognitive risk and resilience in children with various neurodevelopmental disorders, such as ADHD and learning disabilities. During fellowship, Dr. Slomowitz looks forward to expanding her clinical and research skills in working with pediatric patients with a wide range of medical and neurodevelopmental conditions.

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## **Tara Bord, PsyD**

*First Year Clinical Psychology Fellow*

Dr. Bord graduated with a bachelor's in Psychology from Eastern Kentucky University. Dr. Bord returned to Kentucky University where she received a M.S., and later a Psy.D., in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Bord completed her APA accredited pre-doctoral internship at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in the Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Bord's dissertation was titled, "Measures of Mood: Adaptations for Adults with Developmental Disabilities and/or Severe Mental Illness." During fellowship, she is looking forward to expanding her research and clinical experiences.



## **Ying Wu, PhD, NCSP**

*First Year Clinical Psychology Fellow*

Dr. Wu graduated with a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Neuroscience from Syracuse University. She received her Master of Science in Education degree in Psychology of Bilingual Students and Ph.D. in School Psychology from Fordham University. Dr. Wu completed an APA-accredited internship at Pleasantville Union Free School District.

Dr. Wu completed her doctoral dissertation titled "Stress, Coping, and Adjustment of International Students During COVID-19: A Mixed-Methods Study." During fellowship, Dr. Wu is looking forward to expanding her research and clinical experiences through working with patients and families of diverse neurodevelopmental and cultural backgrounds.



## **Ashley Ortiz, PhD**

*Second Year Clinical Psychology Fellow*

Dr. Ashley Ortiz sees children and adolescents for psychological assessment in the Targeted Assessment Clinic and in the Executive Functioning Clinic, with continuation of care in the Follow-up Clinic, within the Neuropsychology Department's outpatient program. Dr. Ortiz is committed to providing high-quality psychological services to underserved populations while fostering relationships that bolster patients' personal growth and their psychological well-being. Dr. Ortiz also integrates multicultural awareness and diversity factors into her clinical work and research endeavors. Dr. Ortiz received her bachelor's in psychology from University of Florida, then received her master's in general psychology from New York University, and then her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Howard University.

Dr. Ortiz's research interests center on the influence of acculturation and discrimination experiences on the mental health outcomes (e.g., depression, anxiety, PTSD) of minoritized children and adolescents. In addition, Dr. Ortiz is interested in the psychosocial outcomes for youth that are at-risk for juvenile justice system involvement. She completed her doctoral dissertation titled "The Lived Experiences of Latina Girls Placed at-Risk for the Juvenile Justice System: Acculturation, Gender Expectations, and Psychological Well-being."

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