

Gene Nelson, Psy.D.
Biographical Data

Dr. Gene Nelson has been the Internship Director for Ponessa Behavioral Health since 2008. He is a Pennsylvania licensed psychologist who graduated from Immaculata University with a Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology. He also holds a Master's Degree from Immaculata College in Counseling Psychology and a seminary degree in Pastoral Counseling. With more than 28 years of experience in mental health services, Dr. Nelson has a broad base of clinical training and expertise including outpatient therapy, intensive outpatient therapy, drug and alcohol therapy, directing a partial hospitalization program for people with serious emotional disorders and a second partial hospitalization program for people with serious emotional disorders and drug and alcohol involvement. Dr. Nelson has extensive experience in family therapy including pre-marital and marital counseling, and is a seminar director for the Prepare/Enrich program. He has served as the Clinical Director for an agency with multiple sites, which included two large BHRS programs, psychiatry, outpatient services including EAP (brief therapy), and a gymnasium where therapy and exercise was provided for obese/bariatric clients. He has conducted thousands of BHRS and many adult psychological evaluations beginning in his pre-doctoral internship. Dr. Nelson supervised interns in his pre- and post-doctoral training. He developed a successful internship program in Philadelphia with students from many of the local colleges. In addition, Dr. Nelson served as a college professor for eight years, teaching counseling, psychology, development, and grief courses. During that time, along with the Academic Dean, he developed an 18-hour minor in pastoral counseling that later led to a three-track major in pastoral and professional counseling.