LEND Trainee Bio

Name: Javier e Acevedo-Arus

Discipline: Clinical psychology

Past/current experiences working in the field of disabilities:

During my doctoral externships I had the opportunity to provide neuropsychological assessments and psychotherapy for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in academic medical centers, with a focus on autism spectrum disorder in Latino immigrant families.

Goals for your LEND training experience:

While I have clinical experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities, my background has been primarily in providing psychological care. Through the IL LEND program, I am eager to expand my knowledge by learning more about the care offered by other providers and disciplines. I hope to strengthen my leadership skills to better advocate for both my patients and myself within the field of developmental disabilities. I am excited to carry the skills and relationships I gain from this program into my work to better support my patients, their families, and the broader disabled community.

What you wish to contribute, in the future, as an advocate/professional/family member in the field:

I hope to contribute a unique and intersectional perspective as a Latin American migrant navigating my own disability journey. As a neuropsychologist in training, I am committed to making Spanish-language neuropsychological assessment and care more accessible for Latino families. I also wish to advocate for autistic Latinos and promote greater awareness of the diverse ways disability is expressed across cultures. Finally, I hope to push for more accessible care across both socio-economic and linguistic lines, ensuring that families receive the support they need regardless of background.