



As an undergraduate, Abby found she had a passion for the relationship between neurological functioning and intra/interpersonal behavior. She found the biochemical and structural functioning of the brain fascinating, and longed to learn more about how these aspects were related to emotional wellbeing. This led to a degree in neuroscience and her enrollment at IIT in the Clinical Psychology program with a Rehabilitation Specialization.

While at IIT, Abby learned a vast amount about physical and psychological disabilities through classes and clinical externships. This led to an interest in improving quality of life for individuals with disabilities, specifically serious mental illness. Abby was able to work with Dr. Corrigan and her colleagues on several projects that investigated the impact of mental illness stigma on various factors, including quality of life. She also collaborated with Dr. Corrigan and lab members on projects aimed to better understand stigma.

Through her volunteer involvement at a warming center for homeless individuals, Abby had the privilege to meet many individuals who have been affected by stigma. Abby's goal has become to decrease stigma in the homeless, and to understand how it interacts with social contact in impacting service utilization. Her professional goal is to use her clinical and research skills to provide better treatment to the homeless and mentally ill populations.

Publications:

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