



James Childers, LCPC

Chief Program Officer

"I believe that every person encounters challenges in life—and that with the right support, anyone can move forward. My work in mental health and substance use treatment is driven by a commitment to walking alongside individuals as they navigate those challenges, helping them uncover their strengths and build meaningful, lasting change. My military background taught me the power of unity, accountability, and showing up for others—lessons I carry into every aspect of this work. I see behavioral health not just as a field but as a team effort, where each person plays a vital role in helping others reach their goals, regain stability, and reclaim their purpose."

About

James M. Childers, LCPC, is a seasoned behavioral health administrator with over 20 years of experience in mental health, substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, and clinical program development. He joined Crawford County Mental Health Center in February 2021, previously serving as Director of Addiction Treatment Services before being promoted to Chief Programs Officer of Residential Services. James currently serves as Chief Program Officer.

In his role, James oversees residential, outpatient, and veteran-focused programs, including two SUD treatment facilities, intensive outpatient services, and a specialized program for service members, veterans, and their families. He also supports the Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program and leads multidisciplinary teams, ensuring clinical quality, regulatory compliance, and staff development.

A U.S. Navy veteran, James brings a mission-driven leadership style shaped by accountability and service. He has led the implementation of evidence-based practices, facilitated therapy groups, supervised clinical interns, and played a key role in designing a 39-bed treatment center with integrated crisis services.

Education

- Master of Science in Community Counseling | *Pittsburg State University*
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology | *Emporia State University*

Specialties and Focus Areas

- Substance Use Disorders and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders (PTSD)

Age Group(s) Served

- Adults 18 and up

Certifications

- Accelerated Resolution Therapy (ART)
- Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Virtual Reality combined with Prolonged Exposure
- Clinical Supervision
- Gambling Disorder Counseling
- Medication-Assisted Recovery



**CRAWFORD COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH CENTER**