



**Joseph Pepitone, MD**

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellow**

I'm Joseph Pepitone, and I'm one of the first year child and adolescent psychiatry fellows. I completed my medical school training at the Florida State University College of Medicine, and am originally from Orlando, Florida. When applying for residency programs, I applied to the combined-track program here after reading about the Vermont Family-Based Approach and wanting to learn more. Now that I'm here, I couldn't be happier with my decision.

My road to psychiatry was not a direct one. I've had a few pit-stops along the way, originally graduating with an undergraduate bachelors in mathematics from Florida State, then spent some time in graduate study of theoretical chemistry at The University of Chicago. At this last pit-stop, my advisor and I had a conversation about my interests in medicine, and he told me about how he had seen the field of psychiatry change overtime from watching the practices of his psychiatrist parents. He encouraged me to consider a career in this direction. Ultimately, I left this graduate program to pursue a career in medicine, and during my medical school training, enjoyed my experiences working with children and adolescents in mental health.

My interests include functional and developmental neuro-anatomy, family-based assessment and treatment, behavioral interventions, manualized treatments, psychodynamic psychotherapy, cognitive-behavioral therapies, rTMS, and ECT. I'm currently working with doctors Peter Jackson and Brady Heward on designing a manualized intervention for children and adolescents from high-risk profiles for developing substance use disorders. When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time with my family, going to the gym, hiking the many awesome trails nearby, listening to music, reading good evidence-based medicine articles, baking pastries with sourdough, and am now attempting to learn to develop software.