



# Overview of Behavioral and Public Health Programs

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**Vision: Healthy Communities, Healthy People**



# Agenda

- 1 Behavioral and Public Health Programs Overview
- 2 Professional Training Programs
- 3 Technical Assistance Centers
- 4 Paraprofessional Training Programs
- 5 Public Health Programs



# Behavioral and Public Health (BPH) Programs

Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program for Professionals

Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Technical Assistance Center (HPSWRTAC)

Opioid Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP)

Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training (HPSWRTP) Program

Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program

Behavioral health Workforce Development Technical Assistance and Evaluation (BHWD TAE) Program

Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) Program for Paraprofessionals

Regional Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Program

Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Professionals

Paraprofessional Apprenticeship Technical Assistance (PATA) Program

Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Paraprofessionals



# Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET-Pro) Program for Professionals

## Purpose:

- Increase the supply of behavioral health professionals, improve distribution of a quality behavioral health workforce and increase access to behavioral health services. A special focus is placed on the knowledge and understanding of children, adolescents, and transitional-aged youth at risk for behavioral health disorders.

## Goals:

- Establish relationships with community-based partners to increase access to quality behavioral health services in high need and high demand areas for populations across the lifespan
- Promote collaborative training by utilizing team-based models of care in integrated, interdisciplinary behavioral and primary care settings
- Recruit a diverse workforce interested in serving high need and high demand areas

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY14
- 1-year, competitive program funded in FY16
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY17
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY21; \$66M total available funding in FY21



# Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET-Pro) Program for Professionals (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- Accredited institutions of higher education or accredited professional training programs that are establishing or expanding internships or other field placement programs in mental health
- Accredited doctoral, internship, and post-doctoral residency programs of health service psychology
- Accredited master's and doctoral degree programs of social work
- Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations
- Offer training program for behavioral health graduate level students in their final experiential training (i.e., internship or field placement)

## Number of grantees:

- 167

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- Grantees in all ten HHS regions
- Since 2014, the BHWET programs have supported the clinical training of over 20,000 behavioral health professional and paraprofessionals.
- Since 2014, BHWET supported students have cumulatively provided 5.7 million hours of patient care in medically underserved communities and 2 million hours of care in rural areas.





# Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program

## Purpose:

- To train doctoral health service psychology students, interns, and post-doctoral residents in integrated, interdisciplinary behavioral health for placement into community-based primary care settings in high need and high demand areas. The program also supports faculty development in health service psychology.

## Goal:

- Increase the number of trained doctoral health service psychology students, interns, and post-doctoral residents providing quality interdisciplinary, integrated behavioral health for placement into community-based primary care settings

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY16
- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY19
- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY22; \$19.4M total available funding in FY22



# Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- Eligible entities are APA-accredited doctoral, internship, and post-doctoral residency programs of health service psychology (including clinical psychology, counseling, and school psychology) and Psychological Clinical Science Accreditation System (PCSAS)-accredited doctoral level schools of psychology.
- Offer doctoral health service psychology students, interns, and post-doctoral residents who are in their final experiential training

## Number of grantees:

- 57

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In AY20, GPE provided stipend support to 376 students.
- 96% of students received training in substance use treatment
- 92% of students received training in opioid use treatment
- 67% of students received training in medication assisted treatment for SUD and OUD.
- 70% of students intended to become employed or pursue further training in medically underserved communities
- 46% intended to become employed or pursue further training in primary care settings.



# Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Professionals

## Purpose:

- The purpose of this program is to enhance community-based experiential training for students preparing to become behavioral health professionals with a focus on Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and other Substance Use Disorders (SUD) prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The program will provide funding for training behavioral health professionals in the provision of OUD and other SUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services in high need and high demand areas.
- The program also supports the development of behavioral health faculty skills and expertise in the prevention, treatment, and recovery of patients with OUD and other SUD. Award recipients will impact the quality and access to behavioral health and substance use services in high need and high demand areas by increasing the number of professionals and transforming integrated behavioral health and primary care teams to effectively prevent and treat OUD and other SUD in community-based practices.

## Goal:

- To increase the number of behavioral health professionals trained in the provision of OUD and other SUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services to serve in high need and high demand areas.

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY19; \$57.5M total available funding in FY19 (\*FF)





# Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Professionals (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- Accredited institutions of higher education or accredited behavioral health professional training programs.
- Accredited masters or doctoral-level programs in social work.
- American Psychology Association (APA)-accredited doctoral, internship and post-doctoral residency programs of psychology and health service psychology (including clinical psychology, counseling and school psychology) programs in practice psychology.
- Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations and tribal organizations are also eligible to apply, if otherwise eligible.

## Number of grantees:

- 49

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In AY20, the OWEP Programs supported training for 3,290 individuals. Of the total students supported, 1,106 graduate-level social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, addiction counselors, psychiatric nurse practitioners, and marriage and family therapists.
- 70% of the OWEP trainees received training in substance use treatment and over two-thirds received training in opioid use treatment (67 %).



# Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Technical Assistance Center (HPSWRTAC) (cont'd)

## Purpose:

- Provide tailored training and technical assistance to HRSA's health workforce resiliency grant recipients to establish, enhance and expand the capacity and infrastructure to rapidly deploy evidence-informed or evidence-based innovative strategies to the "Health Workforce." These health workforce resiliency grant recipients have a special focus on the Health Workforce in rural and medically underserved communities.

## Goals:

- Establish and enhance a network of partnerships among the HRSA's health workforce resiliency grant recipients through regional partnerships to share best practices and leverage resources.
- Enhance the capacity of HRSA's health workforce resiliency grant.
- Enhance HRSA's health workforce resiliency grantee recipients framework by providing critically needed resources through technical assistance and training to the Health Workforce.

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY22; \$2M total available funding in FY22



# Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Technical Assistance Center (HPSWRTAC)

## Eligible entities:

- Accredited institutions of higher education, health professions schools and academic health centers.
- State or local governments, Indian Tribes and tribal organizations, or other appropriate public or private nonprofit entities (or consortia of entities, including entities promoting multidisciplinary approaches).
- Entities providing health care, including health care providers associations and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

## Number of cooperative agreements:

- 1

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In FY22, HPSWRTAC held a welcome kickoff.
- They have held one on one meetings with the HPSWRTP and HRSA's Division of Medicine and Dentistry grantees to collect and analyze programmatic information to identify TA needs.
- There will be a virtual Workplace Collaborative Meeting on September 14th and 15th to delve into the various program abstracts and work plans, and expectations moving forward for grantees.



# Behavioral health Workforce Development Technical Assistance and Evaluation (BHWD TAE) Program

## Purpose:

- Develop and provide tailored technical assistance (TA) to the current and future grant recipient in these HRSA-funded programs:
  - Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training --Professionals (BHWET Pro);
  - Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program – Paraprofessional (BHWET Para);
  - Opioid Workforce Expansion Program - Professionals (OWEP Pro);
  - Opioid Workforce Expansion Program - Paraprofessionals (OWEP Para);
  - Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Programs;
  - and any other future HRSA-funded programs authorized by section 756 of the Public Health Service Act from Fiscal Year 2021 to Fiscal Year 2024.

## Goals:

- Create community and academic partnerships to develop a behavioral health workforce that maximizes collaborative learning.
- Build an educational and interconnected behavioral and public health infrastructure prepared to respond and provide treatment to those impacted by opioid use disorders (OUD) and other substance use disorders (SUD).

## Project Period:

- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY21; \$2.5M total available funding in FY21



# Behavioral health Workforce Development Technical Assistance and Evaluation (BHWD TAE) Program (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- Health professions schools, academic health centers, State or local governments, or other public or private nonprofit entities that provide services and training to health professions
- Accredited institutions of higher education
- Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations

## Number of cooperative agreements:

- 1

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In FY 21, BHWD-TAE held 16 online events for approximately 400 grant recipients and HRSA staff members
- Provided TA through on training development, curriculum building, resource dissemination, consultations, and recruiting expert speakers for specialty topics.
- Provided a 10 week learning collaborative on telehealth designed for faculty, department chairs, and program directors who wish to understand the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to provide behavioral health services in the telehealth environment.
- Expanded their online activities to include peer focus groups, learning collaboratives, & tool kits.



# Paraprofessional Apprenticeship Technical Assistance (PATA) Program

## Purpose:

- Provide technical assistance to awardees pursuing apprenticeships in the following HRSA-funded programs:
  - Opioid Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP) – Paraprofessionals (HRSA-20-014)
  - Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program – Paraprofessionals (BHWET-Para) (HRSA-21-090)
- Increase the number of certified behavioral health paraprofessionals, including peer support specialists and community health workers, who work with families and individuals, including children, parents and custodial guardians impacted by opioid use disorders (OUD) and other substance use disorders (SUD) in high need and high demand areas.
- The Contractor will support the OIFSP and BHWET-Para award recipients with the Level II in-service component of the project, which includes assisting with the development of or partnering with a Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP.)

Project Period: 8/16/2021-8/15/2025

- One 12-month Base Period and three 12-month option periods;
- \$1,032,056 total available funding in FY23 (Option Year 1)





# Paraprofessional Apprenticeship Technical Assistance (PATA) Program (cont'd)

Eligible entities:

- Opioid Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP) and Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training for Paraprofessionals (BHWET Para) program awardees who are moving from Level I pre-service training to Level II in-service training through the development of or partnership with a RAP

Number of awardees pursuing Level II apprenticeships:

- 35 organizations
- 38 awards
  - 28 OIFSP, 10 BHWET-Para

Program Outcome and Impact:

By the end of the first year:

- Increased number of behavioral health RAP programs
- 34 apprentices completed Level II apprenticeship training
- 71 apprentices were currently in apprenticeship training



# Opioid Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP)

## Purpose:

- Support training programs that enhance and expand paraprofessionals knowledge, skills and expertise, and to increase the number of peer support specialists and other behavioral health-related paraprofessionals who work on integrated, interprofessional teams in providing services to children whose parents are impacted by opioid use disorders (OUD) and other substance use disorders (SUD), and their family members who are in guardianship roles. A special focus is on demonstrating knowledge and understanding of the specific concerns for children, adolescents and transitional aged youth in high need and high demand areas who are at risk for mental health disorders and SUDs.

## Goal:

- Increase the number of peer support specialists and other behavioral health-related paraprofessionals who are prepared to work with families who are impacted by OUD and other SUDs in high need and high demand areas.

## Project Period:

- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY20; \$12.5M total available funding in FY20



# Opioid Impacted Family Support Program (OIFSP) (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- State-licensed mental health nonprofit and for-profit organizations. These organizations must be able to support programs for pre-service or in-service training of paraprofessional child, adolescent and transitional aged youth mental health workers.
- Organizations may include academic institutions, including universities, community colleges and technical schools, which must be accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency, as specified by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Domestic faith-based and community-based offering training program for behavioral health graduate level students in their final field placement (i.e., practicum or internship). organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations.

## Number of grantees:

- 28

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In AY20, OIFSP awardees supported a total of 552 paraprofessionals.
- 39% were underrepresented minorities, 27% were from rural backgrounds, 55% were from disadvantaged backgrounds, 71% trained in substance use treatment, and 64% trained in opioid use treatment.



# Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET-Para) Program for Paraprofessionals

## Purpose:

- Develop and expand community-based experiential training to increase the supply of students preparing to become peer support specialists and other behavioral health-related paraprofessionals and improve distribution of a quality behavioral health workforce. A special focus is placed on the knowledge and understanding of the specific concerns of children, adolescents, and transitional-aged youth in high need and high demand areas at risk for behavioral health disorders.

## Goals:

- Establish relationships with community-based partners to expand and improve access to quality behavioral health services including but not limited to OUD and other SUD prevention, treatment recovery services in high need and high demand areas.
- Promote collaborative training by utilizing team-based models of care in integrated and interprofessional behavioral health and primary care settings.
- Recruit a diverse workforce interested in serving high need and high demand areas.

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY14
- 1-year, competitive program funded in FY16
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY17
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY21; \$23M total available funding in FY21



# Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET-Para) Program for Paraprofessionals (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- State-licensed mental health nonprofit and for-profit organizations. These organizations must be able to support programs for Level I pre-service, and Level II in-service, as applicable.
- These organizations may include academic institutions, including universities, community colleges, and technical schools. Native American tribal organizations may meet this definition if appropriately licensed by an applicable Tribal government or political subdivision
- Domestic faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations
- Offer a certificate training program in a behavioral health-related paraprofessional field

## Number of grantees:

- 43

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- BHWET Programs helped enhance academic and community partnerships
- 89% of trainees sought to work in a rural or underserved community because of the opportunity to apply a diverse skill set
- 92% said training in an underserved area influenced their decision to work in a rural or underserved
- community upon program completion.



# Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Paraprofessionals

## Purpose:

- The purpose of this program is to enhance community-based experiential training for students preparing to become peer support specialists and other types of behavioral health-related paraprofessionals with a focus on Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and other Substance Use Disorders (SUD) prevention, treatment and recovery services. A special focus is on preservice or in-service training in children, adolescents, and transitional-age youth in high need and high demand areas who are at risk for behavioral health disorders.
- The program is designed to expand and improve direct access to quality treatment and foster an integrated and/or interprofessional approach to address treatment emphasizing the role of the family and lived experience of the consumer through academic, community and non-traditional community organization partnerships. The program also supports career development in behavioral health for paraprofessional career progression and the development of skills and expertise of staff, facilitators, and training instructors.

## Goal:

- To increase the number of peer support specialists and other behavioral health-related paraprofessionals trained in the provision of OUD and other SUD prevention, treatment, and recovery services to serve in high need and high demand areas.

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY19; \$11.5M available funding in FY19 (\*FF)





# Opioid Workforce Expansion Program (OWEP) for Paraprofessionals (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- State-licensed mental health nonprofit and for-profit organizations. These organizations must be able to carry out programs for pre-service or in-service training of paraprofessional child and adolescent mental health workers.
- Entities must be accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency, as specified by the U.S. Department of Education or must be approved by the state government to provide a behavioral health-related paraprofessional certificate program.

## Number of grantees:

- 15

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In AY20, 2,184 OWEP students trained to become behavioral health paraprofessionals (such as peer paraprofessionals, community health workers, outreach workers, behavioral health aides, mental health workers, and substance abuse/addictions workers).
- Approximately 33 % received training in behavioral health primary care integration, 20 % received training in health equity and/or the social determinants of health, and 27 % received COVID-19 related training.



# Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training (HPSWRTP) Program

## Purpose:

- Plan, develop, operate or participate in health professions and nursing training activities using evidence-based or evidence-informed strategies, to reduce and address burnout, suicide, mental health conditions and substance use disorders and promote resiliency among health care students, residents, professionals, paraprofessionals, trainees, public safety officers, and employers of such individuals, collectively known as the “Health Workforce,” in rural and underserved communities.

## Goal:

- Reduce and address burnout, suicide, mental health conditions and substance use disorders and promote resiliency among health care students, residents, professionals, paraprofessionals, trainees, public safety officers, and employers of such individuals, particularly in rural and medically underserved communities.

## Project Period:

- 3-year, competitive program funded in FY22; \$30M total available funding in FY22



# Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training (HPSWRTP) Program (cont'd)

## Eligible entities:

- Accredited health professions schools and academic health centers, state or local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, or other appropriate public or private nonprofit entities (or consortia of such entities, including entities promoting multidisciplinary approaches).

## Number of cooperative agreements:

- 34

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- In FY22, HPSWRTP award recipients are using grants funds to: provide short-term training to promote resiliency; create and advance training interventions, protocols and system-wide approaches to reduce and address burnout, suicide, mental health conditions and substance use disorders; and develop innovative sustainability practices/models to promote provider resiliency and prevent or reduce health care professional burnout.
- They have held several trainings and workshops for participants and received positive feedback. Some have been featured on their local news stations/websites to provide awareness about the grant. There will be a grantee meeting on September 29th with CDC/National Institute of Occupational Safety Health to foster collaboration.



# Regional Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Program and Regional PHTC Network

## Purpose:

- Increase the number of individuals in the public health workforce, enhance the quality of such workforce, and improve the ability of this workforce to meet national, state, and local health care needs. Specifically, this program aims to strengthen the public health workforce through tailored training and technical assistance (TA) through collaborative community-based projects.

## Goals:

- Increase the supply and diversity of public health professionals
- Enhance the quality of the public health workforce through student field placements, emphasizing placements with rural and/or medically underserved communities
- Provide tailored quality training to address current and emerging public health needs.

## Project Period:

- The program began with two pilot centers in 1999
- It grew to 37 centers by 2010
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY14
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY18
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY22; \$10.2M total available funding in FY22



# Public Health Workforce Development Programs

## PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING CENTERS

increase the number, quality, and ability of public health workers.

FY 2021

**\$17 M**



**408**  
trainees

### AY 2020-2021

Regional centers	10
Trainees from underrepresented minorities	32%
Trained in medically underserved communities	62%
Plan to work or train further in medically underserved communities	64%

# Regional Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Program and Regional PHTC Network

## Purpose:

- Increase the number of individuals in the public health workforce, enhance the quality of such workforce, and improve the ability of this workforce to meet national, state, and local health care needs. Specifically, this program aims to strengthen the public health workforce through tailored training and technical assistance (TA) through collaborative community-based projects.

## Goals:

- Increase the supply and diversity of public health professionals
- Enhance the quality of the public health workforce through student field placements, emphasizing placements with rural and/or medically underserved communities
- Provide tailored quality training to address current and emerging public health needs.

## Project Period:

- The program began with two pilot centers in 1999
- It grew to 37 centers by 2010
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY14
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY18
- 4-year, competitive program funded in FY22; \$18M total available funding in FY22





# Regional Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Program and Regional PHTC Network (cont'd 1)

## Eligible entities:

- Accredited school of public health, or another public or nonprofit private entity accredited for the provision of graduate or specialized training in public health.
- Faith-based and community-based organizations, tribes, and tribal organizations.

## Number of cooperative agreements:

- 10

## Program Outcome and Impact:

- During AY 2015-2020, **685** faculty and **913** students collaborated on PHTC-supported projects.
- **9.5 percent** of faculty members and **14.9 percent** of students were underrepresented minorities.
- The most frequently covered topics were evidence-based programs (**28.2 percent**) and community health assessments (**23.3 percent**), in addition to projects in the “other” category such as emergency preparedness and writing grant applications for community organizations.
- Children and adolescents were the most-studied population (**16.7 percent**), followed by low-income persons/families (**11.6 percent**).
- Trained **1,081,148** individuals—including **388,533** public health professionals—through **12,560** continuing education (CE) courses during AY 2015-2020.



# Regional Public Health Training Centers (PHTC) Program and Regional PHTC Network (cont'd 2)

## Program Outcome and Impact (*continued*):

- **5,937** courses were offered a total of **8,634** times, with an additional **6,623** courses accessible anytime online. **30.2 percent** of PHTC-sponsored courses were approved for CE credits.
- Courses provided training in competencies such as community dimensions of practice (**4,118 courses**) and data analysis and assessments (**1,426 courses**).
- As indicated by the stars in Figure 4, **75 percent** of the PHTC program's CE course competencies aligned with training needs identified in a 2017 national survey of the public health workforce.
- The majority of PHTC CE courses were designed to reach front line/entry level public health workers (67 percent) and program managers/supervisors (29 percent).
- PHTC courses primarily reached public health professionals (**35.9 percent**).



# Committee Discussion

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1. Stipend amounts for professional and paraprofessional programs
2. Recruitment and retention efforts
3. Post-graduation data
4. Early decisions about careers in mental health and substance use disorder
5. Pathways in behavioral health
6. Licensure for professionals
7. Changing landscape for behavioral health-related paraprofessionals



# Questions

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# Contact Us

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