

Ensuring and Enhancing the Clinical Skills of the CMH Workforce Pilot

Who We Are: The Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois (CBHA) is a statewide not-for-profit membership organization representing the interests of 95 community behavioral healthcare agencies in the state of Illinois. Our members include community mental health centers (CMHCs), behavioral health clinics (BHCs), substance use agencies, some federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), health departments, and hospitals.

Our Mission: Our mission is to represent the interests of our members to ensure access and availability of a comprehensive system of accountable, quality behavioral healthcare services for the people of Illinois.

Michelle Churchey-Mims, LCPC
VP Child and Adolescent Policy and Practice

Goal of Pilot

Proof of concept to show:

Providing dedicated/protected supervision time for interns and early career staff and providing intern stipends will:

- Build Supervisory Capacity and a culture of training and support
 - Build a diverse workforce pipeline
 - Increase Clinician Competency and Confidence
- Increase access to Children's Mental Health Services

Program Components

2-year grant:

- 6 agencies across the State were funded to support 0.5 FTE of dedicated supervisor time to provide training and supervision for 4 interns per year, at least 2 early career clinicians per year to support advancement to licensure.
- \$2500 stipend per intern.

First year Successes

- Interns felt valued, supported and more confident to serve highly complex youth and families
- Dedicated training and supervision allowed the opportunity for interns to be more quickly incorporated into the team and begin providing services to youth and families and made for more robust internship experience.
- Offering stipends allowed grantees to be more competitive in onboarding interns and early career staff.
- Dedicated supervision time allowed early career clinicians to more quickly achieve needed supervision hours and move more quickly to licensure-positively impacting whole agency by increasing LPHA staff.
- Grant funding has allowed agencies to create a more sustainable infrastructure focused on training and support-which in turns creates a new generation of more confident and competent clinicians.

Increasing Access to CMH Services

- In the first year of grant 2350 additional youth and families received services.
- Grantees were able to reduced or eliminate waitlists.
- Opportunity for increased community outreach and engagement.



Thank you for the Opportunity to Present

Questions?