

# SAMHSA Training and Technical Assistance Resources

Updated 2/5/19

## State Targeted Response Technical Assistance (STR-TA)

The State Targeted Response (STR) Technical Assistance (TA) Consortium was created to support efforts in addressing opioid use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery. This project was funded by SAMHSA to provide local expertise in communities to help address the opioid public health crisis. The main goal is to respond quickly to requests for education and training resources to address the opioid crisis.

Contact: <https://getstr-ta.org/>  
Email [str-ta@aaap.org](mailto:str-ta@aaap.org) or call 401-270-5900

## Rural Opioid Technical Assistance (ROTA)

The purpose of this program is to develop and disseminate training and technical assistance for rural communities on addressing opioid issues affecting these communities. The grantees facilitate the identification of model programs, develop and update materials related to the prevention, treatment and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD), and ensure that high-quality training is provided.

SAMHSA PO: [Humberto.Carvalho@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Humberto.Carvalho@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Clinical Support System for Serious Mental Illness (CSS-SMI)

In July 2018, SAMHSA awarded the American Psychiatric Association (APA) a five-year grant to support this initiative. Using an online portal and app (coming in 2019), the project offers expert consultation services and learning opportunities nationwide to support clinicians—including physicians, nurses, psychologists, recovery specialists, peer-to-peer specialists, and others—who provide evidence-based care for individuals with SMI.

Website: <https://smiadviser.org/>

## Technology Transfer Centers (TTC) Network

The purpose of the Technology Transfer Centers (TTC) is to develop and strengthen the specialized behavioral healthcare and primary healthcare workforce that provides substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health prevention, treatment and recovery support services. The TTC program is comprised of three networks: the Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC), the Mental Health Technology Transfer Centers (MHTTC) and the Prevention Technology Transfer Centers (PTTC). Each network is comprised of:

- *National Coordinator Center,*
- *10 Regional Centers,*
- *American Indian & Alaska Native focused Center,*
- *Hispanic & Latino focused Center.*

### ◆ **Addiction Technology Transfer Centers (ATTC):**

The ATTCs support national and regional activities focused on preparing tools needed by practitioners to improve the quality of service delivery and to providing intensive technical assistance to provider organizations to improve their processes and practices in the delivery of effective SUD treatment and recovery services.

ATTC website: <http://attcnetwork.org/home/>

### ◆ **Mental Health Technology Transfer Centers (MHTTC):**

The MHTTCs works with organizations and treatment practitioners involved in the delivery of mental health services to strengthen their capacity to deliver effective evidence-based practices to individuals, including the full continuum of services spanning mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery support.

MHTTC website: <https://mhttcnetwork.org/mhttc.html>

### ◆ **Prevention Technology Transfer Centers (PTTC):**

The PTTCs develops and disseminates tools and strategies needed to improve the quality of substance abuse prevention efforts; provide intensive technical assistance and learning resources to prevention professionals in order to improve their understanding of prevention science, how to use epidemiological data to guide prevention planning, and selection and implementation of evidence-based and promising prevention practices; and develop tools and resources to engage the next generation of prevention professionals.

PTTC website: <http://www.pttcnetwork.org/pttc/pttc.html>

## **Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment (PCSS-MAT)**

PCSS-MAT is a national training and clinical mentoring project developed in response to the prescription opioid misuse epidemic and the availability of pharmacotherapies to treat opioid use disorder. PCSS-MAT trains health professionals to provide effective, evidence-based, medication-assisted treatments to patients with opioid use disorder in primary care, psychiatric care, substance use disorder treatment, and pain management settings.

Contact: <https://pcssnow.org/>

## **National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (National Center – TFR)**

SAMHSA awarded a five-year grant to the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at UCSF to establish the National Center-TFR. This Center will continue SAMHSA's efforts to convene State Leadership Academies for Tobacco-Free Recovery to mobilize stakeholders to develop and implement a state-wide action plan to reduce the high prevalence rate of tobacco use by persons with mental and/or substance use disorders. In addition, the Center provides technical assistance, training, and educational resources to promote the adoption of tobacco-free facility/grounds policies and the integration of tobacco treatment into behavioral healthcare.

Contact: Catherine Saucedo – [Catherine.Saucedo@ucsf.edu](mailto:Catherine.Saucedo@ucsf.edu)

## **Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) Related to Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders**

Cicatelli Associates Inc. in partnership with the Legal Action Center (LAC) received a five years grant from SAMHSA in order to establish one National Center of Excellence to develop and disseminate training, technical assistance, and educational resources for healthcare practitioners, families, individuals, states, and communities on various privacy laws and regulations as they relate to information about mental and substance use disorders. These include: the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and 42 CFR Part 2. This Center of Excellence will also address the intersection of these laws and regulations with other privacy laws such as the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Website:

[https://www.caiglobal.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1149&Itemid=1953](https://www.caiglobal.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1149&Itemid=1953)

## **Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC)**

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) provides a virtual learning lab designed to help state- and community-level partnerships build and improve more effective prevention efforts. SPRC presents a blueprint for developing and sustaining suicide prevention efforts that are most likely to be effective. This center also include resources for suicide prevention in specific settings such as schools, college campuses, and American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

Contact: <https://www.sprc.org/>

## **SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR)**

SOAR is a program designed to increase access to SSI/SSDI for eligible adults who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder. The techniques taught in the SOAR Online Course can improve the quality and completeness of any application for SSI/SSDI. This training takes case managers step-by-step through the SSI/SSDI application process. Trainees learn about SSA forms and regulations as well as the many Critical Components of a SOAR case manager's role that aim to expedite the process and obtain approval on initial application.

Contact: <https://www.samhsa.gov/soar>

## **Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders (CoE-ED)**

SAMHSA has awarded the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to implement the CoE-ED. The purpose of this program is to establish one National Center of Excellence to develop and disseminate training and technical assistance for healthcare practitioners on issues related to addressing eating disorders. This center of excellence will facilitate the identification of model programs, develop and update materials related to eating disorders, and ensure that high-quality training is provided to health professionals.

Contact: Christine Peat—[christine\\_peat@med.unc.edu](mailto:christine_peat@med.unc.edu)

## **Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS)**

Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS) advances effective recovery supports and services for people with mental or substance use disorders and their families.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/brss-tacs>

## Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC)

SAMHSA's DTAC assists states, territories, tribes, and local entities with all-hazards disaster behavioral health response planning that allows them to prepare for and respond to both natural and human-caused disasters. SAMHSA's DTAC also supports collaboration among mental health and substance abuse authorities, federal agencies, and nongovernmental organizations and facilitates in the sharing of information and best practices with the disaster behavioral health field.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/dtac>

Email: [DTAC@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:DTAC@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance (SMVF-TA) Center

The Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance (SMVF-TA) Center works with states and territories to strengthen behavioral health systems for service members (active duty, National Guard, and reservists), veterans, and their families. SMVF's Policy Academy (PA) unites federal, state, and local leaders with experts to exchange ideas, best practices, and lessons learned, and serves as the key resource for PA graduates as they refine and implement their strategic plans.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/smvf-ta-center>

For information email: [smvftacenter@prainc.com](mailto:smvftacenter@prainc.com)

## GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation

SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation helps to expand community services for adults who are in the criminal justice system and experiencing mental or substance use disorders. The GAINS Center provides technical assistance and support to professionals working in the fields of behavioral health and criminal justice, to communities across the country who are working to achieve integrated systems of mental health and substance use services, and to several SAMHSA grant programs. The GAINS Center offers information and skills training to help individuals and organizations at the local, state, regional, and national levels implement effective, integrated programming that will transform the criminal justice and behavioral health systems.

Contact: <https://knowledge.samhsa.gov/ta-centers/gains-center>

## Homeless and Housing Resource Network (HHRN)

HHRN is the SAMHSA training and technical assistance center that shares knowledge and best practices for preventing and ending homelessness. Audiences include grantees; homeless, housing, and service providers; consumers; policymakers; researchers; and public agencies at federal, state, and local levels. These efforts reflect SAMHSA's vision of ending homelessness by supporting individuals through a process of change as they improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-housing/samhsas-efforts>

## National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW)

NCSACW is a national resource center providing information, expert consultation, training and technical assistance to child welfare, dependency court and substance abuse treatment professionals to improve the safety, permanency, well-being and recovery outcomes for children, parents and families..

Website: <https://ncsacw.samhsa.gov/default.aspx>

## Tribal Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC)

The Tribal Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Center aims to decrease the effect of risk factors and increase protective factors to promote healthy and safe development of American Indian and Alaska Native children, youth, and their families. The center provides training and technical assistance, including fact sheets, guides, and webinars, covering mental and/or substance use disorder prevention, suicide prevention, and the promotion of mental health in Native communities.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/tribal-ttac>

SAMHSA PO: [Maureen.Madison@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Maureen.Madison@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## National Consumer and Consumer Supported Technical Assistance Center (NCTAC)

This program provides support and assistance to consumers and consumer organizations nationwide to advance consumer self-determination, community-based living, and recovery to decrease dependence. Their main objective is to increase consumer leadership and engagement in shaping the mental health system of care.

SAMHSA PO: [Rachel.Steidl@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Rachel.Steidl@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health

This center is dedicated to increase the capacity of Communities, States, Tribes, and Territories, to improve, sustain, and expand Systems of Care and the services and supports provided within them to improve the lives of children, youth, and young adults with or at risk for mental health challenges and their families.

- Systems of Care (e.g., development, implementation, expansion, and sustainability);
- Policy and Practice (e.g., regulations, evidence-based and evidence-informed services);
- Workforce (e.g., capacity, training, engaging and hiring youth and family peers)
- Financing of Services (e.g., Medicaid waivers, commercial insurance, blended/braided funding)
- Social Marketing (e.g., identifying audiences and materials, communication strategies, planning for SAMHSA's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day)
- Integration of Services (e.g., primary care, child welfare, juvenile justice, co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions)
- Current Issues (e.g., early psychosis, early childhood, youth and young adults in transition; crisis services, psychotropic medication, residential best practices)

Website: <https://qucchtdtcenter.georgetown.edu>

SAMHSA PO: [Eric.Lulow@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Eric.Lulow@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED)

A network of community-based organizations focused on the mental health and substance use issues of diverse racial and ethnic communities. The NNED supports information sharing, training, and technical assistance towards the goal of promoting behavioral health equity.

Website: <https://nned.net/>

SAMHSA PO: [RoslynHolliday.Moore@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:RoslynHolliday.Moore@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)

IECMHC is a prevention-based service that pairs a mental health consultant with families and adults who work with infants and young children in the different settings where they learn and grow, such as child care, preschool, and their home. The aim is to build adults' capacity to strengthen and support the healthy social and emotional development of children—early and before intervention is needed.

Website: <https://www.samhsa.gov/iecmhc/about>

SAMHSA POs: [Jennifer.Oppenheim@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Oppenheim@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## First Responder Mental Health Awareness Training

The purpose of this program is to: (1) train individuals (e.g., school personnel, emergency first responders, law enforcement, veterans, armed services members and their families) to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental disorders, particularly serious mental illness (SMI) and/or serious emotional disturbance (SED); (2) establish linkages with school- and/or community-based mental health agencies to refer individuals with the signs or symptoms of mental illness to appropriate services; (3) train emergency services personnel, veterans, law enforcement, fire department personnel, and others to identify persons with a mental disorder and employ crisis de-escalation techniques; and (4) educate individuals about resources that are available in the community for individuals with a mental disorder. It is expected that this program will prepare and train others on how to appropriately and safely respond to individuals with mental disorders, particularly individuals with SMI and/or SED.

SAMHSA PO: [Nancy.Kelly@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Nancy.Kelly@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Provider's Clinical Support System – Universities (PCSS-Universities)

The purpose of this program is to expand/enhance access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) services for persons with an opioid use disorder (OUD) seeking or receiving MAT through ensuring the education and training of students in the medical, physician assistant and nurse practitioner fields. This program's focus is to ensure students fulfill the training requirements needed to obtain a DATA waiver to prescribe MAT in office-based settings. The desired outcomes include: 1) an increase in the number of individuals completing the training requirements for the DATA waiver, 2) an increase the number of individuals with a DATA waiver, and 3) an ultimate increase in those prescribing.

SAMHSA PO: [Tony.Campbell@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Tony.Campbell@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## Historically Black Colleges and Universities Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health

The purpose of this program is to recruit students to careers in the behavioral health field to address mental and substance use disorders, provide training that can lead to careers in the behavioral health field, and/or prepare students for obtaining advanced degrees in the behavioral health field. The HBCU-CFE activities should emphasize education, awareness, and preparation for careers in mental and substance use disorder treatment including addressing opioid use disorder treatment, serious mental illness (SMI) (including First Episode Psychosis (FEP)), and suicide prevention.

SAMHSA PO: [Alexia.Blyther@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Alexia.Blyther@samhsa.hhs.gov)

## **Networking, Certifying, and Training Suicide Prevention Hotlines and the Disaster Distress Helpline.**

The purpose is to: (1) manage, enhance, and strengthen the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline) that routes individuals in the United States to a network of certified crisis centers that links to local emergency, mental health, and social services resources; and (2) support the National Disaster Distress Helpline (DDH) to assist residents in the United States and its territories who are experiencing emotional distress resulting from disasters and traumatic events. It is expected that this program will increase service capacity and improve behavioral health outcomes by preventing death or injury as a result of suicide and suicide attempts and assisting individuals and communities recover from disasters and traumatic events by providing community-based behavioral health outreach, referral to and engagement with treatment as necessary, and psycho-educational services.

SAMHSA POs:

[James.Wright@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:James.Wright@samhsa.hhs.gov)

[Jamie.Seligman@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:Jamie.Seligman@samhsa.hhs.gov)