OUR MISSION

CalSWEC facilitates and supports statewide partnerships for the education and training of social workers to ensure culturally responsive, effective, and high-quality health and social service delivery to the people of California.

The California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) is a statewide consortium of 22 accredited social work programs, 58 city and county departments of child welfare, behavioral health, and adults and aging services, the California Department of Social Services, the California Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, the County Welfare Directors Association of California, the County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California, and private foundations.

Created in 1990, CalSWEC is the nation’s largest coalition of its kind working together to provide professional education, student support, in-service training, and workforce development evaluation and research—all directed toward developing effective, culturally responsive social service delivery to people in California.

Hosted by Berkeley Social Welfare at the University of California, CalSWEC operates the Title IV-E Child Welfare Training Program, the Child Welfare In-Service Training Program, the Integrated Behavioral Health Program, and the Adults and Aging Program.

In collaboration with its partners, CalSWEC works to define and operationalize best practices in the fields of child welfare, behavioral health, and aging, and to develop a diverse and skilled social work workforce to serve California's diverse populations through its public systems of care.

OUR GOALS

- Prepare a diverse group of social workers for careers in human services, with special emphasis in the fields of child welfare, integrated behavioral health, and aging;
- Define and operationalize a continuum of social work education and training;
- Engage in evaluation, research, and dissemination of best practices in social work.

22 Accredited social work programs

58 City and county social services departments in California

$59M Annual Budget FY 2022

12,516 Title IV-E Program and IBH Program students since inception

Race/Ethnicity of students and social workers in CalSWEC training programs:
- Latinx/Hispanic: 38%
- Caucasian/White: 28%
- African American/Black: 15%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 9%
- Multi-Racial: 5%
- Native American: 1%
- Middle Eastern/Arab: 1%
- Other: 2%
TITLE IV-E PROGRAM
The Title IV-E Program offers financial and curricular support to graduate and undergraduate social work students who plan to or are currently practicing in public child welfare services. Upon graduation, these students work in public child welfare agencies for a time equal to the period for which they received support.

In addition to hosting annual statewide convenings and conferences, Title IV-E program activities include the co-development of curriculum competencies, materials, and resources for use by Title IV-E social work BASW and MSW programs throughout the state. The Title IV-E program runs the Pathway Program and SERVE: Indigenous Community Social Workers for Change. The Pathway Program addresses the educational needs of social workers in public child welfare agencies in remote, rural locations and/or areas not in proximity to a university that has a BASW/MSW program. SERVE seeks to increase enrollment of Indigenous students into the program through direct outreach to Tribes, schools, and agencies with Indigenous staff; to increase the number of field placement sites at Tribal agencies; and to foster greater partnerships with Indigenous organizations and advocacy groups throughout the state.

CHILD WELFARE IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM
The Child Welfare In-Service Training Program is a statewide collaborative for in-service training and continuing professional education of public child welfare staff. CalSWEC and the six coordinating partners—four regional training academies, Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services Training Division, and Resource Center for Family-Focused Practice—provide a continuum of training and professional education to county staff across the state. This coordinated delivery model reduces duplication of training, increases consistency, promotes professionalism and competency, and supports child welfare staff retention in California’s 58 counties. All state-standardized trainings with associated evaluations are delivered through the California Child Welfare Training (CACWT), a statewide learning management system intended to streamline and improve the deployment of social worker training.

INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (IBH) PROGRAM
The Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) Program at CalSWEC includes training, evaluation, and community capacity building projects focused on developing a skilled, diverse, and culturally competent behavioral health workforce in California. The IBH Program hosts annual symposia and co-develops curriculum competencies, materials, and resources for use by MSW programs around the state.

The HRSA-funded IBH Training Program prepares MSW students to provide behavioral health care in primary care settings through academic, field, and simulation-based training focused on delivering team-based interprofessional care to underserved populations. IBH trainees receive stipend support and commit to seeking employment providing behavioral health care to underserved communities after graduation. The IBH Program continues to track and evaluate California’s statewide MHSA Stipend Program, which provided specialized training and stipend support to MSW students committed to post-graduation employment in California’s public behavioral health system from 2005 to 2019. The IBH program also oversees evaluation activities for Berkeley Social Welfare’s Latinx Center for Excellence in Behavioral Health, and partners with entities like the California Primary Care Association to enhance training partnerships between MSW programs and community health centers.

ADULTS AND AGING PROGRAM
In Fall 2019, the Adults and Aging Program launched its first funded effort to address workforce development for Adults and Aging services, a regional pilot of the Adult Protective Services (APS) MSW Stipend Program funded by the California Department of Social Services, the City and County of San Francisco, and the Bay Area Social Services Consortium. CalSWEC expects to launch a statewide APS MSW Training Program in Fall 2022. It will focus on preparing MSW students to provide services to disabled and older adults in California’s public APS units, through specialized academic and field training and will provide students with stipend support in exchange for their commitment to work in California’s public APS system after graduation.

For more information about CalSWEC and the work we do, please visit CalSWEC.berkeley.edu.