

# CalSWEC's INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (IBH) PROGRAM

## What is the CalSWEC Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) Program?

The mission of CalSWEC's Integrated Behavioral Health (IBH) Program is to support the development of a skilled, diverse, and culturally competent behavioral health workforce in California, through training, evaluation, and community capacity building projects.

The IBH Program partners with accredited MSW programs, public behavioral health service providers, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and behavioral health support and advocacy organizations to ensure that California's professional social workers are prepared to provide effective behavioral health care to all Californians and in a variety of service settings, using up-to-date evidence-based models for service delivery.

The IBH Program works to expand its programming through the pursuit of funding opportunities for training, evaluation and capacity building projects focused on addressing a range of behavioral health issues, including substance abuse care and the integration of behavioral health care with primary care and with child and adult welfare services.

IBH Program staff participate in statewide committees, task forces, and working groups focused on addressing Californians' behavioral health needs, and provide data and expertise to local, regional, and state policy makers in relation to policy and planning matters. Finally, the IBH Program hosts annual symposia and co-develops curriculum competencies, materials, and resources on behavioral health as a field of practice, for use by MSW programs around the state.

## What are the IBH Program's training projects?

The IBH unit currently directs The San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health MSW Training Program and previously directed the Northern California Integrated Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment MSW Training Program and the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Stipend Program for MSW Students.

## The San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health MSW Training Program

Beginning in academic year 2017-18, CalSWEC's IBH Program has received funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA's) Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) program for three training projects. All three have used a multi-level approach to training, resource development, and community capacity building to enhance and expand the behavioral health workforce providing services to medically underserved communities. Recently renewed for 2021-2025, the IBH Training Program is focused on enhancing regional capacity to provide high-quality integrated care to such communities in the Bay Area, with a special focus on service sites heavily impacted by increased Medi-Cal enrollment associated with



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California's Medi-Cal expansion. The program provides academic, field, and simulation-based training to MSW students focused on delivering team-based interprofessional care, with the goal of preparing them to provide behavioral health care in primary care settings. Program-affiliated faculty and field supervisors also receive interprofessional training intended to enhance academic and field instruction on IBH practice, and strengthen and expand community implementation of the IBH model in both education and practice settings. In exchange for stipend support, IBH trainees commit to seeking employment in behavioral health settings that provide care to medically underserved communities after graduation. As more providers adopt the integrated care model, IBH trainees are uniquely equipped to become leaders in the delivery of team-based, multidisciplinary integrated care.

### **The Northern California Integrated Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment MSW Training Program**

The Northern California Integrated Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Treatment MSW Training Program was a regional stipend and training program available to second-year MSW students at UC Berkeley, California State University East Bay, San Jose State University, and Humboldt State University. The program's goal was to expand access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorders (OUD) and other substance use disorders (SUD) in high demand, high need areas of California's Bay Area and Superior Region by developing and substantially expanding field partnerships between regional MSW programs and local health centers that provide MAT. Funded through the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training (BHWET) initiative of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) from academic year 2018-19 to 2020-21, it served 20 MSW students and utilized a multi-level approach to training, resource development, and capacity building intended to support a sustainable plan to expand access to MAT for opioid use disorders and other substance use disorders.

### **The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Stipend Program for MSW Students**

The MHSA Stipend Program for MSW Students was a statewide program that provided specialized training and stipend support to MSW students committed to post-graduation employment in California's public behavioral health system. Funded through MHSA Workforce Education and Training funds and administered by California's Department of Mental Health and then the Office of Statewide Health Planning & Development (OSHPD), it served 2350 MSW students at 22 accredited MSW programs between academic years 2005-06 and 2018-19. The IBH Program continues to track MHSA graduates and evaluate the impact of the program, most recently through a retrospective study that examined training outcomes, career trajectories and retention in public service among program graduates. Highlights of the MHSA Stipend Program Retrospective Survey can be found on our [website](#).

### **What are the IBH Program's evaluation projects?**

The IBH Program is responsible for evaluation of all program aspects of Berkeley Social Welfare's HRSA-funded Latinx Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health (LCOEBH). Through this work, the IBH Program works to evaluate both the processes and outcomes associated with a variety of LCOEBH programs, events, and activities, including the LCOEBH Stipend Program, Professional Development Awards, Tutoring Program, Mentoring Program, and Sin Fronteras, an immersive summer learning experience. Evaluation focuses on

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assessing graduate outcomes and program impact on the development and enhancement of behavioral health service delivery for Latinx communities in the Bay Area.

### What are the IBH Program's community capacity building projects?

The IBH program has partnered with the California Primary Care Association (CPCA) to support the expansion and enhancement of training partnerships between MSW programs and FQHCs through the creation of a guide for developing such partnerships that will be disseminated to community health centers (CHCs) statewide. The guide will provide practical guidance for CHCs around partnering with MSW programs to develop and implement field education programs, including developing field training contracts with universities and student learning agreements with trainees. It will provide guidance and resources for supervising, navigating challenges with, and evaluating MSW interns, while supporting commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion. It will provide resources related to national and state requirements for social work education and field training, educational partnership opportunities in MSW education, and clinical social work licensure. The IBH Program will work with CPCA to disseminate the guide and showcase its content through public meetings, webinars, and other presentations.

### How do I get more information about the HRSA BHWET-funded San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health Training Program?

Interested first-year MSW students should approach their MSW programs about participating in the San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health Training Program.

### How can I apply to the San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health Training Program?

The San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health Training Program offers stipend funding and specialized training to 29 advanced-year students at four MSW programs in the San Francisco Bay Area each academic year. IBH Trainees are recruited from first-year student cohorts at participating MSW programs beginning the previous January, when CalSWEC begins to share written recruitment materials and hold online Q&A sessions about the program with interested first-year MSW students. Students are thus able to discuss field placement options for the IBH Training Program with field faculty at their MSW programs before applying to the program and before interviewing for and selecting advanced-year field placements for the next year. The online training program application is typically made available in January, and applications are due between March and April. Trainee selections and stipend awards are announced each June, and training for those selected to participate begins the following September.

### Whom should I contact with general questions about CalSWEC's IBH Program?

Please contact the Integrated Behavioral Health Program Director with general questions about CalSWEC's IBH Program:

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