

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.

OVERVIEW

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 policymakers 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.

TRAINING PROJECTS

The San Francisco Bay Area Integrated Behavioral Health MSW Training Program

Since 2017, 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

22

Accredited social work programs

2,533

MSW graduates since 2005

93%

Graduate employment in behavioral health

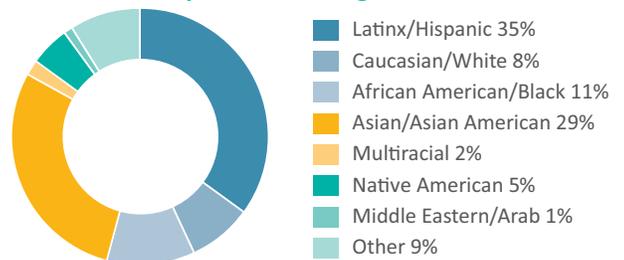
CalSWEC’s MISSION

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.

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.

Race/Ethnicity of IBH MSW graduates



service sites heavily impacted by increased Medi-Cal enrollment associated with 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.

Public Behavioral Health Training Program for MSW Students

The IBH program is working with the Department of Health Care Access & Information (HCAI) to develop a statewide Public Behavioral Health Training Program for MSW students. The program's goal is to build statewide workforce capacity so public behavioral health services in California are better able to meet the complex care needs of service consumers. As currently planned, between 2023 and 2026, the program will provide specialized training and stipend support to 550 advanced-year MSW students at accredited MSW programs around the state. In exchange, trainees will commit to completing 12 months of full-time service providing public behavioral health care after graduation. Program plans also include offering over 300 fellowships to recent MSW graduates pursuing LCSW licensure, who will receive post-graduate training and fellowship support in exchange for a commitment to provide public behavioral health care services after the fellowship.

EVALUATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECTS

Evaluation of the Mental Health Services Act 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 2005 and 2019. 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](#).

Program Evaluation for the Latinx Center of Excellence in Behavioral Health

The IBH Program was responsible for program evaluation of all aspects of Berkeley Social Welfare's HRSA-funded Latinx Center for Excellence in Behavioral Health. The IBH Program evaluated both the processes and outcomes associated with a variety of LCOEBH programs, including the LCOEBH Stipend Program, Professional Development Awards, Tutoring Program, Mentoring Program, and Sin Fronteras, an immersive summer learning experience.

Capacity Building Partnership with the California Primary Care Association

In 2021 and 2022, the IBH program 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 disseminated to community health centers (CHCs) statewide. The guide provides 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 provides guidance and resources for supervising, navigating challenges with, and evaluating MSW interns, while supporting commitments to diversity, equity and inclusion. It also provides 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 guide can be downloaded for free at CPCA's [online store](#).