

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

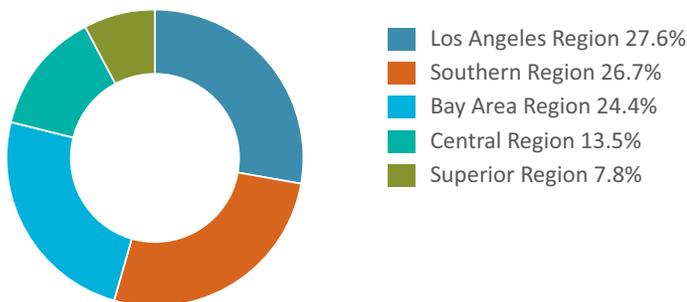
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Between 2005-06 and 2018-19, the MHSA Stipend Program provided specialized training and stipend support to **2,373** students at **22** MSW programs across California.
- MHSA Stipend Program recruitment focused on increasing racial/ethnic and linguistic diversity, as well as lived consumer experience in California’s public behavioral health workforce.
- **61.7%** of MHSA trainees identified as people of color, including **33.1%** who were Latinx.
- **62.0%** of MHSA trainees were able to provide services in languages other than English.
- **26.8%** of MHSA trainees identified as consumers of public behavioral health services.
- **48.6%** of MHSA trainees identified as family members of consumers.

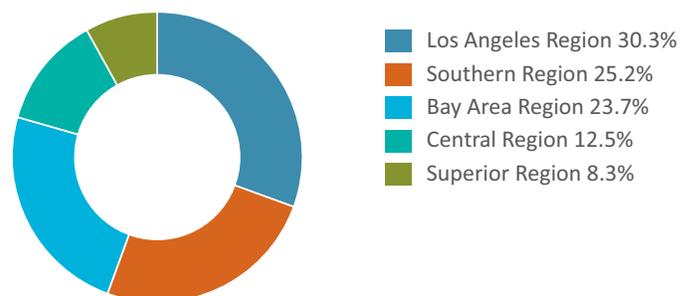
MHSA trainees served as MSW interns and provided required MSW service in public behavioral health settings throughout California.

- **99.2%** of all MHSA Stipend Program awardees successfully completed the MSW degree and all MHSA training requirements.
- MHSA trainees served as MSW interns in all five of California’s behavioral health service regions and in **50 of 59** public behavioral health systems.
- **93.8%** of MHSA graduates completed required service as MSW employees in county and contract agencies within California’s public behavioral health system after graduation.
- MHSA graduates completed required MSW service in all five of California’s behavioral health service regions and in **54 of 59** public behavioral health systems.

MHSA INTERNSHIPS BY SERVICE REGION



MHSA SERVICE OBLIGATION EMPLOYMENT EPISODES BY SERVICE REGION

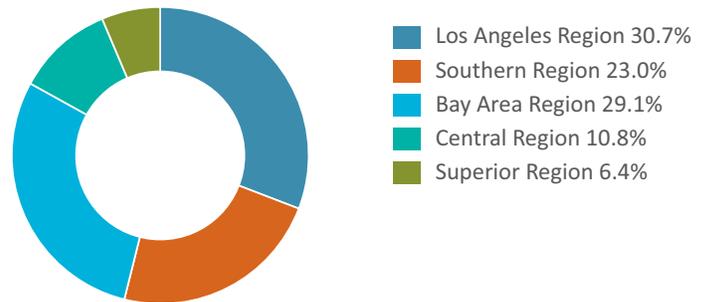


THE MHSA STIPEND PROGRAM RETROSPECTIVE SURVEY

MHSA graduates continue to provide public services in all of California's behavioral health service regions.

- **1,086** MHSA graduates representing all participating MSW programs and 13 of 14 training cohorts provided follow-up data between August 2018 and June 2019.
- **91.6%** of MHSA graduates surveyed continued their employment in California's public behavioral health system beyond their completion of the MHSA service obligation.
- On average, these MHSA graduates earned their MSWs **6.6 years** prior to being surveyed, and were employed in California's public behavioral health system for **4.1 years** after completing required MHSA service.

POST-SERVICE OBLIGATION EMPLOYMENT BY SERVICE REGION



- Up to 13 years post MSW graduation, **55.6%** of these MHSA graduates were still employed in California's public behavioral health system when surveyed.
- MHSA graduates surveyed were employed in all five of California's behavioral health service regions and in **43 of 59** public behavioral health systems.

MHSA training motivated graduates' commitment to public service and to applying MHSA values and practices to their social work practice.

- **75.0%** of graduates surveyed reported that MHSA Stipend Program participation provided extremely strong motivation for them to pursue employment in the public behavioral health system.
- Only **28.7%** reported that they would have been extremely likely to pursue such employment without the MHSA stipend.
- **63.8%** believed that MHSA training was very or extremely helpful for securing employment in the public behavioral health system.
- **82.9%** endorsed specialized MHSA field training and field supervision as very or extremely valuable.
- **77.8%** reported that MHSA training prepared them well to perform clinical interventions.
- **87.4%** reported that their MHSA training focused significantly or extensively on centering wellness, recovery, and resilience in all aspects of service planning and delivery.
- Graduates surveyed reported significantly higher levels of commitment to MHSA values and practices after MHSA training than at entry into MSW study.
 - With each unit of increase in commitment to MHSA values and practices at training completion, graduates were **2.4 times** more likely to remain employed in the public behavioral health system after completing required service.
 - With each unit of increase in commitment to MHSA values and practices at training completion, graduates worked an average of **3.6 months** longer in the public system.

This work was made possible by an award of Mental Health Services Act Workforce Education and Training funding from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

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