



Mid-America Integrated Care Learning Community Request for Applications

Project Description

The Mid-America Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC), based at the Munroe-Meyer Institute (MMI) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, invites primary care behavioral health team members from our region to participate in a six-month-long **Integrated Care Learning Community** focused on supporting integrated practices while managing the impacts of COVID-19 on children, adolescents, families, and clinical practice. **Primary care team members/providers from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska are eligible.**

What is the role of the Mid-America MHTTC?

Funded in September 2018 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) of HHS, the Mid-America MHTTC is one of ten centers charged with supporting mental health technical assistance and training in their respective regions. The Center primarily works to integrate behavioral health care into primary care programs. Based upon that goal, we are offering this intensive learning opportunity uniquely focused on integrated care practices within our four-state region during the pandemic.

Regional Integrated Care Learning Community Overview

The Mid-America MHTTC will facilitate the Learning Community. The goal of the Regional Integrated Care Learning Community is to provide an opportunity to help behavioral health teams problem-solve around specific challenges they are encountering as they work to support children, adolescents, families, and their clinical practices during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Ideally, integrated care teams would participate together; however, the term “team” is flexible, as we know some behavioral health providers may not have a team. The Learning Community will consist of monthly virtual learning sessions occurring from February to July 2021 on the third Friday at noon, technical assistance and coaching, and the development of strategic plans tailored to your practices and states.

Learning Community Mission and Focus

All behavioral health teams and providers selected to participate in the Learning Community will work toward the common mission of improving the provision of pediatric behavioral health services. Teams will engage in strategic planning around building and/or adapting integrated practices to best meet the needs of children, adolescents, and families during a pandemic. We will tailor learning sessions to the needs and interests of behavioral health teams and providers, but anticipated focus areas include:

- Telehealth
- Billing
- Conducting evaluations during a pandemic
- Obtaining feedback from patients
- Provider well-being
- Providing equitable services during a pandemic
- Changes and challenges regarding workflow



Benefits of Participation

- Participate in technical assistance/training sessions from the MHTTC team to support your behavioral health team's unique priorities in providing integrated care practices during a pandemic
- Learning Community teams will receive training, coaching, and technical assistance by MHTTC team members and other field experts representing various content areas in and related to specific challenges they are encountering as they work to support children, adolescents, families, and integrated care practices during the COVID-19 pandemic, and peer networking opportunities within the Learning Community, including:
 - Six virtual learning sessions focused on special topics in pediatric integrated care related to challenges due to the pandemic
 - Targeted technical assistance via phone/videoconference from experienced pediatric behavioral health providers
 - Participation in a Learning Community listserv to facilitate cross-team communication and resource-sharing
 - Opportunity for behavioral health teams to receive more targeted training and technical assistance through the MHTTC as part of a *demonstration project*. Demonstration projects are selected on an ongoing basis by MHTTC personnel based on needs and the capacity of the MHTTC to meet those needs within the proposed workplan.

Expected Responsibilities

- Participate in the Learning Community orientation webinar (early February)
- Participate in at least four of the six virtual leaning sessions with MHTTC for shared learning progress reporting, consultation, and technical assistance (February-July 2021 on the third Friday at noon)
- Complete requested quality measures (as appropriate) regarding your integrated care practices Engage in brief ongoing evaluation (including intermittent survey and interview formats) of impact of Learning Community participation

Eligibility

- Applicants must be behavioral health team members from one of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Region 7 states: Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska.
- Ideally, applicants would belong to a pediatric behavioral health team consisting of multiple members, but this is not required. Individual pediatric behavioral health providers are also encouraged to apply.
- Applicants must have internet and phone access to be able to participate in virtual learning experiences.

If you have questions, please send a detailed email with your question(s) and contact information (name, organization/school district, telephone number and email address) to Shelbie Johnson at MidAmerica@MHTTCnetwork.org.



APPLICATION

| Review Criteria | Application |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The capacity and commitment of the pediatric behavioral health team member(s) to coordinate Learning Community participation and change. | <p>Capacity and Commitment Provide a <u>one-page</u> letter of intent describing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why the team wants to participate in the Learning Community • The team’s commitment to Learning Community involvement • The team member(s)’ roles and responsibilities within the pediatric integrated care system |
| A clear description of pediatric integrated care characteristics. | <p>Pediatric Integrated Care Practices Overview Provide a brief description (no more than 500 words) of the pediatric integrated care practice including description of current integrated care practices, demographics information on population served, and types of programs and services.</p> |
| Clearly delineated challenges, opportunities, goals, and commitment to programmatic change. | <p>Brief Responses to Questions (Each response should not exceed 500 words)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit the rank order potential session topics. 2. Provide any additional information regarding the top 2-3 challenges related to the pandemic that your practice is facing that you would want to problem-solve as part of this learning community. What specific questions and/or concerns do you have? |

Application Materials to Complete and Submit Electronically:

1. Team Member Information
2. Letter of Intent
3. Pediatric Integrated Care Practices Overview
4. Brief Responses to Questions
5. Rank Ordering of potential session topics of interest
6. Statements of Commitment from each team member

The application must be saved as a pdf file and electronically submitted to: Shelbie Johnson at MidAmerica@MHTTCnetwork.org no later than **January 15, 2021**. Faxed or mailed submissions WILL NOT be accepted. The applicant organization will receive email notification of the receipt of the application.

Learning Community Participation Decisions

Notification of Learning Community participation decisions will be made no later than **January 22, 2021**.



Team Member Information

Please provide the following information about each team member, beginning with the team leader:

- **Name**
- **Title/Role**
- **Email**
- **Phone**



**Statement of Commitment
(must be completed and signed by ALL team members)**

Date: _____

We commit to full and active participation, if our team is selected to participate in the Mid-America Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Integrated Care Learning Community. Our participation has been approved by our employers (as applicable), and there are no foreseeable barriers to our active engagement in this project. We will make our best effort to have at least one member of our team participate in all project activities and fulfill our Learning Community team responsibilities.

Name

Signature

Name

Signature

Name

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Signature



Rank Order of Potential Session Topic Areas

This Learning Community will be designed around the priorities endorsed by the participating teams. Below is a list of potential topic areas that may be a priority for pediatric integrated care behavioral health team due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please type any additional priority topic areas that you would like to be addressed in the series in the blank spaces. Then, rank each item in the order of priority, with your highest priority receiving a “1,” second highest receiving a “2” and so on. This information will be tabulated across applicants and determine which topics will be covered each month.

- _____ Telehealth
- _____ Provider well-being
- _____ Billing
- _____ Conducting evaluations during a pandemic
- _____ Obtaining feedback from patients
- _____ Providing equitable services during a pandemic
- _____ Obtaining feedback from patients
- _____ Changes and challenges regarding workflow
- _____ Other: _____
- _____ Other: _____
- _____ Other: _____