Mountain Plains Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC)

The Mountain Plains MHTTC was funded in 2018 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and is a partnership between the University of North Dakota and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education. The center serves Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. The primary focus is to provide free training, resources, and technical assistance to individuals working with, and serving, people with mental health disorders.

Year TWO Snapshot: August 15, 2019 – August 14, 2020

In year two, the Mountain Plains MHTTC team pulled together experts from around the nation to develop resources, provide training, create and share continuing education opportunities, and offer technical assistance to individuals serving persons with mental illness throughout the six-state region. To ensure reach, the team maintained a website, managed social media campaigns, and grew an electronic mailing list.

Events

Events included, but were not limited to: webinar series focused on specific topics like rural mental health, farm stress, and telemental health; direct technical assistance with tribal communities experiencing suicide clusters; intensive communities of practice in ten area schools (majority of which were rural) with foci on trauma, social emotional learning, and strategic planning. Event data only represent those events that were evaluated under the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act (GPRA) of 2010 and therefore underestimate the true reach of the center in year two.

93 Trainings & Events

- 48 Webinars
- 10 In-person
- 13 Conference presentations
- 5 Cohort based training opportunities
- 3 Available self-paced courses
- 14 Technical assistance meetings

10,477 Participants

- 96% + agreed/strongly agreed they would recommend the training to a colleague.
- 93% + were satisfied/very satisfied with the quality of the training and materials.
- 92% + expect this event to benefit their professional development/practice.
The MHTTC National Coordination Office (NCO) has developed several cross-MHTTC work groups. The purpose of these groups is to collaborate across regions on shared topics. The Mountain Plains MHTTC has representation on five of these work groups.

- Workforce development, chair
- Instructional design/online course development, member
- Cultural responsiveness, member
- Evaluators special interest, member
- First episode psychosis and clinical high risk, member

6 E-Resource Pages

Resource pages house nationally recognized programs, best practices, and other resources that help people serve persons with mental illness. Pages include school mental health, farm stress, rural, COVID-19, telehealth capacity, and criminal justice.

17 Written Products

These products include resources guides, toolkits, and whitepapers. Some of the topics covered were COVID-19 responses, farm stress, trauma responsive schools, and co-occurring disorders in rural areas.

Additional Year Two Activities

The Mountain Plains MHTTC team has also . . .

- Received 115,537 web pageviews
- Brand Ambassador Award from the NCO, second place
- Held advisory board meetings
- Developed dozens of new relationships
- Exhibited at conferences
- Added new team members

For more information on the Mountain Plains MHTTC, please contact:
- Thomasine Heitkamp, PI and Co-Director, thomasine.Heitkamp@UND.edu
- Dennis Mohatt, Co-Director, dmohatt@wiche.edu