



Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center: *Year One in Review*

The Great Lakes Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) provides training and technical assistance to behavioral health providers and other stakeholders in six states within the HHS Region V: Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio. Our mission is to promote the implementation of evidence-based mental health practices through the delivery of high-value training and technical assistance targeted to local needs.

Area of Focus: Process Improvement in Behavioral Health

The Great Lakes MHTTC provides training and technical assistance in a unique model of process improvement called “NIATx” which assists behavioral health organizations **to identify and address** problems in their work processes, **speed up and sustain** the adoption of evidence-based practices and **reduce barriers** to access to and retention in treatment. The service is typically delivered through a one-day Change Leader Academy (CLA) with ongoing coaching provided. **During Year One, five Change Leader Academies were held in five different states in our region with 111 individuals trained.**



NIATx Change Leader Academy participants, Illinois

Regional Needs Assessment

A survey of Region 5 providers, with assistance from provider association partners in each state, was conducted in November 2018. The 22-item survey asked respondents to rate the importance of various training and technical assistance topics from a list of commonly used mental health evidence-based practices. The full report is available on the Great Lakes MHTTC website: [Training/Technical Assistance Needs: Findings from Region 5 Survey](#).

Year One Highlights

During our first year the Great Lakes MHTTC established relationships with key stakeholders across the region, including consumer and family run organizations, state behavioral health authorities, local behavioral health and primary care providers and others. Central to this network of relationships are our subcontracts with behavioral health provider associations in each of our six states. In collaboration with these organizations we are better able to assess and meet varying needs at the state and local level. During Year One (August 15, 2018 – August 14, 2019) we provided **48 training and technical assistance events attended by 1,503 participants**. Events included a mix of on-site trainings, intensive technical assistance projects, webinars, meetings and conference exhibiting.



Specific project highlights include:

- A successful **Workforce Recruitment and Retention Learning Collaborative** held with a selected group of ten Ohio providers. Dr. Michael Hoge of the Annapolis Coalition provided intensive technical assistance.
- A two-day **Hispanic and Latino Cultural Elements Training** held in collaboration with the Great Lakes ATTC, Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio Latino Affairs Commission.
- A three-part **Trauma-Informed Care Webinar Series** held in collaboration with the New England MHTTC.
- Additional trainings were provided on suicide prevention, co-occurring disorders (mental health and substance use disorders), Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment, motivational interviewing, trauma-informed care, teaching family model, and employment services.

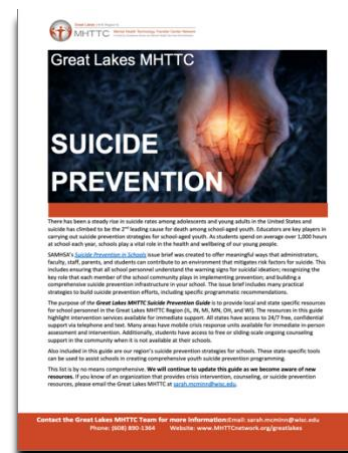
Communication activities increased visibility of the Great Lakes MHTTC and the MHTTC Network as a whole:

- Great Lakes MHTTC website launched February 2019
- Great Lakes MHTTC e-newsletter published quarterly
- Social media presence expanded: Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube
- Databank account established for customer relationship management; NIATx change project increased mailing list from 181 to 1,019 subscribers in just three months

Great Lakes MHTTC School Mental Health Supplement

Under the direction of a full-time School-Based Mental Health Project Manager, we connected with stakeholders in our region and began to assess needs related to the delivery of mental health supports in schools. In addition to promoting the **National Curriculum for School Mental Health**, significant accomplishments included:

- Coordinating **10 training events for 1,075 participants**.
- Exhibiting at seven major school mental health conferences in each of the six states in our region, reaching over **3,300 attendees**.
- Hosting a three-part webinar series on the role of schools in suicide prevention and distributing the [Great Lakes MHTTC Suicide Prevention Guide](#)
- Providing Youth Mental Health First Aid training through a collaboration with one of our state provider association partners



Connect with the Great Lakes MHTTC:

Website: <https://mhttcnetwork.org/centers/great-lakes-mhttc/home>

Follow us on Facebook: [@GreatLakesMHTTC](#)

Follow us on Twitter: [@GMHttc](#)

YouTube: [The Great Lakes Current](#)