BUILDING CONNECTIONS: VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Our Approach

Based on adult learning principles, **our learning communities provide opportunities to learn new skills and process shared learning, featuring interactive sessions, engaging activities and follow-up reminders of key concepts and skills.** After training and supporting the workforce through the COVID-19 pandemic, we were determined to offer learning opportunities that would **enhance the virtual learning experience with greater connection between people**-- knowing that teams will continue to face new stressors. Results from our tailored evaluations show that these virtual learning communities are well-received and provide interactive learning opportunities for participants.

ENGAGING

STRATEGIES

PRACTICAL

TOOLS

LASTING

CONNECTIONS

Our design keeps connection in mind:

- Share practical skills via live, virtual experiences e.g. didactic segments and breakout sessions
- Equitably reach our regional workforce and leadership, bringing priority topics to you
- Facilitate connections through engaging online tools and rich resource pages
- Supporting presenters with instructional design principles and hands-on logistics
- Offer post-series tailored communications so concepts are reinforced
- Measure the impact through tailored evaluations across projects

Our model responds to learning needs:

- Collaborating with speakers on effective and relevant topics, goals and learning objectives
- Plan with presenters to use engaging methods and interactive tools
- Attending and noting themes, questions and resources that surface for each session
- Messaging between sessions to look back and look ahead to connect learners' experiences
- Send tailored "make it stick" reminders of key ideas participants can use in their daily work
- Detail our evaluation data to get insights and feedback to presenters and our team

Click to learn more about our learning communities

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VIRTUAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Northwest (HHS Region 10)
MHTTC
Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Poster: Supporting Implementation Outcomes through Online Learning Communities

- **Results:** Online learning communities can be an effective form of support for the behavioral health workforce when they challenge current professional practices, focus on relevant topics, have skilled facilitators, and encourage connections among participants.
- **Implications:** Learning communities can be successfully implemented in online formats. They lead to positive outcomes, especially when the topics are novel and relevant, training quality is high, and there are opportunities to form connections with other participants

Article: Training and Supporting Healthcare Leadership During the COVID Pandemic

- **Article Overview:** The Northwest Mental Health Technology Transfer Center developed resources for leaders in public health to support and train during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Provider Well-Being Initiative was created with two goals in mind: building strategies for individual self-care and assisting health and behavioral healthcare agencies in implementing well-being interventions for their organizations. Learn more about how Northwest MHTTC's initiative helped leaders in public health tackle the specific hardships faced by leadership in public health and what tactics led to a 100% recommendation rate among participants.

Conference Presentations

- "Supporting Our Well-Being: Workforce Equity, Training and Resilience"
- "Virtual Learning Works! Building resilience, supporting leadership and connecting our field"
- "Hidden in Plain Sight: How racism & bias demands effective training"

LEARNING COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMPLETED TO DATE

Operationalizing Resilience for Crisis Response Workers	Examining Bias and Ideologies to Improve Care	Essentials of Care for Supporting Individuals with Serious Mental Illness
Challenging Stigma Through Understanding and Intentional Action	Cultural Adaptations of EBPs in Treating Hispanic and Latinx with Mental Health Disorders	LGBTQ+ Youth/YA Suicide Awareness & Prevention for Families Learning Community
Knowing Head, Heart, and Gut: A Live Learning Community for Supervisors	Skills for Psychological Recovery (SPR) for Direct Service Providers	Vitality for Behavioral Health Care Supervisors and Leadership
Kaleidoscope: Using Our Multicultural Lens to Learn, Heal and Thrive	Crisis Response, Management & Recovery	Taming Turbulent Times