



MHTTC

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network Project AWARE Technical Assistance (TA) *Navigating MHTTC TA*

What is the Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network?

Funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the MHTTC Network includes 10 Regional Centers and a Network Coordinating Office.

The purpose of the MHTTC Network is technology transfer —disseminating and implementing evidence-based practices. In addition to providing technical assistance for mental health prevention, treatment, and recovery across the lifespan, the Network also has a school mental health initiative which supports school mental health workforce development (including systems leaders, districts, counties, professional associations) and capacity building.

Our centers provide regional and population-specific technical assistance to groups of behavioral health agencies or school districts, state(s), or the region. Find your regional or population-specific center at www.mhttcnetwork.org. You may also access events and resources from across the Network through our searchable [Training and Events Calendar](#) and [Products and Resources Catalog](#).

How might the MHTTC Network support Project AWARE grantee work during the 2023-2024 school year?

Our Network is excited to help in supporting your AWARE work this year. This section provides an overview of the who, what, and how of our technical assistance.

What is “Technical Assistance”?

“Technical Assistance” (TA) is a term that describes a range of supports that are used by MHTTCs to help mental health providers, including the school mental health workforce, implement evidence-based practices, develop the workforce, and accelerate systems change. Which type of TA is provided depends on the specific project, topic, needs, context (barriers and facilitators to change), and desired outcomes. MHTTCs also consider their overall TA portfolio, regional needs, and available resources.

We categorize TA using the following 3 levels:

- **Universal TA** is focused on building awareness and knowledge. Examples include resource identification (if you’re looking for a guide on school mental health referral pathways) or training (virtual webinars). Note that you can generally attend virtual events outside of your region if they are open to a national audience; the event description in the MHTTC Events Calendar will state if an event is limited to a region.

- **Targeted TA** is directed training or support to build skills. Examples include communities of practice (e.g., regional AWARE Communities of Practice), more in-depth training, learning communities, online courses, and webinar series.
- **Intensive TA** is ongoing consultation to a group of agencies, school districts, states, or systems to accelerate and sustain practice change. Examples include state- or region-bound learning collaboratives or quarterly meetings, meeting with AWARE state leadership and partners for ongoing consultation, or providing performance feedback on a specific evidence-based practice.

These are examples; through your needs assessment, your MHTTC AWARE Liaison will work with you to develop an MHTTC-AWARE TA partnership plan (see more about relationships in the sections that follow).

What we can support you with	What is outside our scope (but we can help you find the right TA Center / provider)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resource identification, including access to already planned MHTTC TA events and available resources ● Provision of training and technical assistance across AWARE grantees in a region or among Tribal grantees ● Connections with other regional and cross-regional Project AWARE grantees for peer support opportunities ● Consultation on leadership and workforce development, as it relates to the goals of the grant ● Assisting with making connections to resources from other SAMHSA-funded TA centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding the expectations and deliverables SAMHSA requires of Project AWARE grantees (e.g., evaluation planning, SPARS, progress-to-goal coaching) ● Consultation on fiscal, administrative, or program management of grant activities ● Individualized, intensive TA to single schools or district sites (e.g., local education agencies [LEAs]) on specific topic areas (though our regional and national programming may meet some of those needs)

Who are the main MHTTC-AWARE TA contacts?

- Each Project AWARE grantee will be provided TA by your Regional Center (see chart below).
- Your Regional Center has a designated a point of contact for you (see below).
- We will be primarily in contact with your AWARE grant’s project director or PI unless otherwise directed.
- Our Network includes a Network Coordinating Office (NCO) that is working in tandem with Project AWARE project officers to maximize coordination between the MHTTCs and SAMHSA.

Frequently Asked Questions

The following are a few questions we anticipate you having as we launch our AWARE TA support. These are not all encompassing; if you have unanswered questions or feedback, please contact your GPO.

How can I connect with my regional MHTTC's overall school mental health initiative?

From the homepage of the [MHTTC website](#), hover over "Your MHTTC" in the menu bar. Select your region from the list of US-based centers.

Learn more about the structure of the MHTTC Network [here](#).

Can I reach out to my regional MHTTC? How?

- You may contact your MHTTC, through your liaison, with additional questions or needs.
- Each Center's capacity to provide individualized, intensive TA to specific grantees depends on their current level of programming and resources in that center.
- If you have received services from another regional center in the past, your main point of contact is now the center in which your region is located (per list below).
- Please contact Jessica Gonzalez (jegonzalez@stanford.edu) if you have an urgent need and have not heard from your assigned MHTTC within five business days.

The following is a *working list* of each MHTTC's AWARE liaisons:

Region	AWARE Liaisons & Contacts
New England (Reg 1) <i>Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont</i>	TA Provider(s): Martha Staeheli Liaison(s): Ingrid Padgett (Ingrid.padgett@yale.edu)
Northeast & Caribbean (Reg 2) <i>New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands</i>	TA Provider(s): Tania Leonard and Caribel Sanabria Velez Liaison(s): Tania Leonard (tl746@shp.rutgers.edu) and Caribel Sanabria Velez (cs1594@shp.rutgers.edu)
Central East (Reg 3) <i>Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia</i>	TA Provider(s): David Brown Liaison(s): David Brown (DBrown@DanyaInstitute.org ; (443) 682-9922)

<p>Southeast (Reg 4) <i>Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee</i></p>	<p>TA Provider(s): Janet Cummings</p> <p>Liaison(s): Janet Cummings (jrcummi@emory.edu) and Kellay Chapman (kellay.chapman@emory.edu)</p>
<p>Great Lakes (Reg 5) <i>Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin</i></p>	<p>TA Provider(s): Sarah McMinn</p> <p>Liaison(s): Sarah McMinn (sarah.mcminn@wisc.edu)</p>
<p>South Southwest (Reg 6) <i>Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas</i></p>	<p>TA Provider(s): Natalie Fikac and Molly Lopez</p> <p>Liaison(s): Natalie Fikac (natalie.fikac@austin.utexas.edu)</p>
<p>Mid-America (Reg 7) <i>Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri</i></p>	<p>TA Provider(s): Erika Franta and Brandy Clarke</p> <p>Liaison(s): Erika Franta (erika.franta@unmc.edu)</p>
<p>Mountain Plains (Reg 8) <i>Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming</i></p>	<p>TA Provider(s): Erin Briley</p> <p>Liaison(s): Erin Briley (ebriely@wiche.edu)</p>
<p>Pacific Southwest (Reg 9) <i>Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and U.S. Pacific Islands of American Samoa, Guam, Marshall Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau</i></p>	<p>TA Providers: Leora Wolf-Prusan, Rachele Espiritu, Kristi Silva and Melissa Smith</p> <p>Liaison(s): Rachele Espiritu (respiritu@changematrix.org) and Ingrid Severson (iseverson@cars-rp.org)</p>
<p>Northwest (Reg 10) <i>Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington</i></p>	<p>TA Providers: Clynita Grafenreed, Kelcey Schmitz and Rayann Silva</p> <p>Liaison(s): Clynita Grafenreed (clynita@uw.edu), Kelcey Schmitz (kelcey1@uw.edu) and Rayann Silva (rsilva83@uw.edu)</p>

Can I join events hosted by and use resources developed by centers outside my region?

Yes! All [resources and products](#) developed by the MHTTC Network are publicly available. Most [live events](#) hosted by regional centers are open to the general public, with exceptions for some that are region-specific (see event description for limits on attendees).

MHTTC School Mental Health Resources of Interest

[MHTTC School Mental Health Initiative](#)

[National School Mental Health Implementation Guidance Modules and Related Projects](#)

[Responding to COVID-19 | School Mental Health Resources](#)

[COVID-19: Return to Work/School Resources](#)

[Classroom WISE \(Well-Being Information and Strategies for Educators\)](#)

[Training and Events Calendar](#)

[Free School Mental Health Online Courses!](#)

Additional resources are available from regional centers and in the [Products and Resources Catalog](#). Regional centers will release a listing of resources to address specific needs soon.

Appendix

What other technical assistance centers are available to assist Project AWARE Grantees?

The following is a working list of other TA Centers and providers that might support your Project AWARE goals and partner needs. Additional information on SAMHSA-funded TA Centers [here](#).

[The National Training and Technical Assistance Center for Child, Youth, and Family Mental Health \(NTTAC\)](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: children and youth mental health, systems of care

Who to contact: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/c32ebd38e7b8437ea3003e03fa4f9279>

NTTAC is a SAMHSA-funded initiative to increase the access to, effectiveness of, and dissemination of evidence-based mental health services for young people (ages 0-21) with emotional or behavioral health challenges and their families. NTTAC supports building, expanding, and sustaining a system of care that is trauma informed and person centered. NTTAC is committed to equity, inclusion, and diversity, and we promote authentic partnership with youth and families. Nationally, NTTAC provides innovative, responsive, and multimodal training and technical assistance (TTA) that supports systems-level change and advancement of evidence-based, culturally responsive practice at no cost to participants.

[National Child Traumatic Stress Network Treatment & Service Adaptation Sites](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: trauma, school mental health

Who to contact: See each grantee listed below

The following are National Child Traumatic Stress Network sites doing school focused work. See more here: [Network Members | The National Child Traumatic Stress Network](#).

- [Center for Resilience + Well-Being](#) (University of Boulder)
The Center for Resilience and Well-Being in Schools (CRWS) is a national resource hub established to facilitate safe, supportive school environments and strong communities that provides K-12 school communities with evidence based professional development, resources, and consultation that are trauma responsive and cultivate well-being and resilience for all students, families, and educators
- [National Center for Safe Supportive Schools: Mental Health](#) (University of Maryland)
The National Center for Safe Supportive Schools is offering three free, evidence-based Tier II trainings for school mental health clinicians. These interventions help students cope with trauma and adversities they have experienced prior to or within the pandemic.
- [National Native Children's Trauma Center](#) (University of Montana)
NNCTC co-facilitates trauma-focused healing for native children, families and communities by providing training in evidence-based and promising practices as well as technical assistance in trauma-informed systems change across all tribal child-serving systems, including schools, behavioral health providers, child welfare agencies, and juvenile justice systems. We also assist in the cultural adaptation of evidence-based and

promising practices and develop products and practices intended for use in Native communities.

- [School Crisis Recovery and Renewal Project \(Center for Applied Research Solutions\)](#)
SCRR supports students, educators, school staff, and school-based clinicians to effectively implement trauma-informed crisis recovery and renewal strategies. SCRR 1) provides training and technical assistance (TTA) services and resources; 2) creates curricula, training opportunities, and best-practice resources to promote long-term recovery and renewal after school crisis; 3) offers intensive consultations to a small number of districts and schools who have experienced crisis readiness and response support, and are ready for and interested in making meaning of their experience(s); 4) cultivates effective and sustainable school leadership so that school communities build the skills, knowledge, and attributes necessary to recover and renew after a crisis; and 5) is educator and student centered and directed.
- [TSA | Support for trauma-informed schools and resources for traumatic stress](#) (University of Southern California)
The Treatment and Services Adaptation Center is supported by a team of clinicians, researchers, and educators who are respected authorities in the areas of school trauma and crisis response and promotes trauma-informed school systems that provide prevention and early intervention strategies to create supportive and nurturing school environments.

[Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: suicide, prevention, zero suicide

Who to contact: <https://www.sprc.org/contact-us>

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) advances the implementation of the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention](#) through: Consultation, training, and resources to enhance suicide prevention efforts in states, Native settings, colleges and universities, health systems and other settings, and organizations that serve populations at risk for suicide; staffing, administrative, and logistical support to the Secretariat of the [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention](#) (Action Alliance), the public-private partnership dedicated to advancing the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention](#); support for [Zero Suicide](#), an initiative based on the foundational belief that suicide deaths for individuals under care within health and behavioral health systems are preventable. The initiative provides information, resources, and tools for safer suicide care.

[Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: substance use prevention

Who to contact: networkoffice@pttcnetwork.org, your regional center, the National Hispanic and Latino PTTC, or National American Indian and Alaska Native PTTC

The purpose of the Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) Network is to improve implementation and delivery of effective substance abuse prevention interventions, and provide training and technical assistance services to the substance abuse prevention field. It does this by developing and disseminating tools and strategies needed to improve the quality of substance abuse prevention efforts; providing intensive technical assistance and learning

resources to prevention professionals in order to improve their understanding of prevention science, epidemiological data, and implementation of evidence-based and promising practices; and, developing tools and resources to engage the next generation of prevention professionals.

[Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: substance use disorders, addiction, treatment, recovery

Who to contact: networkoffice@attcnetwork.org, your regional center, or the National Hispanic and Latino ATTC, or National American Indian and Alaska Native ATTC

The ATTC Network is an international, multidisciplinary resource for professionals in the addictions treatment and recovery services field. Established in 1993, the ATTC Network is composed of 10 U.S.-based Centers, two National Focus Area Centers, and a Network Coordinating Office. The ATTC Network accelerates the adoption and implementation of evidence-based and promising addiction treatment and recovery-oriented practices and services.

[Opioid Response Network](#) (SAMHSA)

Keywords: opioid use disorders, stimulant use disorders, treatment, recovery

Who to contact: Submit a TA request at <https://opioidresponsenetwork.org/>

The State Targeted Response Technical Assistance (STR-TA), known as the Opioid Response Network, was created to support efforts to address opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery, and to provide education and training at the local level in evidence-based practices. This project provides local expertise and responds quickly to requests for education and training resources to address the opioid crisis.

[2014-2018 AWARE TA Resource Bank \(Archived resources from Cohort 1 and the Now is The Time TA Center\)](#)

Keywords: previous Project AWARE resources

Who to contact: <https://cars-ta.groupsite.com/join>

There is a no-cost 2014-2018 Project AWARE TA Resource Bank, powered by Groupsite.com, designed for Healthy Transitions, AWARE, and ReCAST grantees to share and access over 100 resources; request fee-based technical assistance services; and stay up-to-date with events and announcements. This site includes all products, publications, and distance learning events developed by the former Project AWARE TA Center, as well as new discussion forums, photo gallery, shared calendar, and filing system. Visit <https://cars-ta.groupsite.com/join>. All information provided through this online platform is privately maintained for the exclusive use of TA Resource Bank members.

[National Center for School Mental Health](#) (HRSA)

Keywords: SHAPE System, CoIIN Initiative

Who to contact: ncsmh@som.umaryland.edu

The National Center for School Mental Health (NCSMH) at the University of Maryland School of Medicine is funded in part by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to lead the National Quality Initiative focused on comprehensive school mental health services. The NCSMH mission is to strengthen policies and programs in school mental health to improve

learning and promote success for America's youth. The NCSMH focuses on advancing school mental health research, training, policy, and practice at the local, state, and national/federal levels.

[National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments](#) (U.S. Department of Education)

Keywords: school climate, trauma, violence

Who to contact: 1-800-258-8413 or e-mail ncssle@air.org

The National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) offers customized technical assistance, or direct assistance, and training to several stakeholders—state administrators, personnel in institutions of higher education, district and school administrators, teachers, school support staff, communities and families, and students—to improve conditions for learning.

[Office of Elementary and Secondary Education](#) (U.S. Department of Education)

Keywords: State plans, state capacity building

Who to contact: *OSS.TechnicalAssistance@ed.gov* or your State contact

Offers technical assistance across grant programs to address State needs through one-on-one individualized support for States to problem solve specific State needs; through peer-to-peer interactions that provide opportunities for collaboration with peer States, communities of practice, and interstate working groups around relevant issues and challenges; and through building awareness of information and resources in response to needs identified in the field through ongoing guidance and technical support to all States.

[Equity Assistance Centers](#) (U.S. Department of Education)

Keywords: Equity, civil rights

Who to contact: <https://www2.ed.gov/programs/equitycenters/contacts.html> and choose contact based on your region

The 4 Equity Assistance Centers (EAC) are funded by the U.S. Department of Education under Title IV of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. They provide assistance in the areas of race, gender, national origin, and religion to public school districts to promote equal educational opportunities. Typical activities include: (1) technical assistance in the identification and selection of appropriate education programs to meet the needs of English Learners (ELs); and (2) training designed to develop educators' skills in specific areas, such as the dissemination of information on successful education practices and the legal requirements related to nondiscrimination on the basis of race, sex, national origin, and religion in education programs. The centers work with schools in the areas of harassment, bullying, and prejudice reduction. Centers also develop materials, strategies, and professional development activities to assist schools and communities in preventing and countering harassment based on ethnicity, gender, or religious background.

[Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center](#) (U.S. Department of Education)

Keywords: Emergency management, preparedness

Who to contact: <https://rems.ed.gov/RequestTA>

The Office of Safe and Supportive Schools has administered the REMS TA Center to serve two critical functions aimed at helping education agencies, with their community partners, manage

safety, security, and emergency management programs. They build the preparedness capacity (including prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts) of schools, school districts, IHEs, and their community partners at the local, state, and Federal levels.

[Center to Improve Social and Emotional Learning and School Safety: SEL Center \(WestEd\)](#)

Keywords: social-emotional learning

Who to contact: <https://selcenter.wested.org/contact-us/>

The Center expands the knowledge and capacity of the field to integrate evidence-based social and emotional learning (SEL) and school safety practices and programs to support students' success throughout their K-12 experience and beyond.

[Center on School Turnaround \(WestEd\)](#)

Keywords: Leadership, Instructional Transformation, Talent Development, Culture Shift

Who to contact: <https://csti.wested.org/contact/>

The Center for School Turnaround and Improvement (CSTI) at WestEd works at all levels—from SEAs to districts to individual schools—to identify and help sustain evidence-based, promising practices that ensure equity and drive system-wide change for rapid improvement.