

# Project AWARE TA Tidbits

## July 2024



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



***Project AWARE TA Tidbits are technical assistance updates aimed at providing a birds-eye view of the impactful technical assistance, training, and collaboration/relationship-building activities each one of our Centers lead with Project AWARE grantees in their regions.***

### NEW ENGLAND MHTTC

Our Center is continuing to support our Project AWARE grantees with various activities, including: developing implementation plans, sharing resources, and providing peer networking opportunities to strategize around federal reporting requirements, workforce challenges, and communication strategies.

### CENTRAL EAST MHTTC

Our Center, in collaboration with the National Center for School Mental Health, continues to lead a school mental health webinar series with a focus on advancing high quality, sustainable school mental health from a multi-tiered system of support, trauma sensitive, and culturally responsive and equitable lens. Project AWARE grantees are invited to attend.

### GREAT LAKES MHTTC

Our Michigan partners continue to work collaboratively with the coordinators of Michigan's statewide school-based mental health initiative. This partnership has resulted in a draft guidance document for use by schools in supporting their mental health clinicians. In May the Michigan Department of Education, Project AWARE staff, school leaders, and community partners held conversations to continue designing the dissemination and adoption these guiding principles.

### MID-AMERICA MHTTC

Our Mid-America MHTTC team met with members from each of our Project AWARE teams (KS, MO, NE) to connect and plan during state-level breakouts at the first Middle America School Mental Health Conference. The Middle America SMH Conference was hosted in Omaha, NE by the Kim Foundation and ESU 3 and sponsored in part by the Mid-America MHTTC.

### PACIFIC SOUTHWEST MHTTC

In the last two months, we have offered targeted workshops for our region and the network based on content surfaced in our AWARE grantee meeting on May 8th, 2024 (e.g., our Honoring Boundaries programming). In the next two months, we have more targeted programming (e.g., a program on Reflective Supervision, a series on Championing Students through Transitions) and an intensive offering, and our last regional AWARE grantee call on August 14th, 2024 in which we will close our TA provision for the region and discuss how to extend our support post MHTTC closure.

### NORTHEAST & CARIBBEAN MHTTC

Restorative practices in schools focus on building and maintaining positive relationships, addressing conflicts, and repairing harm. It involves proactive approaches like circles and community-building activities, as well as reactive processes like restorative conferences to resolve conflicts and restore relationships. A presentation to introduction and review restorative practices and readiness for implementation was provided on May 28, 2024 with invitations to Project AWARE grantees for their participation. Over 100 participants attended, including two out of the three Project AWARE grantee teams we support in our region.

### SOUTHEAST MHTTC

Our Center helped facilitate a preconference session for Project AWARE LEAs and SEAs at the Southeastern School Behavioral Health Conference in Myrtle Beach in April 2024. Additionally, we hosted our most recent bi-monthly virtual meeting for Project AWARE leaders on June 13, 2024. In this meeting, we facilitated peer learning about current strategies for sustainability of school MH programs and services, as well as opportunities for scalability of programs and/or lessons learned from Project AWARE districts to other districts/regions in the state(s).

### SOUTH SOUTHWEST MHTTC

In partnership with the National Center for School Mental Health, Region 6 AWARE grantees are participating in a 4-part series on the SHAPE system, which provides a snapshot of the multi-tiered services and supports, staffing, financing and data systems of school and district comprehensive school mental health systems. Participants had a high level overview and discussed using data to drive decisions. Our final two sessions will spotlight one district's process; getting started, goals, community support, and measured success.

### MOUNTAIN PLAINS MHTTC

Our Center continues to lead a shared space with Project AWARE grantees monthly to collaborate and troubleshoot concerns. Our Center will soon be presenting on a) School Suicide Safety Planning and Postvention and b) resources and strategies to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility to align with our soon to be published Sacred Gifts for Healing Indigenous Two-Spirit children/Youth Toolkit at the Jeremy Bullock School Safety Summit in Butte, Montana in August. We also have upcoming trainings addressing response to bias, discrimination in schools, and how one local organization is transforming mental health care delivery in rural schools and communities.

### NORTHWEST MHTTC

The 2024 Virtual Speaker Series: Promoting a Positive School Climate for Student Mental Health: Effective Data, Systems, and Practices ended with great success! Through the series, we highlighted evidenced-based strategies to address universal screening, staff retention, and bullying and its intersection with youth mental health and violence. We extend our gratitude to the educators who joined us as well as to our state and national presenters who shared their knowledge and expertise. The series can be viewed [here](#).

To access additional information about the School Mental Health activities led by our Regional Centers, please visit our MHTTC School Mental Health Initiative webpage [here](#).