SAMHSA State TA

SAMHSA STATE PROGRAM
IMPROVEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Examples of TA topics may include:

- Mental health services for:
  - Adults with serious mental illness (SMI)
  - Children with serious emotional disturbance (SED)
  - Substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery supports service delivery models
- Services for under-served/under-resourced communities including veterans, ethnic and minority communities, LGBTQ+ individuals, people living in rural areas, and older adults
- Dissemination and support for the adoption of promising, best, and evidence-based practices
- Needs assessment, planning, operations, and sustainability of service delivery systems
- Compliance with federal regulations, including the MHBG and the SUPTRS BG
- Performance management, outcomes measurement, and evaluation
- Workforce development
- Financial management and analysis and resource development
- Information and data management

The purpose of the State TA Project is to support SAMHSA's mission by providing TA to recipients of the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG) and Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant (SUPTRS BG).

TA activities and services emphasize the effective use of block grant and set-aside funds through implementation of innovative and evidence-based practices (EBPs) and models. The project serves the 50 states, the District of Columbia, 5 U.S. territories, 3 freely associated states, and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians. (hereafter referred to as "states").

SAMHSA's mission is to lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and provide treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes. The successful implementation of the MHBG and SUPTRS BG programs is instrumental to advancing this mission.

Supporting your work to ensure successful program implementation is a SAMHSA priority. To aid in this effort, the State TA Project will provide many types of TA to match your specific needs, including a mix of in-person, offsite, or virtual, and peer-to-peer options for individuals and groups within states. This TA can help increase capacity in your state to navigate issues and improve practices in many areas. The State TA Project will also provide a wide range of guidance documents, issue briefs, and other resources. There is no cost to you to access these services and supports.

HOW TO ACCESS TA: Send your request to SAMHSAStateTA@jbsinternational.com

Guidance Manuals and Resource Documents

To support implementation of various aspects of the MHBG and SUPTRS BG, the State TA Project will offer comprehensive guidance manuals and resource documents. These documents will include guidance related to:

- MHBG and SUPTRS BG
- Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
- Recovery
- Crisis continuum
- Workforce development
- Planning councils
- *Olmstead* compliance
- Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act
- Behavioral health services for people experiencing homelessness

The project will offer numerous shorter issue briefs across a range of topics relevant to State Mental Health Authorities and Single State Agencies.

Peer Learning

States can learn from one another through various peer learning opportunities. Learning Collaboratives (LCs) allow for a small group of states to engage in peer-to-peer learning. LCs are supported by consultative TA around a specific topic. For each LC, participants work together across six sessions to address challenges and identify best practices. At completion, a webinar for all states will share lessons learned. In addition, a resource guide will support further implementation of best practices. Initial LCs focus on data quality, workforce, the crisis continuum, and planning councils.
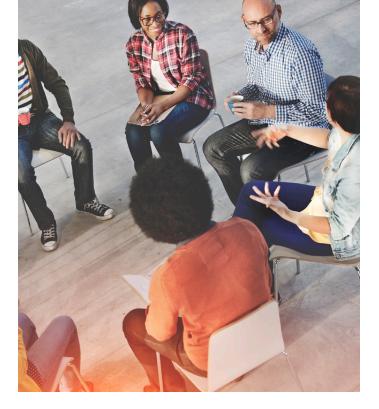
Distance Education Courses

Self-paced distance education courses are a convenient way to learn in more depth on specific topics. Each course will have up to five modules and provide an opportunity for states to learn on their own. Initial topics for these courses include supported employment, Block Grant 101 for mental health planners, MOUD, and recovery.

Primary Types of TA Available

Individualized TA

States can request TA on any topic that relates to the oversight of the MHBG and the SUPTRS BG. Individualized TA can include both in-person visits to your state as well as offsite/virtual communication.

Webinars

The State TA Project will develop and publicize a limited number of webinars on a range of topics across the period of the project. Initial webinars include an introduction to the State TA Project, Emergency Department boarding, and planning for the 2024 MHBG and SUPTRS BG applications.

Train the Trainer Courses

These courses are an opportunity for states to receive training for up to 25 designated staff. A qualified subject matter expert will train state staff to function as qualified trainers for evidence-based or promising practices. The first topic will be supported education.

State TA Plans

States can access TA to look at their systems and think through how to reach their ideal system. A comprehensive planning tool can help guide TA needs by providing a broad spectrum of state system operations for self-assessment and goal setting. The State TA project can also provide ongoing guidance and recommendations for implementing the TA plan.

Selected Topics for TA Resources and Activities

Planning Councils

The project emphasizes the council elements needed for states to meet the MHBG and SUPTRS BG requirements (i.e., prioritizing mental health treatment, prevention issues). This project will support planning council operations through various types of support, including individualized TA, the opportunity to participate in an LC, and an updated Planning Council 101 Manual.

Crisis Continuum

States can receive guidance to implement and improve crisis services through multiple processes. An LC is a way for a selected number of states to focus on specific objectives related to the crisis continuum over a regular series of meetings. All states can participate in other types of peer-to-peer learning opportunities to share innovative practices. These learning opportunities also address barriers related to financing, workforce, children and youth, and rural and remote communities. All states can also access a resource document that examines implementation across states.

SUD

The State TA Project offers:

- Specific topic and skill development webinars for states and their intermediaries
- Onsite TA with state Project Officers (POs) for state-specific requests
- Offsite TA for virtual learning
- In-depth TA to states with recommendations from the quality assurance review; this TA takes place in partnership with those states, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and state POs

Olmstead Initiative Support

The State TA Project has compiled *Olmstead* inquiries and lawsuits from the past 5 years. We have also updated the 2014 version of the Community Integration Self-Assessment tool to incorporate changes in focus and priorities. Combined, these activities can help states transition people with mental illness and co-occurring SUDs into integrated, community-living environments.

Snapshot of First-year Deliverables Available Through the State TA Project

	Webinars	Guidance Manuals and Resource Documents	Brief Resource Documents	Peer Learning	Distance Education Courses	Train the Trainer	Individualized TA (Onsite and Offsite)
Workforce Shortages	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆
Crisis Continuum	◆	◆		◆			◆
Data Quality	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆
Planning Councils	◆	◆		◆			◆
Olmstead Compliance		◆	◆	◆			◆
Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act		◆					◆
Behavioral Health Services for People Experiencing Homelessness		◆					◆
Early SMI, Including First-episode Psychosis			◆				◆
Civil Commitment			◆				◆
Expanding Peer Support Services			◆				◆
Aging Adults			◆				◆
Financing Mental Health Services			◆				◆
Co-occurring Mental Illness and SUD			◆				◆
Person-centered Planning			◆				◆
Supported Employment					◆		◆
MHBG 101		◆			◆		◆
MOUD		◆	◆		◆		◆
Recovery		◆	◆		◆		◆
COVID-19 and SUD		◆					◆
Equity in SUD Treatment		◆					◆
Supported Education						◆	◆

For more information, contact: SAMHSAStateTA@jbsinternational.com

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