

Resources for MHSA Workforce, Education and Training Career Pathways Programs September 2007

The following statewide and regional organizations have expertise in career pathway programs. They are available to roundtable participants to consider retaining when developing the technical aspects of workforce, education, and training initiatives in their county plans. This listing is not meant to be comprehensive and will hopefully expand in the future.

California Area Health Education Centers (AHECs)

Website: <http://161.58.103.51/calahec/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>

The website lists the locations and contact information for each of the ten AHECs around the state.

California AHEC Program Central Office

Project Director: H. John Blossom, MD

Phone: 559-241-7656

Description: It is the mission of the California Area Health Education Center Program (AHEC) to improve access to and the quality of health care for medically underserved populations of California using academic-community partnerships for health education and workforce training. The California AHEC has ten centers distributed geographically around the state. The AHEC offers residency training and medical student clerkships around the state and is constantly looking for other opportunities to train physicians in underserved areas.

California Community College Regional Health Occupations Resource Centers (RHORCs)

Website: <http://healthoccupations.org>

The website has a map illustrating the eight RHORC regions and the colleges located within each region, as well as the name and contact information for each RHORC director.

Description: The California Community College Chancellor's Office and its Economic and Workforce Development Program has established the California Community College Health Care Initiative to provide education and training programs to meet the increasing demands for health care jobs. This Health Care Initiative includes eight Regional Health Occupations Resource Centers (RHORCs) strategically located across the state. The purpose of the RHORCs is to provide a mechanism for community colleges to address the needs of the health care industry. RHORC staff develops partnerships that encourage collaboration between health care employers and educational providers. They also complete needs assessments, job analyses, curricula and resource development, training, certification testing and employee referrals to health care industry employers.

California Social Work Education Council Stipend Program

Website: <http://calswec.berkeley.edu>

University of California, Berkeley

School of Social Welfare

Phone: 510-642-8573

Description: The California Social Work Education Center (CalSWEC) is a partnership between the schools of social work, public human service agencies, and other related professional organizations that facilitates the integration of education and practice to assure effective, culturally competent service delivery to the people of California. The CalSWEC Mental Health Initiative focuses on developing a culturally competent corps of professionals who are specifically educated in social work and preparing for careers in the mental health service sector. With funding from the Department of Mental Health, CalSWEC provides financial stipends to Master of Social Work students in their second year of study in return for a commitment to work in public mental health for at least one year following graduation.

The Greater Bay Area Mental Health and Education Collaborative

Contact: Toni Tullys, Project Director

Email: ttullys@cimh.org

Phone: 916-556-3480 Ext. 145

Description: A regional collaborative effort which brings a variety of stakeholders together to address public mental health education, training, and workforce needs. Participants include providers, consumers, family members, educators, and state and local agency representatives who are committed to the development of a culturally and linguistically competent, wellness and recovery oriented workforce that fully employs and supports consumers and family members. The Collaborative serves as the statewide model for regional partnerships, which are mandated by the MHSA and being developed across the state as regional workforce development centers.

The Life Academy of Health and Bioscience, Oakland, CA

Contact: Erik Rice, Principal

Email: erik.rice@ousd.k12.ca.us

Description: The Life Academy, a small public high school in the Oakland Unified School District, serves 250 students of diverse backgrounds, who live in the greater East Oakland community. The school offers a strong health and bioscience curriculum which includes mental health related coursework in the 11th and 12th grades, including on-site classes offered and taught by faculty from the Human Services Program at Merritt Community College in Oakland. Students participate in an extensive internship program and receive career and college counseling.

The Greater Los Angeles Mental Health Association

Website: <http://www.mhala.org>

Workforce Development/Human Services Academy

Contact: Gustavo Loera, Director

Phone: 888-242-2522

Description: The Human Services Academy is a high school pipeline program designed to increase the number of bilingual and bicultural youth who pursue careers in mental health and other human services. A collaboration with the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Academy combines classroom instruction, community employment, career exploration and college planning.