



COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATION

## Request for Proposals:

# “Ensuring and Enhancing the Clinical Skills of the IL Children’s Mental Health Workforce”

An informational conference call will be held 5/18/2022 9:00am

Electronic Applications are due 6/10/22 5pm

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

### **“Ensuring and Enhancing the Clinical Skills of the Children’s Mental Health Workforce in Illinois”**

This proposal outlines a plan to implement a model of clinical supervision with intern stipends for the Children’s Mental Health workforce in Chicago and across Illinois within six Illinois state certified Community Mental Health Centers or Behavioral Health Clinics. Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois (CBHA) will administrate a program that will provide funding for clinical supervision and a stipend for interns to qualified organizations that provide community mental health services to children and adolescents from ages 5-18 years old. This program will enable selected organizations to improve clinical skills of staff and interns and enhance the quality of services to children and families seeking services.

### INTRODUCTION

The Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois (CBHA) is a 501c-4 not-for-profit organization in its 50th year of operation. CBHA is a statewide association of providers of mental health and substance use services that is headquartered in Springfield, Illinois. Our main purpose is to improve the availability and quality of community mental health and substance use services to all citizens in Illinois. Illinois is experiencing an unprecedented children’s mental health workforce crisis. COVID has greatly impacted the historical workforce challenges experienced by Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) and Behavioral Health Clinics (BHCs) which are not able to compete for staff due to the high complexity of clients served and significant low reimbursement rates. Organizations statewide are experiencing record high staff vacancies which result in waitlists and dramatically decreased access to children’s mental health services.

In addition, there is acknowledgement that recent interns and new graduates are less prepared to meet the complex needs of youth and families receiving services and require more intensive training and supervision.

The lack of an adequate pipeline of a diverse workforce is also a factor in the workforce crisis. There is an inherent inequity in the internship process. In addition to paying tuition which may include taking out loans, many students, particularly low-income, are unable to afford to fulfil the 1000 unpaid hours to complete an internship thus decreasing the diversity and availability of the workforce.

### DESCRIPTION OF GRANT

Six (2 year) grants will be awarded to eligible Community Mental Health Centers or Behavioral Health Clinics who are currently providing child and adolescent mental health services-**three will be awarded to agencies serving youth within the city of Chicago, 3 serving youth outside the city of Chicago.**

- One .5 FTE dedicated LPHA clinical supervisor to provide clinical supervision and training to four interns and 2 or more additional license eligible clinicians.
- Selected agencies will act as fiscal agent for 4 second year master’s interns each year in providing \$2,500 stipends.
- Selected agencies will participate in an independent evaluation and 2 learning community sessions each year. The evaluation team will be identified through the Illinois Children’s

Healthcare Foundation. Each of the six selected training sites will receive a \$1,000 stipend from the evaluation team for participation in a modest mixed-methods evaluation. The goal of the independent evaluation is to determine the extent to which the grant resources have an impact on the training culture of the organizations.

## ATTACHMENTS

Please complete and attach the following documents.

A) **Request for Proposal Application**-Use word document provided

B) **Proposed Budget**: Propose a two-year budget for this work that includes any necessary planning and phase-in, training, and any other key components of your proposed approach. Use the **budget workbook** provided.

C) **Budget Narrative** - delineate details associated with the budget, clarify the calculations leading to the budget numbers and provide details that do not fit within the Budget Template.

D) **Letters of Support**: Provide up to two letters of support from college or university that has master intern program.

E) **Project Staffing Chart**

F) **Timeline**- Provide a draft timeline that covers the work of the project over two-year grant period of July 1, 2022- June 30, 2024

G) **Officer's Certification Form**-use form provided

H) **Board List**

I) **IRS Letter of Exemption**

J) **Most Current Audited Financials and Auditor's Management Letter**

K) **Most Current Form 990 and AG990-IL 7**

## TIMELINE

When	What
May 13, 2022	RFP is issued
May 18, 2022, 9:00a	Informational Conference Call
June 10, 2022	Applications Due
June 28, 2022	Award notification
July 1, 2022	Year 1 begins

We will host a conference call on Wednesday May 18, 2022, at 9am for applicants to pose questions before submitting information. **Please email [mchurchey-mims@cbha.net](mailto:mchurchey-mims@cbha.net) to RSVP for the call.**