

# Prevention Workforce Development

## Overview

The Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) offered and directly supported multiple workforce trainings over the first three quarters of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2018. Topics included, but were not limited to, trainings on the Washington prevention system, prevention science, data collection and application, ethics, sustainability, cultural competence, and contract requirements.

Additionally, DBHR administered a survey of 194 Washington State prevention providers to gather information about our current workforce demographics, education levels, and skills in 2016.

DBHR requires all providers to obtain their certified prevention professional (CPP) certificate within 18 months of hire and for DBHR employees to obtain the certificate within six months of hire. The CPP is an internationally recognized certificate that ensures knowledge and competency within the field of substance use prevention.

All providers and DBHR staff are required to take the four-day Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST) within the first year of hire. This complete overview of our federal funders' Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) model on which our system is founded, provides critical baseline knowledge about the community-based process as it relates to effective coalition prevention work.

DBHR partners with the newly created Northwest Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network (NW PTTC) which provides training and technical assistance for substance use prevention and mental

health promotion efforts to states and providers for HHS Region 10 states.

DBHR provides additional online training and learning opportunities for staff, contractors, and community partners, including online e-courses and live trainings.

## Key findings

From the survey:

The average age for prevention providers has increased to older than 46 from 2003's average age of 41. While approximately a third of the workforce has 10 or more years of experience, the average years of education for prevention, as well as the average years of experience in the field, have both declined overall since the last time the survey was administered in 2003.

## Eligibility requirements

Workforce development efforts are targeted at DBHR staff, contracted providers, community coalitions, and other partners. However, these services and efforts regularly engage other partners as needed and appropriate.


## Authority

The Governor's Office has authorized DBHR to receive and administer the Substance Abuse Block Grant, Mental Health Block Grant, and designated sections of the Dedicated Marijuana Account.

## Budget

Funds are used from Dedicated Marijuana Account, Substance Abuse Block Grant, and discretionary grants.

## FY 2018 Number Served



More than 900 individuals attended the above described trainings.

### **Key partners**

- HCA/Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery
- Department of Health
- Department of Early Learning
- Educational service districts
- Native American Tribes in Washington State
- Prevention Specialist Certification Board of Washington (PSCBW)
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Washington Traffic Safety Commission
- Washington Association for Substance Abuse Professionals

### **Oversight:**

The Washington State Health Care Authority Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery provides oversight to the prevention workforce efforts.

### **For more information**

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