

From: [HRSA Maternal and Child Health Bureau \(MCHB\)](#)
To: [HRSA MCHB TA](#)
Subject: Issue #01 - Tele-Behavioral Health Programs Technical Assistance Innovation Center
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MCHB TA Innovation Center

May 16, 2023

Tele-behavioral health programs technical assistance innovation center

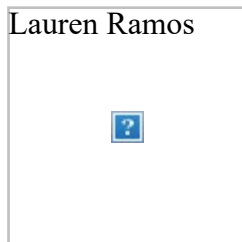


This inaugural newsletter serves to officially introduce the MCHB TA Innovation Center to Pediatric Mental Health Care Access (PMHCA) and Maternal Depression and Related Behavioral Disorders (MDRBD) awardees. Three more newsletters will follow this contract year. Newsletter #2 will be MDRBD focused and will include an exciting Behavioral Health Care Package for pregnant and postpartum woman developed by the North Carolina MDRBD program. Newsletter #3 will be PMHCA focused, and Newsletter #4 will focus on both MDRBD and PMHCA awardees. They

will inform recipients about TA resources and activities related to PMHCA and MDRBD implementation, relevant research articles, upcoming relevant webinars, events, and resources developed by external partners and stakeholders in the field of maternal and child behavioral health, as well as funding and policy opportunities.

Message from Lauren Ramos

Hello PMHCA Awardees!



It is my pleasure to formally invite you to engage in new technical assistance (TA) activities supported by the MCHB TA Innovation Center. We are delighted to be partnering with JBS International, Inc. to better support your implementation needs.

The PMHCA program has grown tremendously since the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) made the first awards in 2018. We now have 50 awardees, including 43 states, the District of Columbia, U.S. Virgin Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Chickasaw Nation, and Red Lake Band of the Chippewa Indians. We hope to further expand the program this fiscal year (FY).

We are so proud of your efforts to support providers to effectively care for children and youth with behavioral concerns. Your reach and impact grow each day. According to FY 2021 data from 21 PMHCA programs, over 6,700 primary care providers (PCPs) enrolled in statewide or regional PMHCA programs, and 6,400 PCPs received training on a range of pediatric behavioral health topics. Pediatric primary care providers who contacted PMHCA teams served over 8,200 children and adolescents, with approximately 3,700 living in rural and underserved counties. That's impressive! Yet we know that building, implementing, and growing a PMHCA program is complex.

It is our hope that the MCHB TA Innovation Center will accelerate your implementation and provide expanded support through activities such as:

- **Fostering ongoing exchange** of effective practices, resources, and peer-to-peer learning and mentorship
- **Connecting awardees to subject matter experts and resources** to meet program-specific needs
- **Developing resources** to expand the knowledge base about PMHCA
- **Identifying promising innovations** and program models
- **Supporting capacity to engage** in data collection, program monitoring, evaluation, and continuous quality improvement activities

- **Facilitating shared learning and collaboration** across recipients and with external partners

As the program has grown incrementally over the past 4 years, one constant has been the cohort approach to addressing emerging issues, promoting effective approaches, and generously sharing resources with each other as you have built the PMHCA infrastructure in your states, Tribes, and nationally. The MCHB TA Innovation Center can help you more comprehensively support each of these areas. I hope you take advantage of these resources. Please also share with your HRSA Project Officer any other ways in which the MCHB TA Innovation Center or MCHB can support you and your PMHCA program.

Thank you for all that you do to promote the behavioral health of children and adolescents through the PMHCA program!

Lauren Ramos, MPH

Director, Division of MCH Workforce Development, MCHB

Message from Theresa Lemus

Welcome to the HRSA MCHB TA Innovation Center!

Theresa Lemus



On behalf of our TA Specialists and Managers, our team is pleased to have an opportunity to work with PMHCA and MDRBD program awardees to help jurisdictions and providers make early identification, diagnosis, treatment, and referral of behavioral conditions a routine part of pediatric and maternal health care services. Our first newsletter focuses on providing an

overview of the TA available through the MCHB TA Innovation Center. Please reach out; we are one click away!

Theresa Lemus, R.N., L.A.D.C., M.B.A.

Project Director, MCHB TA Innovation Center

Services



- One-on-one Coaching and Phone Consultation
- In-person and Virtual Site Visits
- Publication Resources Development
- Peer-mentor Matching
- Process Improvement
- Strategic Planning
- Partner Engagement
- Skilled Meeting Facilitation

Focus Areas



- Provider Outreach, Recruitment, Engagement, and Retention
- Sustainability Planning
- Capacity Building
- Screening and Referral
- Collaborative Partnerships
- Tele-consultation
- Health Equity
- Rural/Frontier Communities
- Cultural Competency
- Workforce Development
- Marketing and Communications
- Evidence-based Practice

Learning Opportunities



- Webinars (live and recorded)
- Learning Collaboratives
- In-person and Virtual Training
- Annual Awardee Meetings
- Communities of Practice
- Peer-to-peer Mentoring
- Online Training Modules

Resources



- Evidence Base Repository
- Curated Resource Library
- Subject Matter Experts Across a Range of Topics
- Peer-to-peer Networking Platform
- Calendar of Events and Deadlines
- Toolkits, Templates, Tip Sheets, and More
- E-Newsletter
- Practice Guidance
- TA Portal (coming soon!)

Save the Date



MCHB TA Provider Shared Calendar

- Provides a centralized access point to view planned TA activities offered to PMHCA and MDRBD awardees
- Highlights information about various events from the HRSA MCHB team, MCHB TA Innovation Center, American Academy of Pediatrics, School Based Health Alliance, and Emergency Medical Services for Children Innovation and Improvement Center

Hands-on Local Data Collection and Management Office Hours

Monday, May 22, 2023, drop in anytime between 3:00PM and 5:00PM ET

Annual All-Awardee Meeting Day 1

Monday, August 28, 2023 from 1PM–5:00PM ET

Zoom details coming soon.

Annual All-Awardee Meeting Day 2

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 from 1PM–5PM ET

Zoom details coming soon.

We want to hear from YOU!

Contact us for TA and to share your successes, articles, products, presentations, and challenges:

[Submit a TA request](#)

You are receiving this newsletter because you have been identified as one of our funded awardees. For any questions or concerns or to request this newsletter be sent to additional people, please email [Patrice Moss, Project Officer at MCHB](#).

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