With the increase in the number of individuals with M/SUD who will gain insurance coverage, many SSAs and SMHAs are concerned about ensuring that an appropriately trained behavioral health workforce is available to provide services.

Funding and Characteristics of Single State Agencies for Substance Abuse Services and State Mental Health Agencies: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2015

2016 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The impacts of the Affordable Care Act and the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act will broaden the public’s access to behavioral health services and alter service settings. Without an investment in the human component of the behavioral health system, the ability to respond to the overwhelming need for quality services will be severely hampered.

FEATURES
The 2016 Behavioral Health Leadership Development Program is designed to increase the capacity of the workforce by enhancing the leadership and technical competencies of emerging behavioral health leaders. Its goals are to:

• Enhance behavioral health professionals’ leadership development through self-awareness and interpersonal skills
• Provide an understanding of the elements of the ACA and MHPAEA
• Help maintain retention and commitment to behavioral health care

AUDIENCE
This year the program is tailored to new managers working in Single State Agencies for Substance Use Services and State Mental Health Agencies, as well as new managers working in direct-service agencies. Applicants should:

• Be new to a management position (within the last 5 years) in a behavioral health care setting
• Have demonstrated leadership capabilities
• Aspire to a leadership position in the field

Program participants will be selected from across the continuum of behavioral health disciplines, including substance use and mental illness prevention, substance use and mental disorders treatment, and recovery support services.

PROGRAM DETAILS
• Candidates will be selected through a competitive application process.
• Applications will be released in December 2015
• This intensive seven-month program runs February–September 2016.

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