



Health Equity Leadership Institute

The California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (formerly California Institute for Mental Health) has designed an innovative leadership program, the Health Equity Leadership Institute (HELI), specifically for mental health professionals and community stakeholders working to increase health equity at a local level.

The goal of the Institute is to strengthen the leadership skills of individuals seeking to promote health equity through a team-based approach that integrates community members impacted by services. The Institute focuses on three specific areas vital to enhancing the capacity of leaders and essential to achieving health equity: leadership development, strategies for addressing health equity, and data literacy. Each participant needs to be part of a Community Leadership Team consisting of individuals from government and community agencies with a common aim to improve health equity for a specific community.

The 8 - month Institute will be customized to the goals of each team. Activities include site visits, online training as well as technical support. The Institute seeks to develop practical expertise in leadership for health equity. Participants will be expected to apply new skills and strategies to new or existing efforts to increase health equity within their community. Teams will be encouraged to focus their practical application of the curriculum on a specific common health equity aim to maximize impact towards reducing disparities and benefit to the community.

Recommended Health Equity aim for 2014: The federal government only approved the Mental Health Medi-Cal waiver for two years, in part due to CMS's concerns regarding the "lack of translation services and the long wait times to see Spanish speaking providers." We recommend that HELI teams this year focus on the following aim: over an 8-month period, identify cost-effective strategies to increase access and improve the quality of mental health services for Medi-Cal eligible Spanish-speakers. *Teams could also choose to focus on another community-identified health equity goal and population for their participation in HELI.*

Institute Objectives

As a result of being in HELI participants will be able to:

Leadership

- Exercise leadership skills essential to achieving health equity
- Utilize and strengthen collaborative partnerships to implement strategies to reduce disparities
- Serve as change agents and influential experts in health equity within communities and current systems of care

Data Literacy

- Articulate the need to address health disparities utilizing data
- Identify and track disparities and the impact of efforts to reduce disparities

Addressing Health Equity

- Identify and promote the use of culturally-appropriate strategies, including community-defined and promising practices to reduce disparities

Community Leadership Team

Each HELI participant needs to be part of a local Community Leadership team. Teams should contain various individuals interested in achieving health equity in mental health services in a common geographical area. This is a team that will participate together in HELI to develop their leadership skills in Health Equity, focusing their efforts on a shared community. Team members should include but are not limited to:

Team Composition

- County ethnic services manager or other manager (required)
- Other county staff
- Evaluation/data expert (required)
- Community (required)
 - Persons with lived experience
 - CBOs and non-traditional partners
 - Persons with lived experience

Benefits of Participation

- Leveraged collaborative partnerships to address a common health equity aim
- Shared learning
- Customized team coaching and mentoring
- Practical application of principles learned to address health equity
- Increased understanding of the use of data for reducing disparities

Please complete the HELI Community Leadership Team application on the back of this document.

If you have questions, please contact Kristee Haggins at 916-224-0875 or via e-mail at khaggins@cimh.org.

Health Equity Leadership Institute Community Leadership Team Application

Please complete the HELI 2014-2015 Team Application by Tuesday, September 30, 2014 to be considered for participation in the 2014-15 year. We will contact all applicants to follow-up on team development.

Scan and e-mail completed form to Kristee Haggins at khaggins@cibhs.org or fax to (916) 556-3483.

TEAM PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Position/Title: _____

Organization: _____

Organization Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

County: _____

Work Phone: _____ Mobile Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Preferred method to be reached? Work Phone Mobile Phone E-mail

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

1. What leadership or management skills do your team members hope to gain from the Institute?

2. What population are you interested in focusing on for the Institute year? (e.g. Latino, African American, Hmong, homeless, men, women, LGBT, etc.)

3. When considering the population you want to focus on, what specific challenges do they experience in your county in terms of access or quality of services?

4. List all the people interested in forming a team to participate in the Institute (include email, phone number, role on team)
