Building the Older Adult Mental Health & Substance Use Workforce: E4 Center Perspectives

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Older adults with mental health issues are more likely than younger adults to have:

- Functional impairment\(^1\),
- Poor mobility\(^2\),
- Symptom burden\(^3\)
- Longer hospital stays\(^4\)
- Health issues that put them at risk for loneliness\(^5\)

\(^1\)Haigh et al, 2018; \(^2\)Lampinen et al, 2003; \(^3\)Abdel-Kader 2009; \(^4\)Myers et al, 2012; \(^5\)Ilgen et al, 2010
Older adults are less likely than younger adults to:

• Pursue or engage in mental health\(^1\) or SUD\(^5\) treatment
• Survive a suicide attempt\(^4\)
• Receive adequate services\(^2\) especially if Black or Latino\(^3\)

\(^1\)Wang et al 2000; \(^2\)Bartels et al 1997; \(^3\)Jit et al 2013
Mission

Engage, Empower, and Educate health care providers and community-based organizations for Equity in behavioral health for older adults and their families across the US.
We’re Listening

• Learning Community
• Evidence-Based Practice Series
• NASMHPD OPD meetings
• Practice Resource Development
• 3-day live certificate program
• Policy Academies
You are invited to participate in three Zoom meetings, with technical assistance follow-up. Policy Academy meetings will be facilitated by E4 Center Leadership Team members Steve Bartels, MD, Fred Blow, PhD, Erin Emery-Tiburcio, PhD, and Robyn Golden, LCSW.

Meeting 1
The first meeting will include a brief presentation about unique issues in older adult mental health and substance use. This will be followed by a discussion of addressing these issues with examples of programs that have worked to bring state organizations together in other areas by the E4 Center team. Participants will identify key local issues and begin to generate possible local solutions. (2 hours)

Meeting 2
E4 Center staff will re-cap the first meeting and frame an agenda for breakout groups to then generate cross-sector collaborative ideas. (2 hours)

Meeting 3
Participants will discuss ideas generated and produce joint action plans with goals, objectives, activities, timelines, designated lead and support responsibilities, communication, and meeting plans with technical assistance from the E4 Center team. (2 hours)
Workforce Issues

• Burnout
• High turnover
• Staff shortages
• Inadequately trained staff
Foundational Competencies in Older Adult Mental Health Online Certificate Program

https://e4center.org/
4Ms Behavioral Health

Age-Friendly Health Systems

Institute for Healthcare Improvement

Mobility

What Matters

Medication

Mentation
988 Call Center Education

- Concerns about awareness of older adult needs
- Request: 90 minutes of education on unique issues in older adult crises for PA crisis centers
- SAMHSA & Vibrant Emotional Health support for sharing training nationally

Six 15-minute modules:
- Ageism
- Depression and anxiety
- Suicide risk
- Cognition
- Substance use
- Life and health
Engage, Educate, and Empower for Equity: E4 Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health Disparities in Aging

The E4 Center measurably advances training and workforce capacity with a specific focus on the community-based implementation of evidence-based practices and programs for vulnerable older adults who experience the greatest behavioral and physical health disparities in the nation.