

February 7, 2023 | 10:00-11:30 am

Meeting materials: <https://www.betterhealthtogether.org/bold-solutions-content/bh-forum-materials-feb2024>

Final notes (added 2/14/24) in Green

Forum Overview

- Region-wide collaboration of organizations providing BH services and educating the behavioral health workforce. \$1.2 million dollars of Integrated Managed Care money that the Better Health Together Board handed to this group to use for BH workforce investments.
- All are welcome to attend and participate in discussion. Voting members complete a membership agreement. One vote per member organization.
- Members are the decision makers. BHT provides facilitation and administrative support.
 - o Membership Note: carries over from 2023 automatically. If you want to check membership status, become a member, or rescind membership contact Hannah directly (Hannah@BetterHealthTogether.org).
- We have until the end of 2025 to spend the full \$1.2 million dollars. We have currently allocated a little under half of this. Going forward: push to intentionally get those dollars into the community.
- [Guiding Principles](#)

Active Initiatives Overview

Initiative	Allocation	Notes
Behavioral Health Supervision Support	\$150,000	All funds allocated, contract work and reporting is ongoing.
Behavioral Health Internship Support	\$150,000	10 contracts in place, 1 in process, 4 available. Wide variety of funds use – hooray for flexible approach!
SUDP Alternative Certification	\$66,000	Five spots remaining. Contact Hannah if interested.
Community-based Workforce Training	\$47,000	Ongoing – supporting E. WA CHW Network training for members and other CBW. Kim Wilson will share upcoming training information. Contact Kim.Wilson@BetterHealthTogether.org to get involved with the Network, do a spotlight presentation, or share resources.
CHW Training Program	\$75,000	Ongoing - funding participation for trainees who aren't eligible for federal funds. More information about the CHW Training Program at this link .

CPC / WRAP Training Funds Re-Allocation

- **Background:**
 - Feb. 2022 voted for 2 CPC trainings and 1 WRAP training (\$60,000). Forum funded one CPC training in November 2023 (\$25,000) with 20 attendees, at least 10 via BHT publicity/referrals.
 - Since initial discussion/vote in 2022, HCA has offered more CPC trainings – less of a need for local funding it is available through state channels. Confirmed with HCA in January 2024 that their waitlist has significantly reduced after offering an increased number of trainings in 2023, some training cancellations. They have enough HCA trainings to cover the entire state at this point.
 - Significant interest from Forum and peers in WRAP training – not provided through the state like CPC is. Passages trainers are ready to go. Forum will fund so free to attend.
 - Suggestion to re-allocate from 2 CPC/1 WRAP to 1 CPC/multiple WRAP.
- **Discussion/Questions and Answers**
 - Question about prioritizing participation for individuals who didn't get into the CPC training in November. Passages will handle training enrollment. BHT will check with them about pre-requisites for WRAP training and prioritization related to Forum involvement.
 - Answer (updated 2/14/24): Passages will prioritize participation for Forum members
 - Answer (updated 2/14/24): regarding prerequisites, enrollees do not have to be CPCs but preference is given to those who work in peer roles (rather than case managers and therapists).
 - Additional notes about WRAP: this course can be the initial WRAP 1 class for a peer new to WRAP or the refresher that is required every three years for those who have completed WRAP 1.
- **VOTE: To revise funding approval for CPC/WRAP trainings to multiple WRAP trainings (as many as funding & interest allows) and 1 CPC training (previously 1 WRAP, 2 CPC), and to return any balance of allocated funds to the Remaining Dollars bucket after final training invoices are received.**
 - Moved by Élodie Goodman (SFCC), Seconded by Mary Beazer (Akin)
 - Yes votes (member organizations): SFCC, Akin, Peer Spokane, IFD, Passages, BH-ASO, LL Couple & Family Therapy, Pioneer, Partners, Goodwill, SPS Behavioral Health
 - Approved, 2/14/24

SFCC BAS-IBH Update and Request for Funds

- Forum directed \$45,000 to SFCC Scholarship – supporting first cohort of students in the new bachelor's program in integrated BH. Marianne Salina provided a report and Élodie Goodman presented a request for additional funds ([see slides](#)).
- Funding notes:
 - Total request of \$162,864 would cover tuition for the first cohort through the end of their program.
 - Forum has \$129,000 unallocated in Workforce Recruitment and Expansion category and \$48,906 unallocated in Emerging Opportunities category.
- **Discussion/Questions:**
 - RCW establishing BHSS certification. Students will be prepared to obtain this credential.
 - Questions about self care and support for students: built-in support at SFCC. Changed order of classes to bring a class with some wellness focus earlier in the sequence.
 - Program is new so no current graduates. This has proven challenging for students to get funding outside of loans/financial aid (Washington state opportunity scholarship example – student was denied because program hasn't yet produced graduates). Forum funds are a bridge as the program gets established.
 - Question about Pell and State Need Grant eligibility and WorkFirst Funding, Worker Retraining, VA funding, Opportunity grant through SFCC. Working with financial aid office on different possibilities.

- Question about obligation to work in the community following graduation if a student is receiving this funding. No requirement. Students are already working in the community. With BHT/Forum funding, they continue working in the community while they are in the program.
- Second year includes two practicum requirements, not necessarily paid. Want to ensure that students graduate without loan debts.
- Question about whether money goes toward anything other than tuition and fees. Answer: yes, student accessing GI bill fund so didn't need tuition dollars. Remaining money is used for wraparound supports (extra monitors example).
- **VOTE: Motion To approve \$162,864.00 for scholarship and wrap-around support for cohort 1 for the remaining quarters (Winter/Spring 2024; Fall, Winter, Spring 2024/25) - \$129k from Workforce Recruitment & Retention bucket, and the remainder from the Emerging Opportunities bucket.**
 - Moved by Christi Lyson (IFD), Second by Anna Tressidor (Excelsior)
 - Yes votes (member organizations): IFD, VOA, Excelsior, LLCFT, Akin, CCEW, Passages, Partners, Pioneer, Goodwill, SPS Behavioral Health
 - Abstention: SFCC
 - **Approved, 2/14/24**

Training Discussion

- See [slides \(link\)](#) for additional context and information
- Reviewed training categories previously established through participatory budgeting/decision-making process.
- Reviewed November discussion and Wish List Training Survey results. Note that trauma-related trainings and motivational interviewing training have consistently risen to the top of the training interest list for this group and other BHT partners.
- Suggestion to allocate \$125,000 (\$50,000 from clinical workforce bucket and \$75,000 from all workforce bucket) to trauma/MI trainings.
- **Discussion**
 - Question about number of trainings and type of trainings. Depends on trainers and types of trainings but not yet determined. Have had preliminary conversations with potential trainers but haven't started to build. Please send suggestions to Hannah.
 - None of the funding would go to BHT for administrative/scheduling/staff time. All would go to trainers, space, etc.
 - Funding would open training opportunities to clinicians and staff who aren't master's level licensed. Interest in allocating more to clinicians (Louise) and review of allocations based on previous Forum discussion.
 - Question of how much as been spent. Nothing has been spent to date in the training/education bucket.
 - **Open invitation to contact Hannah directly with specific recommendations for trainers and trainings.** BHT will also be working on this going forward.
 - No decision today. Will revisit in April – BHT team will bring more ideas regarding trainings, costs, etc. at that time.

Peer Respite House Presentation – Passages

- Contacts for more information:
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Announcements

- Next meeting is April 3 from 10 to 11:30 am
- Open feedback opportunity and vote (for member organizations who haven't already voted) until February 14 close-of-business.
- Equity training opportunity: Reentry simulation sponsored by BHT, 2/22 from 10 am to 12:30 pm
 - o Explore the challenges and opportunities associated with reentry into the community after incarceration through this interaction experience. Includes lunch and a facilitated discussion following the simulation.
 - o [Click here to learn more and to register.](#)