## CTC-RI IBH Workforce Development Opportunity:

## Apply for Integrated Behavioral Health Virtual Training

***Are you a social worker, psychologist or mental health counselor in Rhode Island working with pediatrics and/or adults that has heard all of the buzz about integrated behavioral health but never had formal training in it?***

***Are you a primary care practice looking to recruit and support the training of a behavioral health professional to support your IBH program?***

Through funding from UnitedHealthcare and Blue Cross & Blue Shield of RI, CTC-RI is working to increase the integrated behavioral health (IBH) workforce within the state, in part by providing IBH training to behavioral health (BH) clinicians who would like to gain the skills and certification to provide integrated care.

CTC-RI will offer a limited number of enrollments at no cost to enrollees in the ‘[Primary Care Behavioral Health](https://www.umassmed.edu/cipc/continuing-education/pcbh-certificate-course/)’ Spring session course developed by the UMASS Center for Integrated Care.

Program participants and the organizations that employ them will receive:

1. **Enrollment into the UMASS training program (a $1600 value)**: The course includes a range of topics including: orientation to integrated behavioral health models, specific health care issues like substance use and depression, and cultural influences on health care. The training consists of 22 pre-recorded e-learning modules that can be watched at any time and at the learner’s own pace; each takes about 1.5-2 hours to work through. A total of 36 continuing education credits are available for behavioral health clinicians, nurses, therapists, and social workers.
2. **A $500 stipend to each participant upon program completion and submission of certificate from UMASS:** in recognition of the time commitment that the program represents
3. **A $500 stipend to the RI primary care practice where the participant is currently employed (if applicable):** to account for lost clinician revenue and staffing hours (only RI primary care practices are eligible for this stipend)
4. **One hour of practice facilitation support upon completion of the program** to help the participant put what they’ve learned into practice

### Why is CTC-RI offering this opportunity?

Rhode Island primary care practices and systems of care have grown dramatically in their acceptance of IBH within primary care. By understanding the return on investment for IBH and impact on quadruple aim, there are currently more openings for IBH clinicians to join primary care practices than at any one point in the past several years. More organizations are advertising for the same type of IBH clinician, resulting in longer and longer times to fill the roles. It is becoming increasingly clear that there is a shortage of appropriately trained IBH workforce in the state of Rhode Island. However, according to payer reports on behavioral health market saturation, there is not a shortage of traditionally trained behavioral health clinicians in the state.

Without proper training in integrated care, it is often challenging for behavioral health clinicians to successfully engage as IBH clinicians within a medical care team. A comprehensive integrated care training will be the first step in ensuring that traditionally trained and licensed behavioral health clinicians are set for success as they enter IBH.

**Who can apply:**

* Behavioral health clinicians (i.e. LICSW, LCSW, PhD, Psy.D, LMHC) working in Rhode Island who are committed to moving into an IBH role at a primary care practice in RI.

### Time Commitment:

* The program consists of 22 pre-recorded e-learning modules that can be watched at any time and at your own pace; each takes about 1.5-2 hours to view and engage
* Participants would commit to training beginning on 3/1/2023 and finishing on 5/31/2023.

### Applicant and Practice Leadership Commitment

Please consider carefully your commitment before applying to this program. While the cost of the learning license is covered by health plan funding, we expect to have all available spots taken.

Practice site leadership is expected to provide enrollee with support time for completing learning modules and coaching sessions; some of the training may occur during non-work time at the enrollee’s own expense.

CTC will review applications for approval and we reserve the right to consult applicants and practice leadership if there are concerns about the likelihood of a learner completing the training program. Learners that are issued licenses are expected to complete the tailored training program, even if they change employment, as the license is issued to the learner and not to the organization. Attendance and assignment completion is monitored as part of our quality assurance process.

# Application Instructions and Training Timeline

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| **Step** | **Activity** | **Date** |
| **1** | Applications released  To apply:   * Fill out an application here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UMASS_Training> * Email your resume to [edwyer@ctc-ri.org](mailto:edwyer@ctc-ri.org) | **Tuesday, Jan 17** |
| **2.** | Applications due:   * Part 1: Application form [submitted via Survey Monkey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UMASS_Training) * Part 2: Resume emailed to [edwyer@ctc-ri.org](mailto:edwyer@ctc-ri.org) | **Monday, Feb 13** |
| **3.** | Applications approved; learners will be notified and enrolled into the UMASS program   * If the accepted applicant works in primary care, practice leadership will be asked to submit a letter of support in order to receive the $500 primary care employer stipend | **Monday, Feb 20** |
| **4.** | Start date Spring 2022 virtual, self-paced program | **Wednesday, March 1** |
| **5.** | Course requirements must be completed for Spring 2022 session | **May 31, 2023** |
| **7.** | Course participants strongly encouraged to pursue an IBH role within Rhode Island | **Upon course completion** |

## Contact person for questions: Edyth Dwyer, Project Coordinator [edwyer@ctc-ri.org](mailto:edwyer@ctc-ri.org)

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