

Behavioral Health is Essential To Health



Prevention Works



Treatment is Effective



People Recover



Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) Student Training Grants

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Purpose of the Grants



- The purpose of the SAMHSA SBIRT Student Training grants is to develop and implement training programs to medical and behavioral health teaching institutions to provide instruction in evidence-based screening, brief intervention and mechanisms to refer patients to specialty treatment who are at risk for a substance use disorder.

History of the Training Grants



- SAMHSA promoting SBIRT since 2003 with large demonstration grants to States.
- Implemented Universal Screening of clients seeking medical attention in emergency departments, trauma centers, health centers, inpatient and other related sites.
- The decision was made in 2008 to begin training the next generation of medical professionals.

History of the Training Grants



- The initial cohort of grants were designed to train Medical Residents. Eleven (11) grants were awarded in 2008 with an additional 6 in 2009.
- In 2013 it was decided to expand the professions trained to include nurses, social workers and counselors. There were 14 awards made in 2013 and 11 awards made in 2014.
- For 2015 SAMHSA has awarded 63 grants across the country to train a wide array of future medical professionals to include medical residents, medical students, nurses, social workers, counselors, pharmacists, dentists, physicians assistants and psychologists.

Evolution of the Training Grants



- The initial training grants were directed toward medical residents in the attempt to develop future ‘champions’ of SBIRT.
- A cross site evaluation of our large state demonstration grant indicated the most of the direct services were conducted by nurses, social workers, counselors, health promotion advocates and wellness counselors.
- Given this information the decision was made to widen the training population to include others.

Progress to Date



- Training counts from 2008 to the present:
 - 13,915 professionals trained
 - 5,116 medical residents
 - 8,799 nurses, social workers and counselors
 - 73.6% reported improving their treatment protocol with information received from the training.
 - More than 14,000 live patient encounters have been reported to date.