

**The Massachusetts Psychiatric  
Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
(PMHNP) Fellowship Program**

*Informational Webinar*

July 27, 2021

  
Massachusetts League  
*of Community Health Centers*

# Meeting Agenda

- Introduction & purpose of the webinar
- MA Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Fellowship (PMHNP)
  - Program overview
  - Application requirements
  - Scoring
  - Review Process
  - Key dates/ timeline
- Questions- please send to [nsimpson@massleague.org](mailto:nsimpson@massleague.org)

# PMHNP Fellowship Program Team

## Internal League staff:

### **Clinical Care:**

- Susan Dargon-Hart- Senior VP of Clinical Health Affairs

### **Workforce initiatives:**

- Watura Finley- VP, Workforce & Training
- Nikki Simpson- Senior Manager of PC Workforce Initiatives

### **Nurse Practitioner Consultants**

- Chris Malagrida, MSN, APRN-BC, CNP
- Peg Ackerman, DNP, APRN-BC, CNP

### **Program Management Support**

- Carla Bettano, Senior Consultant

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Overview

- Applications are being sought for the MA Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Fellowship (PMHNP)
- DPH Funded through 2021 Budget (Section 4513-2020)
- Part of a larger statewide initiative to increase behavioral health services
- Six-Month Program: January –June 2022
- Funding for 10 Fellows at up to 5 CHCs
  - **\$55K per Fellow (salary & fringe)**
  - **\$35K per CHC (flexible spending)**
- All MA CHCs eligible to apply

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Purpose

- Increase much-needed psychiatric capacity at CHCs
- Prepare PMHNPs to care for diverse panels of patients with social determinants of care and a range of complex physical and mental health conditions
- Facilitate transition to practice in community health centers
- Increase psychiatric capacity, job satisfaction and retention in of PMHNPs in CHCs.

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Components

- **70% Clinical:** CHC precepted clinics
- **10% Didactic:** Provided by the University of Massachusetts –Worcester Graduate School of Nursing (GSN).
- **10% Specialty Clinic:** NP Consultants working with MassLeague will offer assistance with placements.
- **10% Consultation:** CHCs & GSN will train Fellows to serve in a consultant role to PCPs.

# PMHNP Fellowship Program Multi-layered Support

## UMASS-Worcester Graduate School of Nursing (GSN)

- **Didactic content for the six-month Fellowship:** (relevant content will be available online to Fellows and CHCs for six additional months, Jul. 1 – Dec. 30, 2022)
  - **Psychiatry Grand Rounds**
  - **Wellness Sessions**
  - **Virtual Synchronous Sessions & Simulations**
  - **Group Supervision**
  - **On-Line self-directed courses**
- **Preceptor Training** (five 1.5-hour virtual sessions with CEUs)

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Multi-layered support Evaluation Requirements

- Institute for Community Health (ICH) will conduct an external evaluation of the MA PMHNP Fellowship Program.
- As a condition of accepting funds, we require CHC grantees to participate in evaluation activities.
- Evaluation activities will include, but are not limited to:
  - Taking electronic surveys twice over the funded period
  - Participating in qualitative interviews 1-2 times over the funded period
  - Providing de-identified patient and visit data from electronic health records to the evaluators
  - Providing relevant documentation of the Program's design and implementation (e.g., schedules, work plans, recruitment materials, etc.)



# PMHNP Fellowship Program Multi-layered Support

## Two Experienced Nurse Practitioner Consultants

- Assist with marketing and recruitment efforts and a centralized application process
- Coordinate initial credentialing activities and onboarding for fellows
- Select and implement an online learning management system
- Assist CHCs (who need it) with evaluating the Fellow's progress towards meeting the clinical competency requirements.

## Support and Assist with:

- Specialty site rotation selections for Fellows
- Questions from CHCs throughout the planning and implementation periods
- Materials that can be used to educate CHC staff on the PMHNP Fellowship Program

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Applicant Eligibility

### All MA CHCs eligible to apply with preference given to:

- CHCs with proven success implementing a postgraduate training program for nurse practitioners
- CHCs in rural areas (\*at least one of the awardees will be a CHC in a rural community); multi-CHC opportunities are an option.

### CHC applicants must:

- Demonstrate that they possess an understanding of the specialty training needs of PMHNPs entering the field of community health
- Identify internal and/or community partnerships for specialized learning opportunities
- Hire board-certified, and MA licensed PMHNPs
- Recruit candidates who reflect the population served (i.e., race/ethnicity, languages spoken, lived experience in urban or rural underserved communities)

# PMHNP Fellowship Program Reporting Requirements

**Quarterly Expenditure Report:** required to submit two expenditure reports during the six-month Fellowship Program.

**Final Report:** This report will be due by December 2022. The final report should highlight accomplishments, challenges, self-administered PMHNP pre-post surveys or baseline competency testing, and evaluations that measure Fellow progress as well as qualitative feedback and a sustainability plans to retain the PMHNP Fellowship after the funding period.

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Application Timeline

Event	Date/Time
Request for Proposal Released	July 21, 2021
Informational Webinar	July 27, 2021
Deadline for Submission of Questions	August 2, 2021
Posting of Answers to Questions (estimated)	August 6, 2021
Applications Due	August 27, 2021
Fellowship Year Begins	January 2022

# PMHNP Fellowship Program Application Components

- **Section A**
  - Applicant information and letter of commitment from CHC leadership
- **Section B**
  - Fellowship training slot(s) requested
- **Section C**
  - Response narrative (not to exceed 20 pages)
- **Section D**
  - Staffing plan, including bios and CVs as requested
- **Section E**
  - Line-item budget and budget narrative

## PMHNP Fellowship Program Overview of Scoring

Element	Possible Points
CHC qualifications	40
Plan for implementing PMHNP Fellowship training slots	40
Staffing plan	10
Plan for specialty rotations	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>

# PMHNP Fellowship Program Questions & Next Steps

## QUESTIONS?

Questions about this RFP will be accepted via email to [nsimpson@Massleague.org](mailto:nsimpson@Massleague.org) until **August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:00 PM ET.**

**Applications are due August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 PM ET.**