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## **Solicitation of Interest (SOI): Intensive Training and Consultation on Best Practices in OMH Mental Health Treatment for Children and Youth Dually Diagnosed with Mental Health Challenges and Intellectual/Developmental Disability**

The New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) is seeking letters of interest to deliver intensive training and consultation to mental health care providers serving children and youth dually diagnosed with mental health challenges and intellectual/developmental disability.

The goal of this funding is to better equip mental health care providers to serve the dually diagnosed including by building awareness of evidence-based approaches as well as awareness of evidence-based modifications of typical treatment (e.g., use of visual tools, use of behavioral techniques, use of structured/incremental skill-building methodologies, etc.) and building skills in engagement and treatment of dually diagnosed youth and families.

In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, rates of mental health disorders have increased dramatically in youth, as noted in the Surgeon General's Advisory on Youth Mental Health. Children and youth dually diagnosed with mental health disorders and intellectual/developmental disability are identified as a group at particular risk. Youth with this profile disproportionately present to crisis settings in New York State. Mental health providers are often not trained in best practices for serving this population. New York State is committed to increasing capacity to serve dually diagnosed youth and their families and is allocating funding to support entities with experience of providing intensive training and consultation.

OMH is seeking entities with the capacity to provide:

- Training and consultation in a format that includes multiple points of contact with the same mental health provider(s), i.e., one-time training without follow-up is not an eligible activity
- Live (including virtual) training and consultation as a primary deliverable, i.e., asynchronous training cannot be a primary activity although recording of training to make available later is permissible
- Training and consultations using evidence-based practices
- Individualization of training and consultation to mental health provider(s), i.e., an initial or ongoing process to understand the specific needs of the providers and customization of the training and consultation to such needs, vs the delivery of a packaged training
- Training to a multi-disciplinary group of individuals as appropriate
- For any resources developed or reviewed as part of the intensive training and consultation, that may be applicable to a larger audience, permission to share on a NYS-funded learning management system
- Ideally, ability to conduct train-the-trainer programs to enhance local capacity and

sustainability of the training and consultation initiative

- Ideally, ability to provide direct consultation to clinical teams as appropriate including through direct interaction with the child/you and family through telehealth

### Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are training, technical assistance, and consultation entities or academic institutions with substantial experience in each of the following:

- Developing and delivering training and consultation on best practices in mental health treatment of dually diagnosed children and youth, including specific experience with I/DD populations and in MH treatment
- Training multi-disciplinary groups of mental health providers, including paraprofessional staff as appropriate
- Establishing partnerships and collaborations with mental health agencies/organizations that provide services to dually diagnosed children and youth and their families
- Ensuring quality assurance methods are implemented to provide, monitor, and report the efficacy of training, technical assistance, and consultation to organizations.
- Applicants with experience in evidence-based intensive training methods such as an ECHO or similar model are encouraged to apply.

Please send your letter of interest via email to Carol Swiderski at [carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov](mailto:carol.swiderski@omh.ny.gov). Please indicate "**Intensive Training and Consultation for Dually Diagnosed Youth**" in the Subject Line. **Letters of Interest are due by Wednesday, May 11, 2022.**

Please note this is solely a Solicitation of Interest and does not guarantee an award or contract.

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