

Mental Health Workforce and Linkages to Higher Education

Master's Program In Community Mental Health (Southern New Hampshire University)

- Designed to increase number of peers¹, family members and “front line” staff to specialize in community mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment
- Emphasizes:
 - Integrated mental health and SUD treatment
 - Incorporating lived experience of mental illness/SUD into treatment
 - Recovery-orientation
- Department of Mental Health (DMH) and Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) previously offered scholarships to peers, family members, and staff working in community mental health/SUD treatment (e.g. Designated Agencies) to attend this program.

Child Psychiatry Fellowship

- Partnership between DMH, University of Vermont (UVM) College of Medicine and UVM Medical Center to increase Child Psychiatrists in Vermont

Psychiatric Nursing

- Partnerships between Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) and UVM Medical Center and Norwich University
- Places nursing students on VPCH units for six week intervals

Vermont Cooperative for Practice Improvement and Innovation (VCPI)

- Partnership between DMH, ADAP, Designated Agencies (DA's), hospitals, peer organizations and Southern New Hampshire University to pool training and workforce development resources and expertise
- Working to improve new staff retention through improved, more efficient orientation and on-boarding at DA's

Wellness Workforce Coalition²

- Established through Act 79 to increase capacity and competency of peer workforce statewide
- Supporting increased number of peers entering mental health workforce
- Supporting core training, mentoring and competencies of peer workforce.

¹ Person with the lived experience of mental illness/substance use

² This program is not yet associated with higher education.