



HARRIS EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM RECRUITMENT 2018 – 2019

A 10-month training program for Family Support Professionals working with young children and families

The Irving B. Harris Early Childhood Mental Health Training Program (ECMHTP) is pleased to announce enrollment for the next “Family Support Professionals” (FSP) learning cohort which begins September 2018. The FSP cohort will target the following professionals working in programs serving families with infants and young children: Family Partners; Family Advocates; Family Navigators; Community Health Outreach Workers; Home Visitors; and those providing targeted services to fathers, including men working in family support programs.

This training is supported by the Irving Harris Foundation and Title IV-E funds. Priority is given to applicants who work for agencies who serve children in foster care or children at risk for out-of-home placement. Whether you are working in public health, early care and education, community clinics, family-run agencies, or other settings where you are supporting families with young children, the Harris ECMHTP will provide learning opportunities relevant to your work.

FAMILY SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

This year’s cohort will consist of 12-16 participants. The group will be facilitated by Harris ECMHTP staff in partnership with two former Harris FSP graduates in the co-occurring Leadership Track.

Areas of learning will focus on social-emotional development, well-being of young children and families and include:

- Understanding the unique needs and vulnerabilities of young children coping with trauma and foster care.
- Supporting families to build secure relationships with their children.
- Impact of trauma, community violence, health and educational disparities on young

children and families.

- Strategies for strengthening engagement and building resiliency in families.
- Considering how class, culture and other aspects of diversity influence childrearing, and family and professional relationships.
- Impact of developmental disabilities and mental health challenges on the family.
- Nurturing the partnership between parents and providers.
- Strengthening engagement of fathers and other family members in our work.
- Building skills in reflective practice, self-care and protection against burn-out and vicarious trauma; including how to manage triggers when using one's own story to engage families.
- Introduction to the FAN model; the practice of cultural humility; and Trauma-Informed Care approach to serving families. There will also be a complimentary series of trainings offered by EIS related to advanced practice issues in infancy and Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH), which participants will be encouraged to attend when possible.

All program content will be aligned with the Revised California Training Guidelines and Personnel Competencies for Trans-disciplinary Providers. See www.cacenter-ecmh.org for information about these competencies and the related endorsement system. All participants who complete the program will receive a certificate and will remain a part of the Harris ECMHTP Network. Participants will also be able to use participation in this program to cover some of the requirements for Family Support Certification. See www.certification.ffemh.org for additional information about this certification process.

An important part of the Harris ECMHTP is promoting professional growth that begins with a participant and leads back to positive systems change within agencies. Changes could include such things as stronger communication skills, growing confidence, and increasing interest and creativity in working with families and children. We understand that it is a substantial investment for an agency to release staff for the hours needed to participate in this program. However, we would encourage agencies to have more than one person apply whenever possible. Multiple participants can encourage more dialogs within agencies about program content and strengthen the ability to put learning into practice in the work setting.

COMMITMENT

- One extended day of availability for orientation and initial training activities, Friday, **September 7, 2018**, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Supervisors are required to attend the orientation with trainees from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- The Harris FSP training program will meet for three (3) hours on the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month from 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- The program will include active participatory learning with use of media and written materials and sharing of diverse perspectives.

- Three (3) one-hour Individual Education Enhancement (IEE) meetings with a Harris facilitator to be arranged.

The FSP Program requires a 10-month commitment from September 22, 2018 to June 7, 2019.

Applicants **MUST** have the following:

1. Supervisors and/or Agency Directors will need to complete a letter of commitment stating that they will support employee(s) to attend the Harris FSP training program by releasing them from their regular work duties for the nine (9) hours required for participation as follows:
 - Seminar: 6 hours per month (3 hours per session)
 - Assignments: 2 hours per month (approximate time expected to complete assignments between sessions)
 - Individual Education Enhancement (IEE): 3 one-hour sessions within the 10-month training period
2. Supervisors will be required to attend a 1-hour orientation meeting on Friday, September 7, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m., where expectations will be clearly discussed. Supervisors may also be asked to participate in an evaluation of the program including its influence on the agency and the participant.
3. Applicants are expected to attend all training sessions and complete assignments in between sessions.
4. Applicants must have a willingness to participate in discussions and bring their knowledge, expertise and creative strategies to the group.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION

- Employment or practice in an agency or setting where you have regular opportunities to work with families and young children. We expect that applicants will have many kinds of work, life and educational experiences.
- A desire to enrich your work with young children and families and willingness to be an active participant in the process.
- Instruction will be in English and participants will need access to a computer to view online material and access some written materials.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

1. Complete the accompanying fill-in Application Form and submit along with the required documentation to:

Mailing Address:

Lorraine M. Watts, Administrative Coordinator
Early Intervention Services
UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland
747 52nd Street
Oakland, CA 94609-1809

Email Address: LOWatts@mail.cho.org

Fax: (510) 238-9764

Hand-Delivery Address:

Early Intervention Services

312 Clay Street, Suite 150

Oakland, CA 94607

(Use Keypad Security System to access EIS administrative staff for building entry)

2. Application must be received by **5:00 PM, Wednesday, August 15, 2018**. Faxed or e-mailed applications are acceptable. If submitted electronically, scan and upload forms that require signatures.
3. Interviews will be held August 15-22, 2018
4. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by **the end of August 2018**.

FEES

The costs of this program are supported largely by the Irving Harris Foundation and Title IV-E funds through a partnership with Chabot-Las Positas Community College District and the County of Alameda; however, we require a fee of \$3,000.00 for applicants outside of Alameda County, which must be paid prior to the start of the training unless previous arrangements have been made through Lorraine Watts, EIS Administrative Coordinator at (510) 428-8424 or LOWatts@mail.cho.org.

QUESTIONS

For program design or to arrange to speak to a program graduate to hear more about the impact of this training, contact Kriss Sulka, Harris Program Senior Faculty Team Leader, (510) 326-3350, KSulka@mail.cho.org.

For assistance with the application process, contact Lorraine Watts at (510) 428-8424 or LOWatts@mail.cho.org.