

Mental Health Crisis Response System Training & Workforce Development

2026 Midyear Report

ABOUT THE CENTER

The Center for Evidence to Practice was established in 2018, in collaboration with the Office of Behavioral Health to increase statewide access to best practices to address key behavioral health needs for Medicaid-insured children and families in Louisiana. In 2021, the efforts of the Center expanded to include the Louisiana Mental Health Crisis Response (MHCR) Workforce Training and Development initiative.

The Center, through its partnership with OBH, coordinates and delivers training to crisis providers who implement and render services under the Louisiana Crisis Response System (LA-CRS). The mission of this system is to execute a modern, innovative, and coordinated statewide crisis system that builds upon the existing needs, strengths and resources of Louisiana's Medicaid-serviced individuals and communities. This system includes call center(s), mobile crisis response, community brief crisis support, behavioral health crisis centers, and crisis stabilization providers.



HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

NETWORK OF TRAINERS AND PEERS

10 national and state experts develop and refine training.



LaPAAC

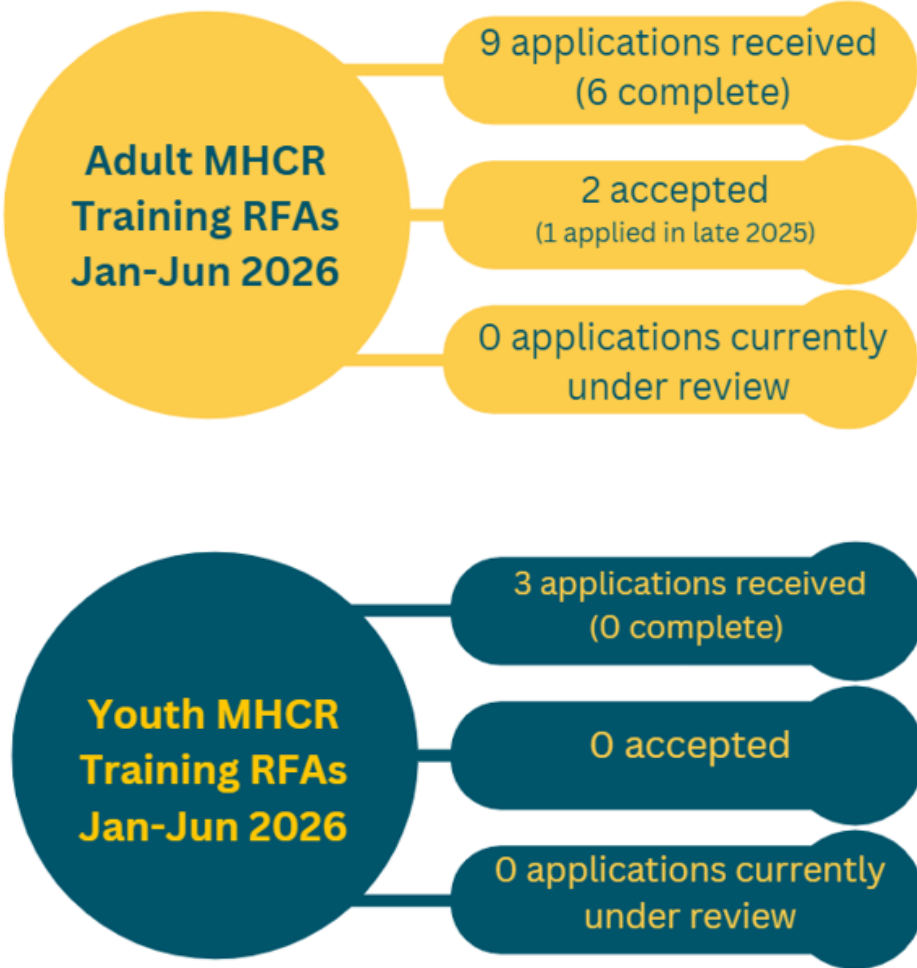
The Louisiana Peer Action and Advocacy Coalition continues to be an instrumental part of the training.



HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

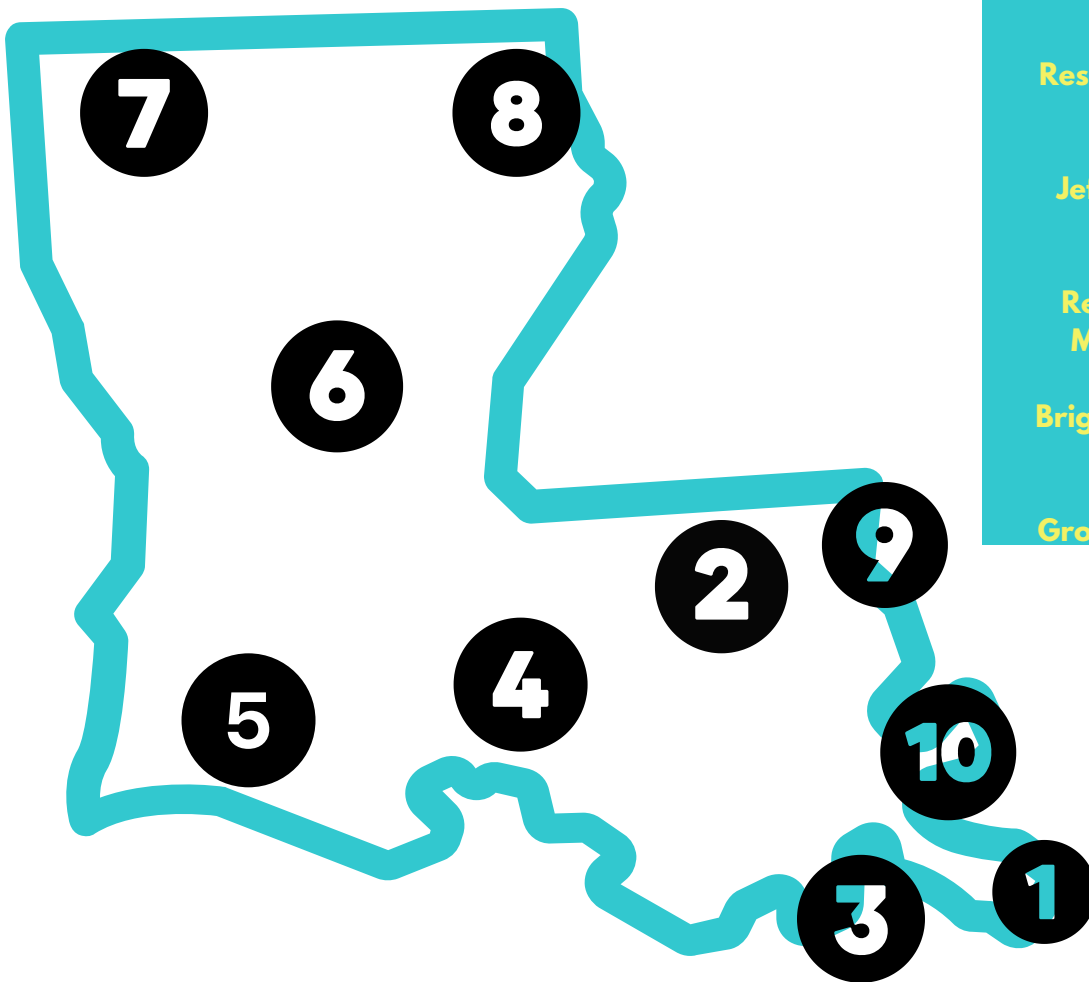
IDENTIFYING THE WORKFORCE

The Center for E2P continues to advertise for the crisis training Request for Applications (RFAs) to identify the readiness of agencies to join workforce training.



HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026 TRAINING THE WORKFORCE

The Center for E2P trained workforce across 13 provider agencies and 5 Managed Care Organizations for both youth and adult LA-CRS.



Adult MHCR Providers

CADA - Region 7
Resources for Human Development - Region 1
RI International - Region 2
Jefferson Parish Human Services District - Region 10
Start Corp - Region 3
Red River Healthcare - Region 6
Morning Star Rehab Services - Region 2
Bright Minds of Louisiana - Region 1
The Extra Mile - Region 4
Gulf Coast - Region 3, 6
Growing Hope Recovery - Region 8

Youth MHCR Providers

Resources for Human Development - Region 1
Southeast Community Health Systems - Region 2, 9
Gulf Coast Family and Teaching Services - Region 3, 6
The Extra Mile - Region 4
Jefferson Parish HSA - Region 10

MHCR TRAINEE DASHBOARD

The Mental Health Crisis Response Workforce Trainee Dashboard Includes key trainee information such as name, agency, role, training status, certification completion, and adult or youth service affiliation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026 TRAINING IMPLEMENTATION

The Center for E2P continues to implement training on a monthly basis.



1,222

CEUs offered to the crisis response workforce over the past 6 months.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

ADULT TRAINING DELIVERY

Adult MHCR Training by the Numbers



6 adult MHCR training cohorts between Jan-Jun



122 registered for training

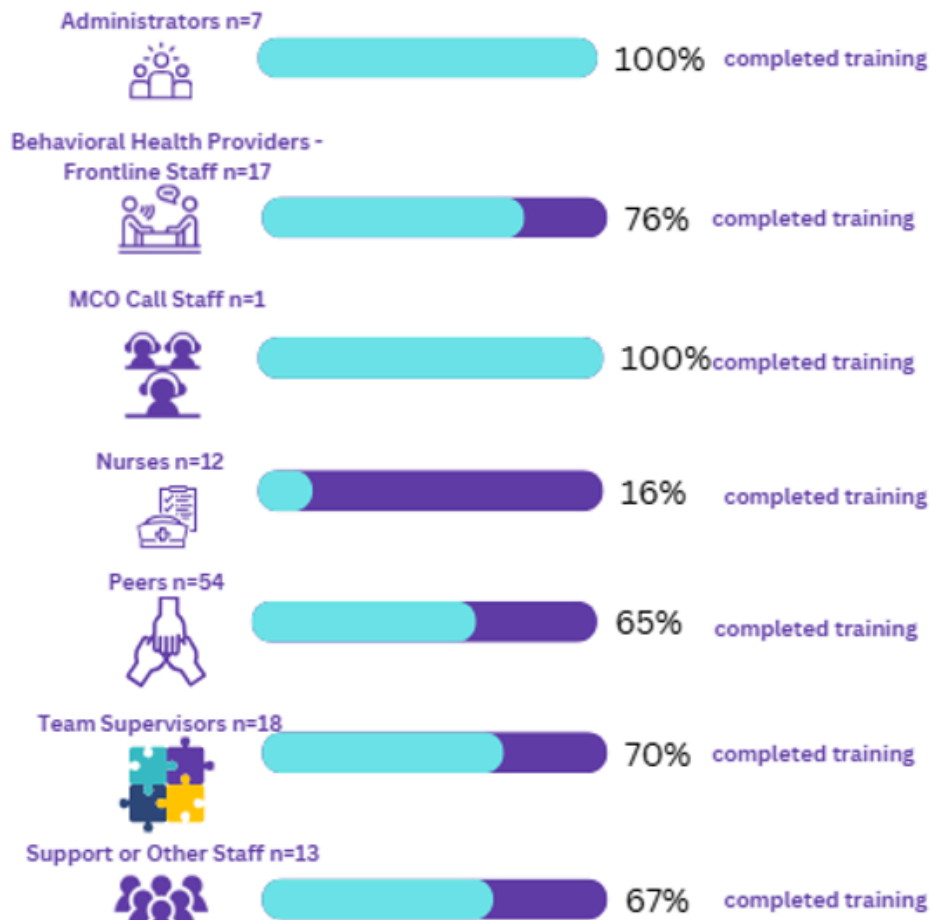


76 fully completed training



32 partially completed training

Participant training status by profession



HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026 YOUTH TRAINING DELIVERY

Youth MHCR Training by the Numbers



6 youth MHCR training cohorts between Jan-Jun 2026



35 registered for training



27 fully completed training



2 partially completed training

Participant training status by profession

Behavioral Health Providers - Frontline Staff n=5



80% completed training

Call Center Staff n=4



100% completed training

Peers n=24



75% completed training

Support or Other Staff n=2



50% completed training

CONSULTING SESSIONS

1

youth crisis service providers that had not completed their monthly consulting sessions continued participation & discussed 3 episodes of care.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

ADVANCED TRAININGS

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The Center continues to offer the following advanced trainings to providers.

Suicide Safety Planning Training

- *Asynchronous*
- *4 modules*
- *Post-youth MHCR Training completion*

Working with Individuals living with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

- *Asynchronous*
- *1 module*

MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING

The Center offered an introductory as well as intermediate Motivational Interviewing trainee to 23 trainees.

WEBINAR: BEYOND THE INITIAL MCR: PREPPING STAFF FOR CBCS

In partnership with CHDI, the Center hosted a 1-hour training webinar on CBCS to 45 individuals.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

COALITION DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY MAPPING

REGIONAL COALITION DEVELOPMENT

Coalition Meetings Jan - Jun 2026

	Coalition	Meeting Frequency	# of Meetings
Jefferson Parish Human Services District	Behavioral Health Task Force (BHFT)	Virtual/In-person monthly	5
CADA	Part of existing crisis response coalition	Monthly	4
The Extra Mile	Part of TTI project	In person	4
Start Corporation	Part of TTI project	In person	4
Gulf Coast Social Services	Part of TTI project	In person	4
Southeast Community Health Systems	Not part of existing crisis response coalition	Virtual monthly	6

JPHSA and RHD also host smaller problem-solving meetings outside of the existing coalitions. The Extra Mile, Start Corporation and Gulf Coast Social Services have been participating in coalition work through the Transformation Transfer Initiative (TTI) grant since January 2026.

LA-CRS providers participated and/or led in coalition meetings across their regions.

- Beginning in 2026, the Center worked with TBD Solutions, a national consultant group, to pilot community crisis system mapping and coalition building in two areas: Region 3 (Gulf Coast Social Services and Start Corporation) and Region 4 (The Extra Mile).
- TBD Solutions facilitated meetings with the local providers and communities to convene agencies that encounter youth and adults experiencing a mental health crisis and, through data and open dialogue, help each agency do more of what they do best to further develop processes to support collaboration and LA-CRS program expansion and sustainability. This included identification of key partners and leaders, mapping local resources and the needs of those communities, identifying opportunities for collaboration, and developing a framework for meeting facilitation with actionable goals.

HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

LOUISIANA CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM COLLABORATION SUMMIT

- On June 18th, the Center in partnership with LDH-OBH coordinated the Louisiana Crisis Response System Collaboration Summit.
- The purpose of this summit was to convene crisis response providers and stakeholders to advance strategic collaborations to support the Louisiana Crisis Response System in local communities.
- A total of 151 individuals registered with 111 attendees.
- All regions were represented at the summit.



HIGHLIGHTS OF JAN-JUN 2026

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Selected Publications & Presentations

1. Honors/Awards

·2026 SAMHSA recognizes the LSU Center for Evidence to Practice for its behavioral health crisis workforce development efforts in its release- Model Standards for Crisis Care Workers. February 2026 - available here <https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/ebp/advisory-model-standards-crisis-care-workers>

2. Publications

·Philippi, S, Gonzalez, G, Nnaji, P, Afaneh, H & Leonardi, C (2026). Study Brief: Louisiana Behavioral Health Crisis System Utilization Projections by Region. Center for Evidence to Practice. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – School of Public Health. New Orleans, LA.

·Philippi, S, Gonzalez, G, Nnaji, P, Afaneh, H & Leonardi, C (2026). Study Brief: Louisiana Behavioral Health Crisis System Projections by Parish, Age, and Insurance Type. Center for Evidence to Practice. Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center – School of Public Health. New Orleans, LA.

3.Conferences/Presentations

·Phillippi, S. (June 10, 2026). National Live Webinar. Improving Youth & Family Engagement in High Stress Moments. National Assessment Center Association.

·Phillippi, S. (2026). Plenary. Hope for Children & Families: Understanding Brains, Bias, Trauma & Responding. Louisiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence- Statewide Children's Advocacy Institute. May 13, 2026. Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

·Conn, A. Phillipi, S., Kramer, R., Smith, R, Richard, N., Sims, C. (2026). The Cost of Mental Health. May 7, 2026. Mandeville, Louisiana. Panel Moderator- Senator Bill Cassidy.

·Nnaji, P, Gonzalez, G, Afaneh, H., Leonardi, C., Nguyen, T. Phillippi, S. (April 7, 2026). Poster- Projecting Behavioral Health Crisis Utilization Across Louisiana. LSUHSC Delta Omega Research Day. New Orleans, La.

·Morris, W., Tanner, K., Phillippi, S., Afaneh, H. (February 23, 2026). National Live Webinar. State Peer-to-Peer Learning Session: Service and Support Considerations for Individuals with Co-occurring Mental Health Conditions and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Across the Crisis Continuum. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Center values its partnership with OBH, Medicaid, the MCOs, and state providers to build and sustain the delivery of crisis services, expand the capacity of trained practitioners, increase access to quality crisis care, and examine practice utilization to better serve Medicaid enrolled people throughout Louisiana. Our team looks forward to this continued partnership.



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