Alert: New MFP-Youth Program Preliminary Announcement

August 26, 2014

Dear Colleagues:

The purpose of this preliminary announcement is to alert social work master’s degree programs and other stakeholders of an anticipated new fellowship program for full-time master’s level minority social work students. Interested parties should begin now to think about likely applicants.

The Council on Social Work Education’s (CSWE’s) Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) has applied for grant funding for a new fellowship program titled Now Is the Time: MFP-Youth Program (NITT MFP-Y), sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The grant program would offer fellowships to master’s level students who are committed to providing mental health services to children and youths (adolescents and young adults aged 16–25) in underserved minority communities. We are confident that CSWE has a very good chance of being awarded the grant. However, the official award notice may not be received until late September or early October. Program officers have advised potential grantees that SAMHSA expects awardees to move very quickly to recruit applicants, select fellows, and begin training once the funding notice is received. A brief overview of the program follows.

*Please note that this is a preliminary announcement of a program that is awaiting notification of funding award.*

**Program Overview**

- One-time fellowship award to full-time, advanced master’s level minority social work students (second year or advanced standing) enrolled in a CSWE-accredited master’s degree program
- Monetary stipend
- Specialized training in mental health issues of children, adolescent, and transition age youths aged 16–25 years, with special emphasis on transition age youths; one face-to-face training and two or three webinar trainings
- Other supports: Conference/mentoring group calls, e-newsletter, program handbook, and directory of fellows

**Fellowship Eligibility**

- Full-time, advanced master’s level social work minority students committed to providing mental health services to children, adolescent, and transition age youths aged 16–25 years, with special emphasis on
transition age youths
- American citizens, noncitizen nationals, or permanent residents
- Ethnic/racial minorities including those who are American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian/Pacific Islander (e.g., Chinese, East Indian, South Asian, Filipino, Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Samoan), Black, or Hispanic (e.g., Mexican/Chicano, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central American, South American)
- Enrollment in two advanced courses in one of the following categories: mental health and/or co-occurring substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery; culturally competent evidence-based practices or services for children, adolescents, and/or transition age youth
- Internship/placement setting that provides mental health services to target population (must provide documentation from program)

Application Materials
- Application form
- Résumé
- Statement of interest/commitment to providing mental health services to target group
- Transcripts (undergraduate and graduate)
- Field placement verification from field director
- Recommendation form/letter

Applications will be reviewed by the MFP-Y Advisory Committee, a volunteer group working to advance the mission of the program. The Advisory Committee will be composed of persons with demonstrated experience, expertise, or knowledge of mental health and substance abuse issues of children, adolescents, and transition age youth with a focus on underserved minority groups and a commitment to training and mentoring for behavioral health direct practice.

Further information will be made available when CSWE receives confirmation of the grant award