

Background

After recognizing a growing number of nursing facility residents with complex behavioral health needs and limited staff capacity to support them, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established the Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities (COE-NF) to improve the quality of life and care for residents with serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorders (SUD), and co-occurring disorders (COD).

Subject Matter Experts (SME) 2023-today

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

Since 2023, the COE-NF has leveraged its extensive network of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to support nursing facilities in improving processes, ensuring compliance, and maintaining high-quality standards. This has been achieved through:

- ▶ Delivering tailored trainings developed and led by a diverse and experienced directory of SMEs.
- ▶ Hosting monthly office hours facilitated by SMEs to provide direct support and guidance.
- ▶ Publishing a monthly newsletter featuring original articles authored by SMEs on a wide range of relevant topics.
- ▶ Establishing a Technical Expert Panel (TEP) composed of SMEs in substance use, mental health, and nursing home administration that provide guidance and recommendations.

RESULTS



A total of **54 tailored virtual training events** have been delivered by SMEs, including **38 at the national level** and **13 at the regional level** — representing a **184% increase since Year One**.



A total of 35 SMEs have been added to our directory of experts, offering support and guidance in resource development, training, and consultations – representing a **169 % increase since Year One**.



Scan the QR code to access additional resources, training opportunities, and success stories from COE-NF in action.

www.nursinghomebehavioralhealth.org