

Advancing Behavioral Health in Nursing Facilities: National Impact of the COE-NF Initiative

BACKGROUND

In response to the growing number of nursing facility residents with complex behavioral health needs and the limited number of facility staff trained to support these conditions, 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). This three-year national initiative provided behavioral health training, technical assistance consultations, and resources to nursing facilities to enhance the quality of care for residents with serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorders (SUD), and co-occurring disorders (COD).

NATIONAL REACH - 2022-2025

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

The COE-NF obtained national reach by:

- Creating a centralized hub of behavioral health resources, training, and workforce development support for nursing facilities.
- Disseminating tailored materials to nursing facilities via social media, email, and text messaging to improve knowledge and understanding of SMI, SUD and COD.
- Building strategic national, regional, and state partnerships to support a wide range of impactful initiatives.
- Providing live and on-demand training, allowing staff to learn at their convenience.

RESULTS

Database Reach:



26.3K





Training:



40,932 individuals trained



19,320



Resources:



61.543 resources downloaded



10,316

Collaboration:



Partnered with 193 organizations: 25 national, 168 regional



Scan the QR code to access resources and recorded training from the COE-NF.

www.nursinghomebehavioralhealth.org



The Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health In Nursing Facilities (COE-NF) activities captured in this document were completed by Alliant Health Solutions under a cooperative agreement with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). 10/2025