



Youth Mental Health First Aid

WHAT IS MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Most of us would know how to help if we saw someone having a heart attack - we'd start CPR, or at the very least, call 9-1-1; but too few of us know how to respond if we saw someone having a panic attack or were concerned if a friend or co-worker might be showing signs of depression or substance use. Mental Health First Aid is an internationally recognized curriculum, and was created to de-stigmatize mental health and expand the safety net of help within communities. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. YOUTH Mental Health First Aid in particular is designed for adults who regularly interact with young people. Parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens will learn how to help an adolescent who is experiencing a mental health or addiction challenge, or is in crisis.

What will I learn? The MHFA curriculum includes:

- ❖ Risk factors and warning signs for mental health & addiction concerns
- ❖ Strategies for discussing signs and symptoms
- ❖ Basic information on depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and addiction disorders.
- ❖ ALGEE; the five-step action plan to help someone developing a mental health problem or is in crisis.
- ❖ Resources - Where to turn for help; professional, peer, and self-help resources

Trainers: MHFA certified instructors from Crisis Support Services of Alameda County (CSS).

Target Audience: Any classification of staff at Alameda County Behavioral Health, contracted CBOs, and contracted providers who are interested in learning how to recognize signs and assist a young person in mental health or substance use crisis and non-crisis situations. **NOTE:** *While clinicians are welcome to attend as a refresher course, no CE credits are available.*

Training Details – Things to be aware of: MHFA is a national certification. Participants who complete the pre-requisite work AND attend the online live training portion will receive a certificate from the Mental Health First Aid organization, good for 3 years. The first portion of the course consists of a 2-hour, self-paced online curriculum, to be completed before the live training. On the day-of training, there are several interactive portions of the online/live class.

If you have an accommodation request or would like to report a grievance about an ACBH-hosted training, contact the ACBH Training Unit: Training.Unit@acgov.org;

Date: October 5, 2022

Time: 9am-4:00pm*

(*plus 2-hour commitment to complete online pre-course work BEFORE training*)

Location: Virtual (online)

Register at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YMHFA10522>

NOTE: REGISTRATION CLOSES ON SEPT. 14. After signing up, you will receive an EMAIL within 2 business days, containing INSTRUCTIONS about making your MHFA login and how to do the pre-coursework. PLEASE BE SURE to look for and RESPOND to ALL emails from Crisis Support Services about MHFA.

- ❖ For questions about your registration or pre-course work, please contact Mercedes Coleman: mcoleman@crisissupport.org

Other IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- ❖ Due to small class capacity, please register with the intent to complete both the pre-course work and attend on the day of training. Empty or cancelled seats cannot be back-filled.
- ❖ The, pre-coursework is REQUIRED by MHFA National Council for Mental Wellbeing. It must complete PRIOR to training in order to attend the class.

For other questions about this training please email:

training.unit@acgov.org