

2020 Georgia Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) Project

The purpose of the MHAT project is to: (1) train individuals (e.g., school personnel, emergency first responders, law enforcement, veterans, armed services members and their families) to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental health disorders, particularly serious mental illness (SMI) and/or serious emotional disturbance (SED); (2) establish linkages with school- and/or community-based mental health agencies to refer individuals with the signs or symptoms of mental illness to appropriate services; (3) train emergency services personnel, veterans, law enforcement, fire department personnel, and others to identify persons with a mental health disorder and employ crisis de-escalation techniques; and (4) educate individuals about resources that are available in the community for individuals with a mental health disorder.

It is expected that this project will prepare and train others on how to appropriately and safely respond to individuals with mental health disorders, particularly individuals with SMI and/or SED.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The goal of the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Office of Behavioral Health Prevention (OBHP), MHAT Project is to increase the capacity of Georgia communities to reduce suicide risk that may contribute to suicide attempts and/or death by suicide. Objectives include the following:

Objective 1: By September 29, 2021, a total of at least 20 evidence based mental health awareness trainings will be provided annually targeting counties in DBHDD regions 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 that were identified in 2015 as being the highest death by suicide counties in Georgia.

Objective 2: By September 29, 2021, at least 90% of populations of focus referred to participating Tier 1 Comprehensive Community Provider mental health resources by individuals trained in MHAT will be tracked.

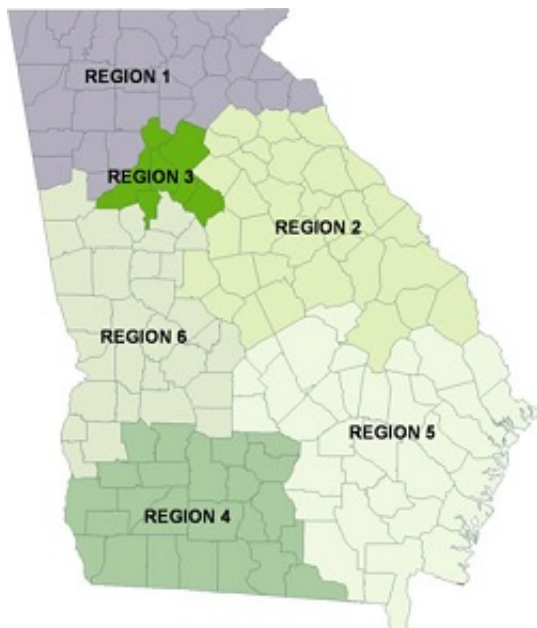
Objective 3: By the end of the three-year project, OBHP proposes to train at least unduplicated 600 individuals (average 200 per year). Included in the six hundred total will be fifty certified training of trainers with grant funds. This will enhance the sustainability of mental health awareness training capacity post grant.

TRAINING SCHEDULE and LOCATIONS

Trainings offered will vary by region and will be scheduled through the designated MHA T Project Provider Agency in each region based on needs assessed from Georgia Public Health OASIS data. Click the **Training Calendar** tab to view the 2020 training schedule. The physical address for training in each region and more information on the MHAT

Project Providers can be found under the **Training Locations** tab.

For more information about DBHDD regions, view the regional field office links below:



[Region 1 Field Office](#)

[Region 2 Field Office](#)

[Region 3 Field Office](#)

[Region 4 Field Office](#)

[Region 5 Field Office](#)

[Region 6 Field Office](#)

CANCELLATION POLICY & PROGRAM EVALUATION

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellations are accepted in writing up to two (2) business days (48 hours) prior to the scheduled course date - send an email to suicide.prevention@dbhdd.ga.gov with the phrase "Cancel My Training Registration" in the subject line. If you don't cancel two business days before the scheduled course date you registered for, you will be considered absent if you do not attend. Multiple no-shows will result in you being placed on a wait-list for future courses. You are also encouraged to notify the host site contact listed on the [Training Locations](#) tab if you are unable to attend the training. A qualified substitute participant is welcome to attend in your place.

EVALUATION

To assist us with improving future courses, we may contact you for additional feedback.

For further information about the MHAT Project, contact:

suicide.prevention@dbhdd.ga.gov

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<https://dbhdd.georgia.gov/suicide-prevention>

