



## NJAMHAA Educational Council

### Fact Sheet

The **Educational Council** was established to close the gap between theory and practice in community behavioral health; to provide opportunities for students to learn about community behavioral health and attract them to internships and careers in this field; and to promote development of the future workforce. The Council is also focused on eliminating stigma and providing input to the Governor's Council on Mental Health Stigma for a campaign that also aims to promote behavioral health professions.

### What does NJAMHAA do?

NJAMHAA represents 180 hospital-based and freestanding community mental healthcare and addiction treatment agencies throughout New Jersey— all **potential students for your institution** —that treat more than 1 million incidences of mental illness and substance abuse per year in more than 500,000 children and adults, with combined budgets of over \$800 million and employ approximately 98,000 professional behavioral health staff members.

### Member Services

- Early notification of employment, mentoring and intern opportunities for students
- Opportunity to plan and participate in a Career Fair during NJAMHAA's annual conference each spring, allowing those in the field opportunities for job placement
- Eligibility for the same low rate as NJAMHAA members at the many NJAMHAA-sponsored training programs and conferences that examine the issues that affect the behavioral healthcare industry
- Subscriptions to electronic publications:
  - *NJAMHAA Newswire*: Published daily, this newsletter provides up-to-date information on state and federal budgets, legislation and regulations that impact the mental health, substance abuse and developmental disabilities communities; funding, business development and training opportunities; trends in the healthcare and other related industries; and more.
  - *NJAMHAA News*: Published bimonthly, this publication features the activities and achievements of NJAMHAA members, including IHC members, and provides details on upcoming NJAMHAA events, as well as highlights on recent past events and the impact of NJAMHAA staff's initiatives.
  - *Bits & Bytes*: Provides valuable tips to keep your information technology (IT) systems working safely and efficiently, as well as important news related to IT and the behavioral healthcare field, such as HIPAA security and electronic records.

As a member, you are more than welcome to share your organization's information in *Newswire* and *NJAMHAA News*. Please contact Managing Editor Shauna Moses with information at any time. Shauna would also like to interview you and others at your organization and develop a feature article for *NJAMHAA News*. She can be reached at 609-838-5488, ext. 204, or [smoses@njamhaa.org](mailto:smoses@njamhaa.org).

In addition, you can advertise in *NJAMHAA News* at discounted membership rates. Please contact Shauna for these details, as well.

### **NJAMHAA Educational Council Goals**

- Create a forum for the cultivation, support and encouragement of social workers and other mental health professionals from diverse backgrounds to pursue advanced degrees and enter the community behavioral health system.
- Provide educational opportunities for community behavioral health centers to understand, influence and enhance the development of degree programs for social workers, mental health and addiction counselors and professionals in other related fields, such as nurses and psychiatrists
- Provide opportunities for educational institutions and NJAMHAA member agencies to collaborate on public policy initiatives.

### **Membership dues**

There is no membership fee involved with joining the NJAMHAA Educational Council, but interested participants are still required to fill out the application.

Participants from universities and institutions of higher education are required to attend and/or exhibit at our Annual Fall Behavioral Healthcare Meeting and Annual NJAMHAA and Information Technology Conferences in the spring.

You have so much to gain by becoming involved in the Educational Council.

Debra L. Wentz, Ph.D., Chief Executive Officer

For more information, contact Shauna Moses • 609-838-5488, ext. 204 • [smoses@njamhaa.org](mailto:smoses@njamhaa.org)

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