

Project FUTRE: Families Uplifted Through Recovery Education

The University of Arizona

Project Director:

Todd Vanderah, PhD, Department Head, Pharmacology, College of Medicine, Director Comprehensive Center for Pain & Addiction (CCPA)

Co-investigators:

Benjamin Brady, DrPH
Jennifer S. De La Rosa, PhD
Allison Huff, DHEd
Alyssa Padilla, MPH



Goal: to increase and diversify the number of Arizona Parent & Family Support Specialists who are trained to work with children, adolescents and families impacted by opioid and other substance use disorders (OUD/SUD) in high-need and high-demand areas.

Summary: Over a four-year period, Project FUTRE aims to enroll 90 and graduate 74 behavioral health paraprofessionals. Graduates will join the behavioral health workforce with a minimum of 32 receiving additional training as AZ Department of Economic Security approved Family Support Specialist apprentices. U of A will partner with health and social service organizations to set up experiential learning and apprenticeship sites in Pima, Maricopa, Graham, Yuma and statewide. Project FUTRE is an interdisciplinary initiative between the U of A Health Sciences, Comprehensive Center for Pain & Addiction, College of Medicine, the Department of Family and Community Medicine's Workforce Development Program and Western Michigan University.

Certification Training: Enroll 90 and graduate 74 behavioral health paraprofessionals to serve OUD/SUD-impacted families by August 2028.

Apprenticeship: Place 32 trainees in OUD/SUD-related behavioral health and social service setting apprenticeships by August 2028.

Health Equity: Provide financial support and technology resources to all trainees to reduce social and health barriers and improve participation and successful completion.

Monitor and evaluate project results: Assess enrollment, graduation, and long-term employment rates; conduct continuous quality improvement; communicate successes and challenges through stakeholder and academic publications.

For more information or to apply to Project FUTRE, go to <https://www.fcm.arizona.edu/Project-FUTRE>



This program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling ~\$2.4 million under grant number T26HP39459. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA/HHS, or the U.S. Government. Updated October 21, 2024