2021 - 2022 Overdose Data to Action

OD2A Mentorship Program: Leadership Track

Request for Applications

Application Deadline: February 28, 2022

Project Summary

**Background:** The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is pleased to announce a capacity building and technical assistance (CBTA) opportunity for Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) cooperative agreement leadership. This CBTA opportunity, the *OD2A Mentorship Program: Leadership Track*, will be open to Principal Investigators (PIs), Program Managers (PMs), and other OD2A management to develop leadership skills and take part in a peer mentor-mentee exchange with OD2A management of other jurisdictions. The *OD2A Mentorship Program: Leadership Track* will focus on targeted mentorship, leadership development, facilitation, and partnership-building in support of prevention and surveillance activities as part of the OD2A cooperative agreement to reduce overdose morbidity and mortality.

This program will allow participants to intentionally focus on leadership at personal and organizational levels with supportive training, coaching, and peer interaction with OD2A colleagues. The program allows OD2A leaders to intentionally invest in themselves through professional development and skill-building to more effectively lead their jurisdiction’s OD2A efforts.

ASTHO will support up to six OD2A leaders from different jurisdictions to participate in this program. This program provides a platform to identify and discuss challenges, celebrate successes, and share ideas through peer exchange. ASTHO will match newer OD2A leaders with more seasoned OD2A leaders from the group and the pairs will be encouraged to communicate monthly. Further, individualized career coaching and leadership training will be provided and will build upon group interactions. The training and collaborative sessions will allow participants to develop leadership skills and enhance their network through relationship-building.

**Timeline:**

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<tr>
<th>Feb 2022</th>
<th>Mar 2022</th>
<th>Apr 2022 BSL</th>
<th>May 2022 BSL</th>
<th>July 2022 BSL</th>
<th>July 2022 Closeout Call and Eval</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Deadline</td>
<td>Program Kickoff Call</td>
<td>Training #1</td>
<td>Training #2</td>
<td>Training #3</td>
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**Eligibility:** OD2A principal investigators, program managers, and other OD2A project leadership.
Project Elements and Expectations

Purpose

The OD2A cooperative agreement leadership staff support both overdose prevention and surveillance activities within their jurisdictions. The responsibilities involved in leading the OD2A cooperative agreement include vast content knowledge, an understanding of organizational structure and financial stewardship, adaptable leadership skills, partnership building, and effective cross-sectoral engagement. These skills are all vital to developing a sustainable and effective approach to combatting the overdose crisis through the OD2A strategies. ASTHO is providing a mentorship program for OD2A cooperative agreement leadership to support staff in these responsibilities and skills. This program will convene new and experienced OD2A cooperative agreement leaders to participate in Boundary Spanning Leadership training from the Center for Creative Leadership (CCL) and provide an opportunity to celebrate successes, identify challenges, and share ideas through peer exchange and a structured mentor-mentee relationship. This program will also include guidance materials provided by ASTHO and CCL’s targeted career coaching.

Intended Outcomes

- Increase participants’ capacity and confidence to lead OD2A-related activities to reduce overdose morbidity and mortality.
- Strengthen participants’ professional network of OD2A leadership from fellow recipient jurisdictions.
- Enhance participants’ program management capacity through collaboration and career coaching.

Project Activities, Participant Expectations, and Participant Benefits

Participants are expected to commit to the following activities within the project period:

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<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Intent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virtual Kick-Off Call</td>
<td>Approximately 1 hour</td>
<td>• Understand project purpose, expectations, and goals.</td>
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<td>• Identify skills to model throughout the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Virtual Boundary Spanning Leadership Trainings</td>
<td>Approximately 2 hours each</td>
<td>• Participate in leadership workshops focused on cross-sectoral relationship-building to achieve OD2A goals.</td>
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<td>• Develop skills to identify and work through challenges to create cross-sectoral relationships to support overdose prevention and surveillance activities.</td>
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<td>• Discuss successes and challenges in the OD2A cooperative agreement, engage with ASTHO-provided guidance materials, receive technical support, and engage in peer-to-peer learning around project management.</td>
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Mentor-Mentee Exchanges  |  Up to 3 communications  |  • Provide an opportunity for mutual learning and exchange, recognizing the unique perspectives that both newer and more seasoned participants offer.

Individualized Career Coaching  |  Up to 4 hours  |  • Consult with career coaches to identify personal and professional areas for growth as part of the OD2A cooperative agreement to support efforts to reduce overdose morbidity and mortality.

Close Out Call (Final Evaluation)  |  Approximately 1 hour  |  • Evaluate ASTHO’s CBTA process and impact.
• Record thoughts and insights from the experience in an exit interview style close out call.

Participants can anticipate the following expectations and benefits as part of the mentor-mentee relationship within the project period:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Expectations</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
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| Experienced OD2A Leadership  |  • Develop objectives and goals for mentor-mentee communications and career coaches.  
• Participate in up to three mentor-mentee communications (e.g., email, phone call) as mentor.  
• Up to four personalized professional career coaching sessions.  
• Expert guidance around mentor-mentee communications and relationship.  
• Recognition of expertise to shape developing leaders.  
• Strengthen mentorship capacity through ASTHO and CCL guidance. |
| Newer OD2A Leadership  |  • Develop objectives and goals for mentor-mentee communications and career coaches.  
• Participate in up to three mentor-mentee communications (e.g., email, phone call).  
• Gaining valuable insight from leaders in the field via mentor communications with seasoned OD2A leadership.  
• Expert guidance around mentor-mentee communications and relationship.  
• Up to four personalized career coaching sessions for specific career advancement discussions. |

**Application Information**

**Application Package**

Participation in this opportunity is open to all OD2A cooperative agreement leadership, such as principal investigators (PIs) and program managers (PMs) interested in improving their capacity for activities required of OD2A leadership. The application package requires a statement of interest and a statement of support from a direct supervisor.
Application Type and Submission Process

Please complete the Qualtrics application by 11:59 p.m. ET on February 28. Incomplete applications or applications received after the deadline will not be considered. If you are having issues accessing the online application, please contact Alyssa Merski (amerski@astho.org) for other submission options. Please note that ASTHO will prioritize selections based on the applicant’s needs.

Timeline

Application submission deadline: Feb. 28, 2022
Project period: March 2022 – July 2022
Evaluations due: Aug. 2022

Contact Information
If you have any questions about the application or the project, please contact Alyssa Merski, Senior Analyst, Social and Behavioral Health: amerski@astho.org

Disclaimer Notice

This RFA is not binding on ASTHO, nor does it constitute a contractual offer. Without limiting the foregoing, ASTHO reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to reject any or all proposals; to modify, supplement, or cancel the RFA; to waive any deviation from the RFA; to negotiate regarding any proposal; and to negotiate final terms and conditions that may differ from those stated in the RFA. Under no circumstances shall ASTHO be liable for any costs incurred by any person in connection with the preparation and submission of a response to this RFA.