



Tuesday, July 26, 2016

## **Expanding the Addiction and Mental Health Professional Workforce: Become a Partner in Efforts to Recruit New Students to the Field!**

It is more imperative now than ever that we recruit and retain our professional addiction and mental health workforce. The current opioid crisis, the impending challenges related to marijuana availability, and the thousands of lives affected by alcohol and other substance abuse and/or mental health disorders is coinciding with a nationwide shortage of professionals trained to work in this specialty field. The addiction and mental health professional workforce must grow and strengthen to manage this increased demand for its vital services.

Ohio is one of three states recently selected by The Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) to plan in a Workforce for the Future Forum and you are invited to participate! The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, in collaboration with Columbus State Community College, is hosting a forum to raise college student awareness about the need for addiction and mental health professionals, the benefits, and advancement those opportunities for employment hold. The goal of this activity is to increase the number of college students interested in these specialized addiction disciplines. Due to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Mental Health Parity, and the Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), there will be more employment opportunities for new professionals to find and maintain employment in disciplines that are on the rise and gaining credibility in the overall health care world.

The forum agenda will highlight information regarding the workforce need and benefits, and feature speakers that have been successful in their education and placement in the workforce. The event will include participation of employers who will discuss the field and its employment opportunities. It will also include vendors to provide information about the field and various professional disciplines. Students will have the opportunity to network and learn! Snacks and beverages will be served. Students can register now at [www.naadac.org/samhsa-naadac-workforce-forum](http://www.naadac.org/samhsa-naadac-workforce-forum).

### **EVENT LOGISTICS**

Date: Thursday, September 8, 2016

Time: 9:30am – 12:30pm

Location: CSCC Center for Workforce  
Development Building  
315 Cleveland Avenue,  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

### **HOW TO GET INVOLVED:**

- Be a vendor (treatment, peer recovery, financial aid, etc.)
- Host a satellite location
- Advertise and promote it in your class, treatment center, recovery center, etc.
- Transport students to the event

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