

Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers
Date of Final Award - January 25, 2022

Name of Program: Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers

Purpose:

This Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS) for the development of Cultural Competency Training and Practice for Opioid Treatment Providers (OTPs). This RFP is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response Grant (SOR). The contract award is through September 29, 2022, depending on federal appropriations. Through this initiative, the successful bidder will provide training, coaching, and consultation services to counselors and leadership employed at Department of Health (DOH)-licensed OTPs. The goal of this initiative is to narrow the treatment gap experienced by Black/African Americans who are diagnosed with opioid and stimulant use disorders and who are statistically less likely to receive or access services. A second goal of this initiative is to increase the prescribing of Medication for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) among the Black/African American community. This project will provide OTP counselors and agency leadership with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to ensure that services are provided in a manner which exemplifies the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) in Health and Health Care and SAMHSA's *TIP 59: Improving Cultural Competence*. While it can be challenging to take a holistic view of an individual and see more than the substance use disorder (SUD), this may be even more so for Black/African Americans who are subjected to the implicit biases of the health care system. Failing to bridge a racial cultural divide often contributes to premature termination of treatment among people of color. When the cultural context is ignored or misunderstood, respect for the client is lacking, little hope is provided, and it becomes challenging for Black/African Americans with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) to engage in treatment. DMHAS awarded one contract in the amount of \$750,000.

Agency Name	CEO/Executive Director	Amount Funded
Family Connections, Inc.	Jacques Hryshko, LPC, Chief Executive Officer	\$750,000