



October 14, 2024

Libby Abbott
Deputy Director of the Health Workforce Development
Health Care Access & Information (HCAI)
Via Email

Dear Libby,

On behalf of the CA Coalition for Behavioral Health (CCBH), I am writing to express support for the [UCI School of Medicine's Train New Trainers \(TNT\) Fellowship program](#), which aims to improve and expand behavioral health services provided in primary care environments throughout California, including in underserved communities.

The TNT Fellowship Program strengthens the behavioral continuum of care by better equipping professionals in primary care settings with necessary skills and knowledge to address the behavioral health needs of their patients and broadens their understanding of the services provided by mental health and substance use professionals, as part of holistic integrated care between behavioral healthcare and medical practice.

The program's commitment to training new trainers ensures a sustainable impact, creating a ripple effect where knowledge and expertise are continually propagated throughout the medical community. This multiplied effect will significantly enhance the availability and quality of behavioral health services for all Californians.

As HCAI works to build out the behavioral health workforce, we urge you to incorporate support for the TNT Fellowship Program within your strategic planning efforts. Thank you for your dedication to advancing the behavioral health workforce and for considering our strong support of this program.

Should you require any further information or assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Theresa Comstock, President
CA Coalition for Behavioral Health (CCBH)
Email: ccbh@cbehavioralhealth.org

Cc: Sharmil Shah, Psy.D., Assistant Deputy Director for Health Workforce Development, HCAI