

The Geriatric Certificate Training Curriculum Committee is currently seeking greater representation of peers, clinicians and other providers with experience designing and delivering services for the older adult population. Guided by the California Master Plan for Aging, the Geriatric Certificate Training program offers engaging and interactive Introductory and Advanced training series to help providers, caregivers, and peers provide culturally competent, trauma-informed, resiliency-oriented services to the older adult population. These series train participants to identify, assess, and address unique behavioral health needs of older adults while recognizing the impact of cultural, generational, and trauma experiences. This program is coordinated by Responsive Integrated Health Solutions (RIHS), a program within the Academy for Professional Excellence, a project of San Diego State University School of Social work, serving over 50,000 health and human service professionals annually.

The Academy's mission is to provide exceptional workforce development and learning experiences for the transformation of individuals, organizations, and communities. The mission of RIHS is to ensure the delivery of culturally responsive, person-focused, co-occurring, recovery oriented, and resiliency centered services by providing training, workforce development, technical assistance, and peer-facilitated education to the behavioral health community. RIHS provides workforce development services to the County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services community in the form of classroom training, eLearning, webinars, coaching, conferences and convening, and organizational support through practice implementation support, community engagement, collaboration, strategic planning, and evaluation.

The Geriatric Certificate Training Curriculum Committee is a collaborative team of RIHS staff and those who serve older adults in San Diego County, including behavioral health service providers, County quality improvement professionals, staff development professionals within community-based programs, family advocates, and peer support specialists. The representation of these diverse perspectives helps to ensure the development of culturally competent workforce development tools to address the needs of older adults throughout the whole Behavioral Health System of Care. Our ultimate goal is to improve outcomes for individuals, older adults and caregivers seeking behavioral health services across the Adult/Older Adult sector by supporting the workforce with timely, relevant, and innovative training. The committee supports these efforts by:

- Recommending training topics and content
- Providing trainer and facilitator recommendations
- Providing input to determine desired behavioral outcomes
- Representing the workforce development needs of service providers

Committee members should have a commitment to improved service delivery, systems improvement, and better outcomes for individuals, older adults, caregivers, and families as guided by the Five Bold Goals for 2030 of the [California Master Plan on Aging](#). If you meet these criteria and have an interest in supporting this committee, please contact the Training and Curriculum Coordinator Donovan Ackley III, Ph.D. at [dackleyiii@sdsu.edu](mailto:dackleyiii@sdsu.edu).