

NCIBH Commitment Statement on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

In recognition of the need for a national response to the epidemic of opioid addiction in the U.S., the National Center for Integrated Behavioral Health has joined the National Academy of Medicine, the American Association of Medical Colleges, and more than 55 other organizations to form the Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic.

The National Center for Integrated Behavioral Health (NCIBH) is a HRSA-funded academic unit of primary care training and enhancement. Our mission is to prepare primary care clinicians with the expertise and leadership for integrated behavioral health care. We serve as a national innovation hub for testing, developing, and disseminating best practices to improve the quality, accessibility, and effectiveness of treatment for mental health and substance use disorders in primary care through effective training models.

Mental health and substance use disorders are major public health challenges in the US. Primary care providers are critically-positioned to identify and respond to mental health and substance use disorders, but current education programs do not adequately prepare them to maximize the benefits of evidence-based interventions.

Through the development of a **learning collaborative and other communities of practice**, the NCIBH is dedicated to catalyzing the shared development and dissemination of evidence-based opioid use disorder (OUD) care and providing an ecosystem to enable training in opioid use disorder management to advance access to high quality care. The NCIBH is committed to collaborating with health systems, providers, government representatives, and others to identify workforce training gaps, transform education in primary care, and disseminate solutions to improve the quality care in the U.S.

