

# THE "A" TEAM: BUILDING SYNERGY IN PRE-SERVICE PROVIDER TRAINING, HIV, AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



Schechtman, B.<sup>1</sup>; Albright, L.<sup>2</sup>; Velazquez, M.<sup>2</sup>; Woll, P.<sup>2</sup>; Sayad, J.<sup>3</sup>; Peters, K.<sup>3</sup>; Coady, J.<sup>4</sup>; Bingaman, D.<sup>4</sup>

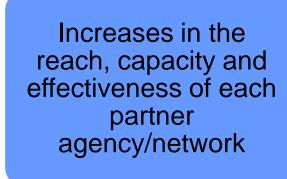
<sup>1</sup> Midwest AIDS Training + Education Center; <sup>2</sup> Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center; <sup>3</sup> Illinois Area Health Education Center; <sup>4</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Region V; <sup>5</sup> Health Resources and Services Administration, Region V

#### Why We Started

The A-Team was first convened on April 11, 2012, with an ambitious goal:

To improve the overall health of the participating organizations' target populations

Exploration of the A-Team networks' commonalities and opportunities for exchange of resources, integration of services, and collaboration



Improvement in the overall health of participating organizations' target population(s)

#### Who We Are

AETCs

AHECs

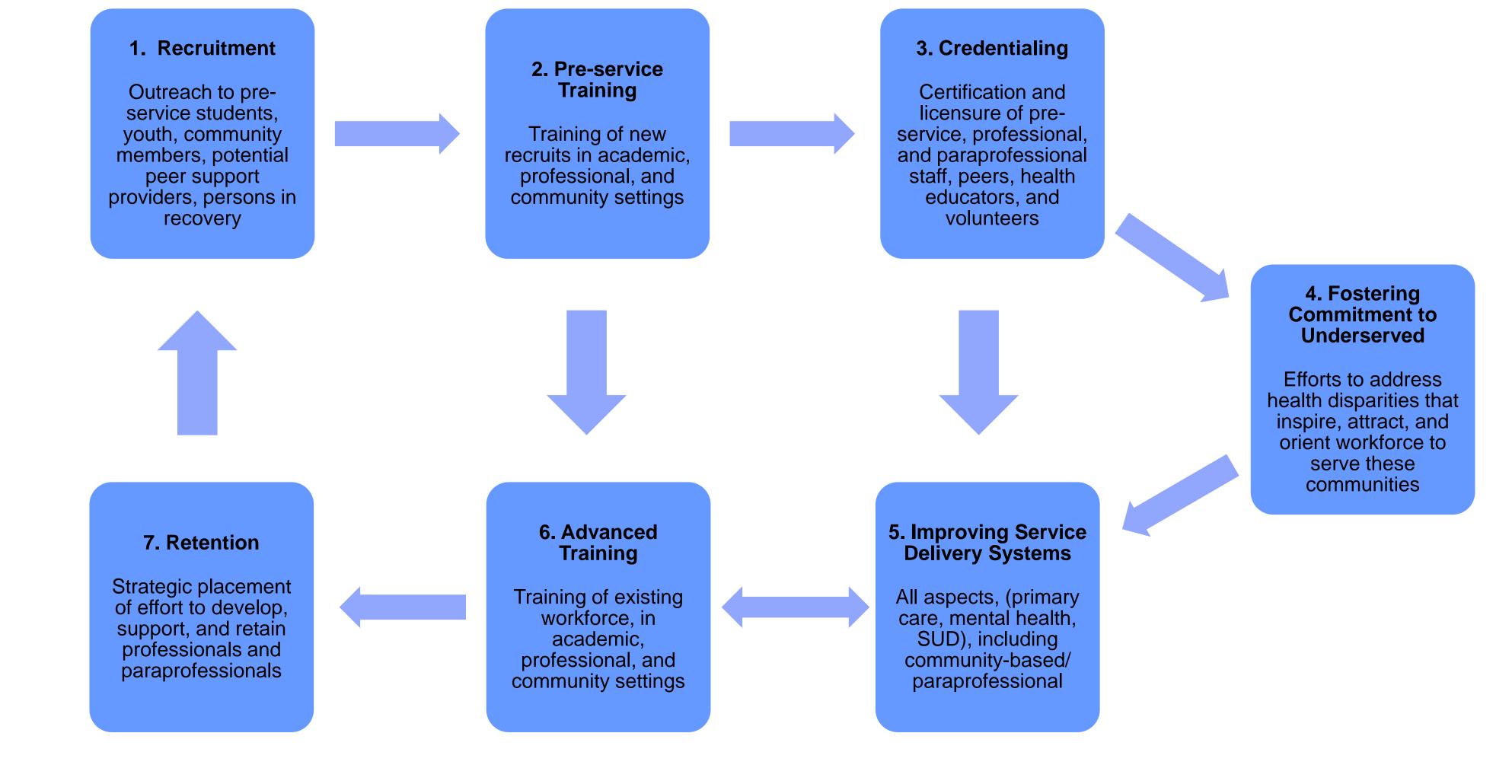
ATTCs



Convened by: SAMHSA/HRSA, Region V

### Where We Can Have An Impact

#### Health Care Workforce Development Functions



## The Way Forward

(some of our ideas)

- ✓ Foster collaboration between IL-AHEC and SAMHSA to create a multi-disciplinary practicum program designed to give public health, behavioral health and counseling students exposure to community-based prevention efforts and policy initiatives
- ✓ Focus on the possibility of developing an "SBIRT-Plus" model that will include not only brief screening for substance use disorders (abuse and dependence), but also for mental health conditions (including serious mental illnesses) and HIV. Begin with self-education on SBIRT (underway)
- ✓ Create a distance-based program for substance use disorder and mental health training, a collaborative effort of MATEC and the ATTCs. Disseminate this program using the IL-AHEC network. (in discussion)
- ✓ Discuss ways in which the ATTCs and AHECs might help the AETCs improve their response to other issues
- ✓ Engage MATEC and ATTCs in IL-AHEC career awareness events, to encourage careers in mental health and addictions counseling
- ✓ Share information about routine HIV testing throughout the ATTCs and the IL-AHEC network. (underway)

The views expressed are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of Health and Human Services or the United States Government.