Centers of Excellence in MCH in Education, Science, and Practice Fact Sheet

PROGRAM PURPOSE
The mission of the Centers of Excellence in MCH in Education, Science and Practice (Centers of Excellence) is to improve the health of women, infants, children, youth, and their families. Administered within accredited schools of public health, these programs support graduate education at the masters and doctoral levels. Centers of Excellence programs prepare students for leadership in MCH through exposure to the knowledge and skills needed to build public health capacity, through practical experience, and through collaboration with communities and Title V MCH partners.

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE GRADUATES
Centers of Excellence (COE) graduates work as leaders in public health agencies, community-based organizations, policy organizations and other not-for-profit organizations aimed at improving the health of women, children, and families. COE graduates are able to:

- Demonstrate the MCH Leadership Competencies,
- Incorporate the public health principles of health promotion/disease prevention into professional activities,
- Demonstrate understanding of public and private systems of care,
- Demonstrate skills in management and strategic planning,
- Participate in policy development,
- Apply principles of coordinated, family-centered care to practice,
- Apply principles of culturally competent care to practice,
- Establish and maintain community-based linkages,
- Apply interdisciplinary team skills to solve public health problems,
- Demonstrate effective communication skills, and
- Utilize information resources and technology.

PROGRAM IMPACT

Trainees
In FY 2016, COE programs trained:

- 494 long-term trainees,
- 311 medium-term trainees, and
- 2,078 short-term trainees.

Over 38% of long-term trainees are from underrepresented racial groups and 11% are Hispanic/Latino.

Leadership
In FY 2016, of COE Program graduates (5 years following completion of program):

- Over 94% demonstrated field leadership in academic, clinical, public health practice and/or public policy activities and
- Over 82% were working with MCH populations.

Title V
In FY 2016, 13 COE programs reported collaborating with state Title V (MCH) agencies or other MCH-related programs on over 1,400 activities in areas of service, training, continuing education, technical assistance, product development and research.

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DIVISION OF MCH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (DMCHWD)

DMCHWD, part of the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Maternal and Child Health Bureau, provides national leadership and direction in educating and training our nation’s current and future leaders in maternal and child health (MCH). The Division also provides leadership through state and community-based capacity building programs.

Special emphasis is placed on the development and implementation of interprofessional, family-centered, community-based and culturally competent systems of care across the entire life course.

DMCHWD supports programs established in federal legislation (Title V of the Social Security Act, the Autism CARES Act, and the 21st Century CURES Act) to complement state and local health agency efforts. DMCHWD partners with state MCH programs, academic institutions, professional organizations, and other health training programs of the federal government to ensure that MCH workforce development programs are grounded in emerging and evidence-based practices.

In FY 2016, DMCHWD awarded 161 grants, an investment of approximately $47 million.