**What?**

Do you want an opportunity to develop or hone your leadership skills? Are you looking for exciting and innovative ways to help better serve clients? Do you want to learn about how you can develop new partnerships and/or enhance existing ones in ways that will support your clients? If these things are of interest to you then apply to be a VA E3/Targeted Communities Influencer. E3/Targeted Communities Influencers will become part of a cohort who will go through the E3/Targeted Communities Training Series.

This interactive six-part training series will introduce and walk participants through the key strategies implemented as part of Virginia’s E3/Targeted Communities Project. The training will address key touch points around the intersection of disability and poverty, partnership development, braiding and leveraging resources through the Integrated Resource Team model, and strategies related to financial empowerment. This training series, specially designed for VA-DARS staff, will provide participants the skills and tools to implement these strategies within their own communities and will require the participants to make a commitment to implementing at least one of the emerging practices shared in the training series. **\*CRCs and/or certificates of completion will be awarded upon completion of the six-part training series.**

**Who?**

The George Washington University, Center for Rehabilitation Counseling Research and Education (CRCRE), Targeted Communities/ Project E3 Technical Assistance staff invite DARS Managers\*\*, Unit Supervisors\*\*, Counselors, Support Staff and Placement Counselors to participate in this six-part training series.

\*\*Office Manager or Unit Supervisor strongly encouraged to participate but must have at least one other staff (i.e. Counselor, Support Staff or Placement Counselor participate with them).

**Additional Criteria:**

If selected to be a Targeted Communities/E3 Influencer, you make the following commitment:

* Commit to attend all 6 training module webinars.
* Commit to participate fully in the sessions, by engaging in any discussions and activities during the session, as well as reading materials and/or assignments given in between sessions.
* Commit to remain open-minded and ask questions when learning something new or confusing.
* Commit to implementing at least one strategy shared in training content in own community.

**When?**

July 28, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11: 30 AM

August 4, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

August 18, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

September 1, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

September 15, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

September 29, 2020 - 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

**Where?**

All training events will be virtual. Zoom info will be provided upon confirmed acceptance into the cohort.

**Detailed Session Overview:**

**Unit 1: Intersection of Disability and Poverty**

**(DATE 7/28, 9:30AM-11:30AM)**

Training objectives:

1. Participants will gain a better understanding of the prevalence of poverty among those who have disabilities.
2. Participants will gain an understanding of how poverty can impact a consumer’s ability to participate in services.
3. Participants will engage in discussion centered around how to address barriers for clients experiencing poverty.
4. Participants will gain an understanding of other service providers and organizations who serve those in poverty and learn how to engage in dialogue around the potential for shared clients.

**Unit 2: Part 1: Partnership Development: CBPR and Shared Consumers**

**(DATE: 8/4, 9:30AM-11:30AM)**

Training objectives:

1. Using the framework of Community-Based Participatory Research, participants will learn strategies for partnership development such as the use of advisory councils.
2. Participants will discuss how community partners share common clients and how they can work together to achieve common goals by learning more about one another’s agencies.
3. Participants will leave with a step-by-step plan for engaging community partners in their work with consumers with disabilities who are seeking employment.

**Unit 2: Part 2: Partnership Development: Community Academy**

**(DATE: 8/18, 9:30AM-11:30AM)**

Training objectives:

1. Participants will receive an Introduction of Community Academy concept, logistics, and implementation for both an “in person” and “virtual” Community Academy.
2. Participants will leave with step by step instructions on how to plan and carry out a Community Academy as well as tools, including a sample invitation, sample registration form, and suggested list of foundational organizations to participate, to support them in hosting their own Community Academy.

**Unit 3: Part 1: Integrated Resource Teams**

**(DATE: 9/1, 9:30AM-11:30AM)**

Training objectives:

1. Participants will receive an overview of the Integrated Resource Team (IRT), including how this model braids and leverages resources across community agencies.
2. Participants will learn the differences between the different phases of the IRT model such as Active Resource Coordination (ARC), and the Integrated Resource Team (IRT) Meeting as well as how and when each can be used with consumers.

**Unit 3: Part 2: Integrated Resource Team**

**(DATE: 9/15, 9:30 - 11:30AM)**

Training objectives:

1. Participants will engage in a guided process-mapping exercise to discuss flow of services and integration of IRT model
2. Participants will engage in discussion and practice exercises that will allow them to practice the use of the IRT model.

**Unit 4: Community Financial Empowerment**

**(DATE 9/29, 9:30AM-11:30AM)**

Training Objectives

1. Participants will gain an understanding of why addressing a client’s financial picture is critical to the client’s long-term success
2. Participants will receive an overview of VA’s Financial Health assessment and the CFPB’s Your Money Your Goals toolkit and Disability supplement guide and how to use those tools with clients they serve.
3. Participants will learn about additional programs related to anti-poverty work and where they can find those programs in their communities.

**To Apply to be an Influencer please complete the application at the following link:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScE5XgnpAWPwMsSNAlEY9lhZNmOO8KqA3Ss3HeHzNJ9xW0nLQ/viewform?usp=sf_link>

\*Space is limited, so please apply to the training cohort ASAP