



Mental Health Ambassadors for Community Leaders Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Requirements and Application

Who can apply?

Must be a community leader serving the Latinx community in Baltimore City. This includes, but is not limited to, an outreach worker, community organizer, long-time volunteer, community liaison, religious leader, school board member (PTA), etc.

I am not an employee of a community organization. Can I still apply?

Yes, you do not have to be an employee of a community or faith-based organization to apply to this scholarship. You have to explain in what capacity you have served the community and include the names of organizations that have provided an outlet for you to serve the community, and describe how you plan to serve the community after completing the training/s.

What do I have to submit in my application?

1. Your selection of trainings (applicant can pick more than one option provided or choose one of their preference)
2. Include a statement describing how the skills obtain from the training(s) selected will benefit the mental health of uninsured/underinsured Latinx adults in Baltimore City.
3. Demonstrate a plan to implement the new skills or knowledge into their community to benefit uninsured/underinsured Latinx adults in Baltimore City.
4. Include a budget describing how you plan to use the \$2,500 award for training and programming.
5. Include a letter of recommendation from a colleague in the community.

What if I am interested in a training that is not listed in the application?

Option 6 offers you the option to write in the name of a workshop/course not listed. This can be anything relevant to your practice for example CBT, Substance Use Disorder training, etc. Please note that applicant will be responsible for contacting the institution to arrange the registration. The range of workshops can be from trainings to strengthen culturally competency, quality of care, to mental health clinical care.

Where do I ask questions?

For questions, please email: centrosolmh@jhmi.edu.

Do I have to speak Spanish or be Latinx/Hispanic to apply?

To apply for the program, you do not have to be a Spanish speaker or a person that identifies as Latinx/Hispanic. In fact, we welcome community leaders from all backgrounds to apply for the MHAP to help promote equity and opportunity to mental health care access among the Latinx adults in your community.

Do I need to register for courses before I apply?

It is not required to register before submitting your application for the MHAP. However, understanding registration deadlines for courses might help guide you through your SMART goals and scope of work. Also, keep in mind many of these trainings fill up a-head of time.

Why do I have to provide a description of application of skills for all trainings?

At Centro SOL, we believe that empowering the community with new skills and knowledge is a first step toward creating a more equitable health care system for the Latinx community. However, implementation of these new skills and knowledge is what offers opportunities to access the health care services that, far too often, leave the Latinx community out. For this reason, we encourage applications to think about how they can increase this access to mental health opportunities/services.

I do not know yet what program I could implement after my training.

We understand that implementing a program can be a challenge. However, you can try to ask yourself these questions to help you figure out a strategic plan:

- What is the need in mental health for Latinx adults in Baltimore that needs to be addressed/fixed?
- What do I wish I knew that could help me address these needs?
- Is there an existing program in my organization that I can leverage by adding the skills I will gain after completing my training?

Working backwards might help you understand the need that you are trying to address and better help you draft a plan. It also helps to talk to other members of the community, colleagues in your field, or a mentor to brainstorm together.

I cannot project how many people in the Latinx community will be reached.

One of the reasons we ask for a personal statement that includes SMART goals is because it helps one plan out strategically their programming. We are looking for creative and ambitious plans, but that are also realistic within your capacity. To learn more of SMART goals, [check this link](#).

If awarded this scholarship and you find yourself coming across challenges that affect this projection, we will offer you the opportunity to submit a revised plan that explains the reasoning in this change.

Can I apply for only funds to training or programming?

It is not possible for applicants to apply to only one or another part of the scholarship. Every applicant must submit a selection of training(s) and an intended implementation plan. Applicants are not obligated to submit proposals that max out the funds offered (\$2,500 for training and implementation). However, in your plan you can include expenses that will allow you to attend the training. The funds are not solely to be used for a course; it can also be used to facilitate your ability to attend a training.

Funding

How much is the scholarship?

The scholarship offers up to \$2500 to support your training and to deliver the new skills to the community.

What does the funding cover?

The fund must cover the costs of trainings or costs that allow you to attend the training selected and implementation of the new skills in the community (e.g. programming). If your budget exceeds the maximum award amount of \$2,500, Centro SOL reserves the right to not cover the additional expenses.

If awarded, will I receive the funding beforehand or retroactively?

Awardees will be reimbursed the entire cost of the training and program delivery for up to \$2,500. For this reason, we ask that you keep all copies of receipts, proof of payments, and invoices. This documentation will be important to receive reimbursement.

Implementation

What happens if my program changes after I complete the course?

After completing your training(s), you might find that your new skills could be more difficult to implement than planned. We recognize these challenges, and in this case, you will be allowed to submit a revised plan.

How many people do I need to serve?

We are not looking for a specific number of people served. We understand that every plan will be different. However, we will be looking at the statements, SMART goals, and budget to determine the ambition and feasibility that the applicant is considering for their program delivery.

Reporting

When do I have to submit the report?

Reports will be submitted to the Mental Health Stakeholder Network and Centro SOL's executive director. Detailed instructions will be provided to awardees.

Is there a template for the report?

Detailed instructions will be provided to awardees.

Is it mandatory to present?

Yes, we are asking awardees to present their program results because we hope to learn the impact that is created when organizations invest in the empowerment of community leaders. This way, Centro SOL can advocate to other institution leaders and government officials that they must create opportunities alike in other marginalized and disenfranchised communities in Maryland and the country.