Northwest PTTC

Online Emergency Workforce Assessment Summary

Between April 6, 2020 and April 20, 2020, the Northwest PTTC supplemented the one-hour listening sessions with each of the four states in HHS Region 10: Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington with an online emergency workforce assessment.

The online assessment offered an alternative format for prevention professionals to inform the Northwest PTTC about emerging issues related to changes in their work environment due to the Covid-19 stay-at-home orders. The goal of the brief 12 question assessment was to identify barriers faced by the prevention workforce and how the Northwest PTTC can continue to support the workforce. 104 prevention professionals from the four states in HHS Region 10 responded to the anonymous online survey. Responses and emerging themes from the responses are summarized below.

In which state do you currently work?

The distribution of respondents to the online Emergency Workforce Assessment is similar to the distribution of the population of HHS Region 10.

***State Number of Responses (%)***

Alaska 9 (8.7%)

Idaho 12 (11.7)

Oregon 25 (24.3)

Washington 57 (55.3)

What is your job responsibility?

The majority of those who responded to the online Emergency Workforce Assessment were frontline prevention staff but also included supervisors or administrators

***Top 5 Job Roles Number of Responses (%)***

Program staff 26 (25.0%)

Coalition coordinator 22 (21.2)

Educator 15 (14.4)

Supervisor of program staff 10 (9.6)

Administrator 7 (6.7)

What is your work setting or profession?

***Top 5 Work Settings Number of Responses (%)***

Community Coalition 39 (37.5%)

Community-bases Organization 35 (33.7)

School (K-12) 24 (23.1)

Local Government 13 (12.5)

County Government 12 (11.5)

Are you able to work from home (telecommute)?

***Responses Number of Responses (%)***

Yes 96 (93.2%)

No 7 (6.8)\*

*\* Reasons for the inability to work from home were a combination of technological issues and the need to work directly with clients*.

WHAT ARE YOUR BIGGEST CHALLENGES RIGHT NOW?

***Top 5 Challenges Number of Responses (%)***

Inability to connect with stakeholders

or partners due to competing priorities 47 (45.2%)

My work requires face to face

interactions with clients 37 (35.6)

Struggle with mental/emotional stress 36 (34.6)

Struggling or unable to navigate

moving face to face interaction to a

virtual platform 34 (32.7)

Inadequate workspace in my house 25 (24.0)

What type of event(s) would you be interested in attending?

***Top 3 Events Number of Responses (%)***

Webinars 80 (81.6%)

Coffee-break Discussions on

Selected Topics with an

Open Discussion 48 (49.0)

Resource Guide 44 (44.9)

What topics would be of interest?

***Top 4 Interests Number of Responses (%)***

Staying connected with coalition

members/sectors/collaborators 61 (59.8%)

How to disseminate materials

to parents 60 (58.8)

Telecommuting – platforms, how-to’s,

best practices, innovation 53 (52.0)

Dealing with stress and anxiety 44 (43.1)

how important is it for you to receive continuing education units (CEUs) FOR ANY SESSIONS THAT YOU ATTEND?

***Responses Number of Responses (%)***

Very Important or Important 54 (52.4%)

Neither Important or Unimportant 29 (28.2)

Unimportant or Very Unimportant 23 (22.4%)

themes that emerged from the open-ended questions

* Concerns with staying connected with clients and coworkers
* Difficulty to engage with others during physical distancing
* Desire for more webinars and trainings
* Offer resources and tools for parents with kids at home
* How to facilite meetings online that are engaging and meanful
* How to facilitate a network meeting in an engaging and meaningful way.
* Concerns about funding in post-covid-19
* Understand risk and protective factors and how they will be affected by the current pandemic