



Quarterly BHA Newsletter

March 4 & 5, 2027: Behavioral Health Aide Skills Lab Anchorage, Alaska

This in-person, hands-on experience builds upon previous training and experience to further prepare BHA’s to handle complex situations when they arise.

Topic: Assessment & Documentation



About the Skills Lab: The Skills Lab for BHAs is an interactive, hands-on training experience designed to enhance the practical skills of BHA-I’s who are seeking certification as a BHA-II. The skills lab focuses on real-world techniques, tools, and strategies that professionals can immediately apply in their daily work to support individuals facing mental health and substance use challenges. Participants will engage in role-playing exercises, case studies, peer-to-peer feedback, reviewing their own recordings, and receiving instructor feedback with an emphasis on building confidence and competence in essential behavioral health skills. Skills Lab hours count towards required practicum hours for certification.

A select number of scholarships are available for approved applicants.

Eligibility

BHA-I’s who:

- Are seeking BHA-II certification
- Have completed the prerequisite courses (all BHA-I courses, DSM Practice Application & ASAM Criteria Practice Application)
- Have a clinical supervisor and are employed by a Tribal Health Organization.

- OR
- BHA-II, BHA-III, P, and Clinicians who want to refresh skills, and/or be mentors, assist with instruction and provide feedback on skills portions.



Applications due
December 1, 2026
[Click here for the application](#)

For more information, contact: BHATraining@anthc.org

Training Center Updates

- 📅 Q3 courses began 07/15/2026
- ⌚ Q3 course drop deadline 07/22/2026
- 🏠 Q3 ends 09/30/2026

BHA CE Courses - Q3 2026

The BHA Training Center is offering 12 Continuing Education courses this Quarter.

CE courses offered through the BHA Training Center are no longer free in 2026. Course fees range from \$20–\$50 depending on the course and CE hours.

BHAs must register during the registration period. Registration will no longer be available the week before the course.

CE Courses This Quarter

- BHA Writing Basics
- Motivational Interviewing with Cross Culture Considerations
- Physical & Emotional Regulation for Providers & Clients
- Telehealth Services: Effectiveness and Use
- Trauma Informed Care for Organizations
- Confidentiality 42 CFR Part 2
- Building Professional Relationships and Enhancing Communication Skills
- ASAM 4th Edition: Level of Care (LOC) Assessment and Determination
- Ethical Management of Dual Relationships in Rural Practice: Caring for Your Community and Yourself
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Skills
- Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Introduction & Foundation
- Postpartum Mental Health: Health Aides Partnering to Improve the Lives of New Parents & Families

Nominate a BHA Today

Help us recognize outstanding Health Aides and Clinical Supervisors who make a difference in their communities.

Nominations are now open for the Rising Star, Shining Star, North Star, and Setting Star awards.

Deadline: December 31, 2026, at 5:00pm

Ready to nominate someone?

Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to submit your nomination.





2026 BHA Forum Highlights

Celebrating the Dedication of Alaska’s Behavioral Health Aides

The 2026 Behavioral Health Aide Forum brought together Behavioral Health Aides, supervisors, presenters, and partners from across Alaska for four days of learning, connection, and celebration. We are proud to recognize the outstanding individuals below whose dedication and service continue to strengthen behavioral health care in their communities throughout Alaska.



★ Rising Star Award
Loretta Custer

BHA I Trainee | Maniilaq Association

Recognized for outstanding dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving her community.



★ Shining Star Award
Claudia L. Sampson

BHA II, CDC I | Maniilaq Association

Recognized for exceptional quality of care, mentorship, and leadership within Behavioral Health Services.



★ North Star Award
Brandon Ercanbrack

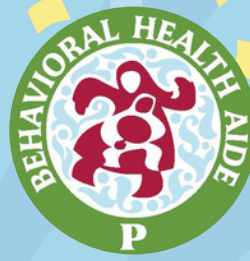
LCSW, LPC-S, MAC, BHP | Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Recognized for exemplary leadership, mentorship, innovation, and lasting contributions to behavioral health services across Alaska.



"Your selfless service is the backbone of Alaska's healthcare system, and you are essential to the wellness and resilience of Alaskans statewide."

— **Xiomara Owens, PhD**
Director, Behavioral Health Aide Training Center



Milestones & Celebrations

We're proud to recognize Behavioral Health Aides across Alaska who have reached certification milestones at Levels I, II, III, and Practitioner (P). Each active BHA will receive a certification pin that reflects their current level. BHAs can submit three types of applications: initial, upgrade, or renewal. To keep things simple, we're using one symbol to highlight newly certified or upgraded BHAs:

★ Signifies initial or upgraded certification

Active Certified BHAs - Statewide Recognition

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

- Hodgin, Yannick, BHP
- Lewis, Zoe, BHA I
- Offord, Luke B., BHP
- Pacis, Nina, BHA I
- Rivera, Rebecca M., BHA II
- Thayer, Samantha, BHA I

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association

- Prokopiof, Melanie N., BHA II

Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation

- Anderson, Alana K., BHP
- Davis, Kyle, BHA III ★
- Fox, Arlene C., BHA II
- Hiratsuka, Norma, BHA II ★
- Kalmakoff, Eugene, BHA I
- Larson, Letia S., BHA II
- Markoff, Lindsey, BHA I
- Mohan, Bonita R., BHP
- Moore, Barbara H., BHA III
- Wonhola, Adrian M., BHA II

Copper River Native Association

- Craig, Angel Y., BHA II
- Sawyer, Jodicee, BHA I

Fairbanks Native Association

- Evans, Judith, BHA I

Kenaitze Indian Tribe

- Childers, Nicole, BHA I ★
- Mickenham, Shana M., BHP
- Sanders, Kelli, BHA III

Ketchikan Indian Community

- Mitchell, LynnLee, BHA I
- Rivera, Kristian A., BHA I

Kodiak Area Native Association

- Phillips, Doreen K., BHP
- Pretorius, Patricia J., BHP

Manilaq Association

- Gregg, Belynda, BHA I
- Johnson, Ulyius, BHP
- Jones, Brian, BHA I
- Kinkead, Brittany, BHA I ★
- Sampson, Claudia L., BHA II
- Viscosky, Brian, BHA I

Metlakatla Indian Community

- Booth, Erica D., BHA III
- Eaton-Milne, Alexandra, BHA I
- Guthrie, Albert, BHA I

Nililchik Traditional Council

- Ullmann, Laura, BHA II
- Walkoff, Stormy, BHA III

North Slope Borough

- Ebu, Emmanuelynn, BHA III

Norton Sound Health Corporation

- Brown, Renee, BHA I
- Garnie, Josie L., BHP
- Henry, Harriett, BHA I
- Johnson, Jacki, BHA I
- Kingeekuk, Joseph T., BHA II
- Klescewski, Shannon M., BHP
- Kulowiyi, Audrey, BHA I
- Lockwood, Morgon, BHA I
- Paniptchuk, Kristin, BHA I

• Prentice, Beda, BHA II

- Razzo, Samantha, BHA II
- Schnaidt, Hannah, BHA III ★
- Ta, Kara, BHA II ★
- Weyiouanna, Annie, BHA I

Seldovia Village Tribe

- Nadel, Evan, BHA III

Southcentral Foundation

- Caldwell, Sarah A., BHA II
- Oxereok, Teresa, BHA II
- Stepney, Trachelle, BHA II

Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium

- Chaffee, Maren, BHA II
- Dow, Davis, BHA III
- Harris, Rachel, BHA II
- Heppe, Madison, BHA I
- Hoyt, Kenneth, BHA I
- Kliemann, Soma, BHA II
- Lombardo, Carla, BHA II
- McMurren, Alexandra, BHA III
- Millam, Tressa, BHA II
- Parfitt, Bradford, BHA III
- Pattison, Scott, BHA I
- Pearson, Breanne, BHA II
- Pederson, Yvette, BHA III
- Reynolds, Brooke, BHA III
- Rolf-McMurren, Allison, BHA III
- Stroud, Kandra, BHP ★
- Thor, Claudette, BHP
- Wojtak, Kimberly, BHA III

Tanana Chiefs Conference

- Alexander, Laverne, BHP ★
- Agnes, Cesa, BHA II
- Bergman, Valerie, BHA II
- Curry, Tamika, BHP
- Madros, Judy, BHA II
- Neglaska, Ann, BHA II
- Ponziano, Gabriella, BHA I
- Sam, Susie, BHA I
- Shaw, Jessica L., BHA II

Planning to Apply for Certification?

CHAPCB now uses an electronic application process, making it easier to submit certification applications online.

Key Dates:

- September 28, 2026 – Application deadline for the next board review
- October 6–7, 2026 – CHAPCB meeting for certification decisions
- September 12 – October 31, 2026 – Temporary certifications will not be issued

The application fee is \$750. The BHA Program will cover certification application fees through September 30, 2026. Beginning October 1, 2026, Tribal Health Organizations (THOs) will be responsible for these fees.

Learn more and start your application online at: akchap.org/chapcb