

# NORC Adolescent Substance Abuse Screening, Brief Intervention and Treatment (SBIRT) Social Work and Nursing Schools Education

## CONTACT

**Eric Goplerud**  
Senior Vice President  
Public Health  
(301) 634-9525  
goplerud-eric@norc.org

**Tracy McPherson**  
Senior Research Scientist  
Public Health  
(757) 427-1028  
mcpherson-tracy@norc.org

**NORC**  
at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO

## Integrating Adolescent SBIRT Throughout Social Work and Nursing School Education

NORC at the University of Chicago has partnered with the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), the Center for Clinical Social (CCSW) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) to engage nursing and social work schools, and their accrediting bodies, in a learning collaborative to develop and evaluate interactive, competency-based substance use screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT) curriculum.

SBIRT is a comprehensive, integrated, public health approach to the delivery of early intervention and treatment services for persons with risky and dependent alcohol use, treatment and ongoing recovery supports.

**Screening** quickly assesses for the presence of risky substance use, follows positive screens with further assessment of problem use, and identifies the appropriate level of treatment.

**Brief intervention** focuses on increasing insight and awareness regarding substance use and motivation toward behavioral change.

Referral to **treatment** provides those identified as needing more extensive treatment with access to medications, primary care counseling or specialty care as needed by the patient.

This project is funded by a grant from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and is focused on encouraging the adoption of SBIRT by social work and nursing educators. The learning collaborative will work to infuse this curriculum in general survey, clinical, behavioral health, and maternal and child health coursework, not just specialty courses in undergraduate and graduate social work and nursing schools.

The project involves multiple steps to develop a model curriculum that will be used by faculty and students.

- Engage the leading national associations and accrediting organizations for social work and nursing schools, CSWE and AACN, which will work with the team's experts and with leading schools to develop, test and disseminate adolescent SBIRT curricula.



- Create a learning collaborative process by leveraging a pre-existing consortium of 18 nursing schools and 6 social work schools.
- Engage faculty in social work and nursing schools across the U.S. to infuse adolescent SBIRT training into undergraduate and graduate education.
- Recruit faculty, field supervisors and students to share knowledge, give feedback and provide guidance to ensure that the curriculum developed is meaningful and comprehensive.
- Offer implementation grants of up to \$10,000 to 30 schools each of social work and of nursing to support faculty's implementation and evaluation of the adolescent SBIRT as part of their existing undergraduate and graduate level curricula.
- Partner with Kognito, a leader in immersive learning experiences using virtual humans, to create a state-of-the-art online, interactive adolescent SBIRT training technology platform. View demo of recent Kognito SBIRT simulation at [www.kognito.com/pcp](http://www.kognito.com/pcp)
- Develop the adolescent SBIRT curricula with a suite of practical, engaging, easily accessible, clinically relevant training modules that can be offered by the schools at no cost to their students and that will not disrupt delivery of core educational curriculums.

Considerable evidence demonstrates the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of alcohol SBIRT for young adults and adults 15-19 and its effectiveness for reducing illicit or prescription drug use is promising. This project offers a scientifically-based approach based on the needs of future health professionals who are graduating into an ever-changing healthcare landscape. The team is comprised of the pre-eminent adolescent SBIRT researchers and educators who bridge the science of evidence-based practices, the practicalities of clinical practice across a wide range of field settings, and the capabilities of pre-professional training programs to infuse substance use education where it can most benefit future practitioners.

## About NORC

NORC at the University of Chicago is an independent research organization headquartered in downtown Chicago with additional offices on the University of Chicago's campus, the DC Metro area, Atlanta, Boston, and San Francisco. NORC also supports a nationwide field staff as well as international research operations. With clients throughout the world, NORC collaborates with government agencies, foundations, educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to provide data and analysis that support informed decision-making in key areas, including health care, education, economics, crime, justice, and energy. NORC's decades of leadership and experience in data collection, analysis, and dissemination—coupled with deep subject matter expertise—provide the foundation for effective solutions.

## American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)

AACN is the nation's leading accrediting body for baccalaureate, masters, DNP programs, and post-baccalaureate residency nursing programs.

## About the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

CSWE is the sole accrediting agency for undergraduate and graduate social work education in the U.S.

Learn more about NORC and the SBIRT projects at [www.norc.org](http://www.norc.org).

### DOWNTOWN CHICAGO

55 East Monroe Street  
30th Floor  
Chicago IL 60603  
(312) 759-4000

1 North State Street  
16th Floor  
Chicago IL 60602  
(312) 759-5200

### UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1155 East 60th Street  
3rd Floor  
Chicago IL 60637  
(773) 256-6000

### DC METRO

4350 East-West Highway  
8th Floor  
Bethesda MD 20814  
(301) 634-9300

1730 Pennsylvania Avenue  
2nd Floor  
Washington DC 20006

### ATLANTA

3520 Piedmont Road, N.E.  
Suite 225  
Atlanta GA 30305  
(404) 240-8400

### BOSTON

225 Friend Street  
Suite 204  
Boston MA 02114  
(617) 316-3700

### SAN FRANCISCO

601 Montgomery Street  
Suite 2015  
San Francisco CA 94111  
(415) 315-2000