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For Immediate Release

Affiliated Service Providers of Indiana, Inc. (ASPIN) receives State of Indiana funds for the Behavioral Health Workforce (BHWF) Recruitment and Retention Innovation (R&RI) grant.

As part of this grant ASPIN is focusing on the development and delivery of culturally responsive Mental Health Literacy Program for workforce development and behavioral health career pathway informational training.

ASPIN will gather data from community partners and stakeholders on the need for a behavioral health focused/Community Health Worker Preferred Graduation Pathway, including feedback from students across all socio-economic groups regarding high school graduation, seamless pathways directly into the behavioral health workforce, and desire to continue with college.

Additionally, ASPIN will provide CHW training to increase recruitment for behavioral health careers, but on a smaller scale, while seeking additional CHW training funding sources throughout the grant period. ASPIN will train a total of twenty-nine youth from non-traditional learning institutes and 33 traditional high school students. Non-traditional learning adolescents 21 years of age or younger will receive training as Certified Community Health Workers, including employer paid full-time Department of Labor Certified Apprenticeship. ASPIN strives to increase recruitment and retention for the Behavioral Health workforce, including all levels of careers from Certified Community Health Workers to nurses to therapists to providers. Obtaining Industry Certification for Indiana's Graduation Pathways and Preferred Certification Designation, ASPIN will be able to provide this opportunity for high school students across the state, including the work-based learning, opening the door into the field.

We are committed to the successful development of certification of these programs and pathways and want to ensure its longevity and sustainability beyond this funding opportunity.

Affiliated Service Providers of Indiana, Inc. d/b/a ASPIN is a 501 (c) 3, non-profit behavioral health provider and education network. Incorporated in November of 1995, ASPIN offers access

to clinical providers in over 50 locations throughout the state of Indiana. The ASPIN Behavioral Health Clinical Network maintains CARF accreditation under the Business and Services Management Network accreditation standards. The Behavioral Health Clinical Network is also a certified Managed Care Provider (MCP) for the State of Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction.