**Text of Graduate Certificate Fill Form**

**Graduate Certificate Director and Advisor:** Sharon Hodges, PhD, MBA ([sphodges@usf.edu](mailto:sphodges@usf.edu))

**Academic Requirements:** 15 credit hours. Leadership Graduate Certificate students will take three required courses (9 credit hours) and two elective courses (6 credit hours) in order to fulfill the 15 credit hour academic requirement. The elective courses listed below provide a representative list of options that students may choose from among a larger selection of electives offered through the MSCABH program. Providing a comprehensive base of elective options is consistent with the Department’s broad focus on behavioral health in that it will allow students to tailor their graduate certificate studies across numerous areas that impact child and adolescent behavioral health.

Expected enrollment of up to 15 students per year, 3-year limit on time for completion. Other programs this graduate certificate links to: MS in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health (MSCABH).

**Curriculum:** 3 required courses, 2 elective courses.

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| **Course #** | **Title/Credits** | **Faculty** | **Delivery** | **Required/Elective** | **New/Existing** |
| MHS 6096 | Program Development and Implementation | S Hodges | Online | Required | Existing |
| MHS 6610 | Financing of Children’s Mental Health Services | M Hernandez | Online | Required | Existing |
| MHS 6626 | Applied Leadership in Child and Adolescent BH | S Hodges | Online | Required | Existing |
| MHS 6706 | Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health Policy | B Levin | Online | Elective | Existing |
| MHS 6069 | Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health | C Mac-Lewis | Online | Elective | Existing |
| MHS 6900 | Cultural Competence in Children’s MH | D Chiriboga | Online | Elective | Existing |
| MHS 6900 | Applied Leadership: Contemporary Issues | S Hodges | Online | Elective | Existing |

**Note**: Applied Leadership: Contemporary Issues (an elective for the Leadership Certificate) is currently taught as MHS 6900. This course will be proposed as a permanent course in the MSCABH program in the 2016-17 academic year. Approval of the new course number for Cultural Competence is currently in process.

**Brief Description:** USF’s Department of Child and Family Studies offers a Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health. This certificate is designed to provide a rigorous, empirically-based education to individuals who wish to apply leadership skills in work with public and private organizations serving children, adolescents, and their families. Students will gain a broad understanding of leadership theory and practice with a focus on developing their own leadership potential. The graduate certificate will provide students with tools and strategies for leading organizations that serve the behavioral health needs of children, youth, and their families in a variety of contexts including mental health, education, juvenile justice, and child welfare.

**Admission Requirements:** Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in a field related to human services. Minimum 3.0 GPA or be currently enrolled in a graduate degree program at a regionally accredited institution in a related field.

**Purpose:** Workforce development in child and adolescent behavioral health focuses heavily on serving the needs of children, youth, and their families. Although this is a critical aspect of career preparation, the specific development of leadership skills and abilities in the workforce is often missed. This graduate certificate recognizes the importance of developing the leadership skills and capacities of talented individuals who are committed to building and sustaining innovative, family- focused child-serving organizations. The certificate is unique in that the coursework integrates specific learning about leadership theory and practice with broader competencies in child and adolescent behavioral health. Electives built into the certificate allow students to pursue personal interests relevant to leadership such as family-centered interdisciplinary practice and child and adolescent behavioral health policy.

**Benefits:** This graduate certificate will benefit students by supporting the advancement of their careers through the development of leadership skills essential to public and private organizations that serve the behavioral health needs of children, adolescents, and their families. The certificate is strongly aligned with the department's commitment to improving the well being of individuals, children, and families with communities across the country and USF's strategic goals to strengthen and sustain healthy communities and improve the quality of life for children and families. In addition, the certificate will promote accountability and improvement of services for children and families, will be responsive to the staffing needs and capacity building efforts of child-serving organizations in Florida and across the United States.

**Marketing/Outreach:** This certificate will serve early and mid-career human services employees who wish to develop skills essential to leadership in community mental health and human services careers. We believe the certificate will be of particular interest to students who wish to further their education, but do not want to commit to a graduate degree program. The certificate will also serve individuals with recent undergraduate degrees seeking to improve their employability in child-serving organizations. As a secondary market, we believe that current MS student who are not in the Leadership Concentration will be interested in earning this additional certification as they complete their degree.

Marketing of this certificate will be conducted largely online using established email mailing lists and contacts of the department. In addition, information about the certificate will be disseminated at conferences and events where other department graduate programs are promoted.

**Competition:** No graduate certificates for leadership in child and adolescent behavioral health were identified. There are numerous fully online certificates in more general applications of leadership, organizational behavior, and management (please see fill form for examples of these). These would not necessarily meet the needs of students specifically interested in child and adolescent behavioral health or more generally in human services leadership. In addition, the USF School of Public Affairs offers graduate certificates in public management, nonprofit management, and community development. These certificates are offered only on the Tampa Campus of USF and cannot be accessed by the national audience we hope to reach. We believe that coursework specific to leadership in child and adolescent behavioral health is a unique aspect of our proposed certificate.

**Funding:** Detailed on separate sheet.

**Graduate Certificate Funding Summary**

**Proposed Graduate Certificate**: Leadership in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health

Department of Child and Family Studies

College of Behavioral and Community Sciences

**Costs Associated with Start-up and Operation**

**Faculty** - $0 additional cost

No additional instructional expense will be required because the proposed graduate certificate makes use of courses that are currently taught as part of the MS program in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health (MSCABH). The proposed graduate certificate director currently serves as Leadership Concentration Director for the MS program. The responsibilities of directing and advising in the Leadership Graduate Certificate will be incorporated into the Leadership Concentration Director’s role. It should be noted that the required and elective Leadership Graduate Certificate courses have the capacity to meet the additional demand for courses generated by the new graduate certificate students.

**Staff** - $0 additional cost

No additional staff time is anticipated for this graduate certificate.

**Equipment** - $0 additional cost

No additional equipment will be needed for this graduate certificate.

**Space** - $0 additional cost

No additional space will be needed for this graduate certificate.

**Promotional Materials** - $500

The need for printed materials for this fully online graduate certificate program is minimal, and production and printing costs are estimated at approximately $500. Marketing and promotion of this certificate will be conducted primarily online as described in the Marketing/Outreach section of the proposal. These activities will take place as part of MS program marketing and promotion activities, and we expect no additional costs to be incurred.

**Letter of Resource Support**

Letter of resource support from Department Chair is attached.