UPDATE

June 1, 2016

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Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health,
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison
WORLD LEADERS AND ADVOCATES UNITE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR ONE MISSION:
MAKE MENTAL HEALTH A GLOBAL PRIORITY

When it comes to mental health, all countries are developing countries. Mental disorders are the leading cause of disability worldwide. To bring this enormous disease burden to the center of the global development agenda, last month the World Bank Group and the World Health Organization co-hosted a high-level event in Washington, D.C.


RARE CANCERS MAY MASQUERADE AS ADHD IN CHILDREN, NIH RESEARCHERS SUGGEST

Rare tumors called pheochromocytomas and paragangliomas may cause the same symptoms as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children, leading to inappropriate treatment that could worsen their symptoms and potentially endanger their health. That’s the conclusion of a new study by National Institutes of Health (NIH) researchers who evaluated a group of pediatric patients diagnosed with the tumors.


SAMHSA ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR UP TO $53 MILLION FOR THE ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SMI

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Grant Program for Individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) totaling up to $53 million over the course of four years. This four-year pilot program is intended to implement and evaluate new AOT programs, and identify evidence-based practices to reduce the incidence and duration of psychiatric hospitalization, homelessness, incarcerations, and interactions with the criminal justice system. It also seeks to improve the health and social outcomes of individuals with SMI.

**EEOC ISSUES FINAL RULES ON EMPLOYER WELLNESS PROGRAMS**

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) issued final rules that describe how Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) apply to wellness programs offered by employers that request health information from employees and their spouses. The two rules provide guidance to both employers and employees about how workplace wellness programs can comply with the ADA and GINA consistent with provisions governing wellness programs in the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, as amended by the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The rules permit wellness programs to operate consistent with their stated purpose of improving employee health, while including protections for employees against discrimination.

*Press Release: https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/newsroom/release/5-16-16.cfm*

**NEW MEDICAID GUIDANCE IMPROVES ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED AMERICANS REENTERING THEIR COMMUNITIES**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) strengthened access to health care for individuals transitioning from incarceration back to their communities. New Medicaid guidance released today updates decades-old policy and clarifies that individuals who are currently on probation, parole, or in home confinement are not considered inmates of a public institution. It also extends coverage to Medicaid-eligible individuals living in community halfway houses where they have freedom of movement, improving access to care for as many as 96,000 individuals in Medicaid expansion states over the course of the year.


**VA ANNOUNCES TELEMENTAL HEALTH CLINICAL RESOURCE CENTERS DURING TELEMEDICINE ASSOCIATION GATHERING**

As the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) works to improve Veterans’ access to health care, its telehealth services play an integral role in that process, said Dr. David J. Shulkin, VA’s Under Secretary for Health. Dr. Shulkin spoke to members of the American Telemedicine Association attending the group’s 2016 conference in Minneapolis, where he also announced the establishment of five VA Mental Health Telehealth Clinical Resource Centers to provide enhanced mental health access and services to Veterans in remote locations.

*Press Release: http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2789*
RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NIMH: LATEST EDITION OF INSIDE NIMH

The latest issue of the National Institute of Mental Health’s (NIMH) e-newsletter, Inside NIMH, is now available. The issue highlights recent NIH and NIMH activities, including an update on the NIMH Director Search, NIH changes in AIDS/HIV research funding, the National Academies of Sciences discussion on the future of neuroscience clinical trials, the naming of the HHS Autism Coordinator, and how new overtime provisions will affect postdoctoral researchers. http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/inside-nimh/2016-spring-inside-nimh.shtml

NEW FROM NIDA

PRINCIPLES OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD

An online guide about interventions in early childhood that can help prevent drug use and other unhealthy behaviors was launched by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/principles-substance-abuse-prevention-early-childhood/introduction

NINE TIPS TO HELP TEENS COPE WITH STRESS

Even when times are generally good, sometimes teens may feel stress building up from pressure at school, at work, or in relationships with family and friends. NIDA provides these tips for teens for managing both ongoing stress and a single stressful event. https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/nine-tips-help-you-cope-stress

SENSATION SEEKING PROMOTES INITIATION, IMPULSIVITY PROMOTES ESCALATION OF SUBSTANCE USE

Young teens who avidly seek novel and intense sensations are slightly more likely than their more cautious peers to initiate substance use, NIDA-supported researchers report. However, these teens are not more likely to become regular substance users within the next three years unless they also are prone to devalue distant consequences and act impulsively. https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2016/05/sensation-seeking-promotes-initiation-impulsivity-promotes-escalation-substance-use
STUDY LINKS MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES TO REDUCED MORTALITY FROM OPIOID OVERDOSE

During the past two decades, nearly half of U.S. states implemented policies that sanction marijuana use for medical purposes. Researchers have been hard put, however, to draw firm conclusions about the policies’ public health ramifications. Now, NIDA-supported researchers have found that providing legal and practical access to marijuana may have both positive and negative impacts. https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2016/05/study-links-medical-marijuana-dispensaries-to-reduced-mortality-opioid-overdose

PROBUPHINE: A GAME-CHANGER IN FIGHTING OPIOID DEPENDENCE

NIDA Director Nora Volkow blogs about the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of a long-acting buprenorphine implant called Probuphine. This subdermal (under the skin) implant delivers a constant low dose of buprenorphine over a six-month time span, the first such tool in the treatment of opioid use disorder. The implant is approved for individuals with opioid dependence who have already been treated with, and are medically stable on, existing orally absorbed buprenorphine formulations. https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2016/05/probuphine-game-changer-in-fighting-opioid-dependence

NEW FROM NIH

WHAT IF IT ISN’T THE “HAPPIEST TIME OF YOUR LIFE”? MOMS’ MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS INITIATIVE ADDRESSES ANXIETY, DEPRESSION AROUND PREGNANCY

Countering the stigma and isolation often felt with depression and anxiety disorders around pregnancy is central to a new initiative launched in May, Moms’ Mental Health Matters. This blog post describes this new initiative developed by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development’s National Child and Maternal Health Education Program, which brings together representatives from federal agencies, health provider associations, and nonprofit organizations. https://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/resources/spotlight/Pages/052416-moms-mental-health.aspx

ALCOHOL USE AMONG SPECIAL POPULATIONS

This issue of Alcohol Research: Current Reviews explores how biological and demographic characteristics, life experiences, and their interactions influence the likelihood that a person will develop alcohol-related problems. Some factors put an individual at greater risk, whereas others are protective. Contributors also look at population-based differences in access to alcohol treatment and highlight the value of tailoring interventions to the needs of specific groups. http://www.arcr.niaaa.nih.gov/arcr/arcr381/toc38_1.htm
NEW FROM SAMHSA

UNDERSTANDING CHILD TRAUMA

This resource gives parents and caregivers an overview of the types of traumatic stress that commonly affect children, and details on the effects these events have on their physical and psychological health.
http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Understanding-Child-Trauma/All-New-Products/SMA16-4923

SAMHSA'S AWARENESS DAY 2016 NATIONAL EVENT WEBCAST

The Awareness Day National Event webcast is now available online. The event featured a discussion about how communities can work together to improve access to behavioral health services and supports for children, youth, and young adults. Youth and family leaders, educators, law enforcement officials, and behavioral health professionals offered their perspectives.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y5L7C5zgK2s&feature=youtu.be

THE DIALOGUE: THE ROLE OF DISASTER MEMORIALS

This issue of The Dialogue from SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center seeks to understand the role of memorials in individual and community healing by exploring several memorials across the country.

JUDGES CORNER: JUDICIAL PERSPECTIVES ON TREATMENT COURTS

The Judges Corner is a recent addition to the GAINS Center's e-newsletter that explores judicial perspectives on a variety of topics related to treatment courts. The series of short video clips captured from interviews with judges will explore judges' thoughts on the judicial role in treatment courts, interacting with treatment court program participants, the development of trauma-informed policies and procedures, and the integration of peer support into treatment court programs.
http://www.prainc.com/gains/enews/may16.html#sixth

SAMHSA BLOG POSTS

FOR YOUNG ADULTS, THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT MEANS JUST THAT – AFFORDABLE CARE

Due to the ACA provision which allows young adults to remain on their parents' health insurance until age 26, an estimated three million young adults were able to gain or keep health insurance coverage. As a result, more young adults reported getting help for behavioral health conditions after the ACA. This SAMHSA blog post describes a study examining whether young adults’ better access to treatment also had a positive effect on the finances of young adults receiving health care – especially those with mental and substance use disorders. Knowing this could help determine whether this provision of the ACA has been effective at protecting individuals from large out-of-pocket expenses.
http://blog.samhsa.gov/2016/05/17/for-young-adults-the-affordable-care-act-means-just-that-affordable-care/#.V0hbm_krJD8
WE MUST TURN THE TIDE ON YOUTH DEPRESSION

Center for Mental Health Services Director Paolo del Vecchio blogs about the need to address youth depression, a serious problem that is becoming more widespread. According to SAMHSA’s most recent National Survey on Drug Use and Health, the percentage of youth aged 18 to 25 who reported a major depressive episode in the previous year increased from 8.3 percent in 2011 to 9.3 percent in 2014. Even more concerning, the percentage of youth aged 12 to 17 with depression increased from 8.2 percent to 11.4 percent in the same time period. http://blog.samhsa.gov/2016/05/18/we-must-turn-the-tide-on-youth-depression/#.V0hbRfkrJD8

PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP PILOTS: AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR DISCONNECTED YOUTH

Federal agencies have released a second call for bold proposals to improve education, employment, and other key outcomes for disconnected youth. Over five million 14-to-24-year-olds in the U.S. are out of school and not working. In many cases, they face the additional challenges, including being low-income, homeless, in foster care, or involved in the justice system. In response, seven federal agencies are jointly inviting state, local, and tribal communities to apply to become a Performance Partnership Pilot to test innovative, outcome-focused strategies to achieving better outcomes for these youth as well as youth at risk of becoming disconnected from critical social institutions and supports. http://blog.samhsa.gov/2016/05/25/performance-partnership-pilots-an-opportunity-to-improve-outcomes-for-disconnected-youth/#.V0cvA_krJD8

KANSAS CITY: LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

This blog post describes a Kansas City community coalition, Trauma Matters KC (TMKC), made up of agencies and citizens working together to create a trauma-informed and resilient city. A first responder training program developed by TMKC and the local police is offered twice a month to police, firefighters, search and rescue teams, military personnel, and correctional staff. Trainees learn how the violence they witness in their daily work affects their emotions, feelings, and thinking, and their ability to do their jobs. In addition, a TMKC trauma-sensitive schools initiative trains school counselors, nurses, and educators to better understand trauma in the lives of their students and understand the impact of trauma on learning. The initiative also helps school staff bring sensitive practices to classrooms, create resiliency tools, implement professional self-care plans, and learn the importance of building trusting relationships. http://blog.samhsa.gov/2016/05/23/kansas-city-leadership-and-collaboration/#.V0YT5_krJD8

WORDS MATTER

SAMHSA Office of Communications Director Marla Hendriksson blogs about moving beyond the word “stigma” to words of action such as “social acceptance” and “community support.” http://blog.samhsa.gov/2016/05/16/words-matter/#.V0YWAwkrJD8
DISPARITIES WITHIN SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

Adults with SMI often experience gaps in access to needed health care compared with other populations. Such disparities may be even more pronounced between certain groups of patients with SMI, differing by race, ethnicity, gender, economic disadvantage and socioeconomic status, and geographic location, disparities arise as well for individuals identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT), and those who have difficulty communicating in English (because it is a second language). The primary goal of this Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) report is to describe and review the effectiveness of interventions that address disparities among adult patients with SMI in these important groups.

http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=2236

FOR CLINICIANS: MANAGEMENT AND OUTCOMES OF BINGE-EATING DISORDER IN ADULTS: CURRENT STATE OF THE EVIDENCE

This report is a summary of a systematic review evaluating the evidence regarding the effectiveness, comparative effectiveness, and adverse effects of treatments for adults with binge-eating disorder (BED). The review assessed psychological interventions, behavioral weight-loss treatment, and pharmacological interventions. This summary is provided to assist in informed clinical decision-making.

https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=2212

FOR CONSUMERS: TREATING BINGE-EATING DISORDER: A REVIEW OF EVIDENCE FOR ADULTS

This summary for consumers answers questions about BED, including what it is, how it is treated, what researchers have found about how well talk therapy and medicines work to treat BED, and possible side effects of medicines to treat BED. https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=2213

RESEARCH ADVANCES SHARED DECISIONMAKING STRATEGIES FOR ETHNIC MINORITY LGBT POPULATIONS

Racial and ethnic LGBT minorities face significant barriers when communicating with clinicians, which can result in less effective shared decisionmaking and poorer health outcomes. A series of AHRQ-funded articles explores the cultural and psychological identities of dual minority patients and offers operational guidance for medical organizations to better facilitate shared decisionmaking with these patients.

NEW FROM CDC

U.S. HEALTH REPORT CARD SPECIAL FEATURE ON HEALTH DISPARITIES

“The Health, United States” series, an annual overview of national trends in health statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provides a look at health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities in several key health measures. [http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/hus15.pdf]

QUICK STATS: AGE-ADJUSTED SUICIDE RATES FOR FEMALES AND MALES, BY METHOD - NATIONAL VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, UNITED STATES, 2000 AND 2014

From 2000 to 2014, the age-adjusted suicide rate increased from 4 to 5.8 per 100,000 for females and from 17.7 to 20.7 for males. Suicide rates by specific method (firearm, poisoning, suffocation, or other methods) also increased, with the greatest increase seen for suicides by suffocation. During the 15-year period, the rate of suicide by suffocation more than doubled for females from 0.7 to 1.6 and increased from 3.4 to 5.6 for males. In 2014, among females, suicide by poisoning had the highest rate (1.9), and among males, suicide by firearm had the highest rate. [http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6519a7.htm]

ADHD RESOURCES

CDC’s Public Health Law Program, in collaboration with CDC’s National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disorders and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s Public Health Law Research Program at Temple University, has released a suite of resources related to ADHD, including a list of readings and resources on ADHD treatment policy options, including Medicaid drug prior authorization and reimbursement for behavioral therapy, and a dataset that examines features of state Medicaid prior authorization policies about pediatric ADHD medication treatment, including applicable ages, medication types, and approval criteria. [http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/publications/topic/adhd.html]

SORTABLE RISK FACTORS AND HEALTH INDICATORS

CDCSortable Stats is an interactive data set of 33 behavioral risk factors and health indicators, including suicide death rate. View, sort, analyze, and print data at state/territory, regional, and national levels. [http://sortablestats.cdc.gov/#/]

NEW FROM HHS

HEALTH COVERAGE AND CARE FOR REENTERING MEN

A new HHS report guides community-based organizations serving justice-involved men to help them better understand their health coverage and care opportunities under the ACA. [https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/health-coverage-and-care-reentering-men-what-difference-can-it-make]
In a recent Street Outreach Study, homeless youth were asked if they had ever traded sex with anyone for something they needed. About 36 percent had traded sex for money, a place to spend the night, food, protection, or drugs. Most of the youth who reported trading sex for money did so only after they became homeless. http://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2016/05/trafficking-and-homeless-youth

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post describes resources available from the Real Warriors Campaign, a multimedia public awareness campaign designed to encourage service members and Veterans coping with mental health concerns to reach out for appropriate care or support. The campaign offers resources that help reduce misperceptions about psychological health concerns and engage patients in their care. The content is written in clear, simple language, often in 500 words or less, to ensure that readers can comprehend the information quickly and easily. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/16-05-23/Clinician_s_Corner_Real_Warriors_Website_Supports_Psychological_Health_Care.aspx

This DCoE blog post encourages clinicians to stop and consider their own well-being, and to recognize early warning signs of mental health problems, pay attention to self-care, and seek help in a timely manner. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/16-05-16/Clinician_s_Corner_Mental_Health_Providers_Need_Self-Care_Help_Too.aspx

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Model Programs Guide (MPG), an online resource of evidence-based juvenile justice and youth prevention, intervention, and reentry programs, has launched iGuides, which provide users with 10 steps they should take before they identify or implement an evidence-based program or practice. The first MPG iGuide is focused on the issue of school-based bullying. http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/16juvjust/160523.html
VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN AND MEN: 2010 FINDINGS FROM THE NATIONAL INTIMATE PARTNER AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVEY

This report examines the prevalence of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) women and men, using a large, nationally representative sample from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. More specifically, it provides estimates of sexual violence, physical violence by intimate partners, stalking, and psychological aggression by intimate partners. It also provides estimates of interracial and intraracial victimizations and briefly examines the impact of violence.


NEW FROM THE VA

VA: SUICIDE RISK AND RISK OF DEATH AMONG RECENT VETERANS – INFOGRAPHIC

A recent study of Veterans serving during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars between 2001 and 2007 found that both deployed and non-deployed Veterans had a significantly higher suicide risk compared to the U.S. general population, but a lower risk of death from other causes combined. Also, deployed Veterans showed a lower risk of suicide compared to non-deployed Veterans.

http://www.publichealth.va.gov/epidemiology/studies/suicide-risk-death-risk-recent-veterans.asp#sthash.fSav0tQI.dpuf

INTRODUCING PTSD FAMILY COACH MOBILE APP

This free mobile app provides extensive information about post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and how to help a loved one get the treatment they deserve. PTSD Family Coach includes 24 unique tools to help manage stress, including: mindfulness exercises, and tools to help with difficult thoughts and emotions. The app also provides a way to track stress levels over time, using scientifically valid measures, and can provide specific feedback about progress.


EVENTS

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

JUNE 2016

The purpose of PTSD Awareness Month is to encourage everyone to raise public awareness of PTSD and effective treatments.

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd_awareness_month.asp
WEBINAR: BILLING EFFECTIVELY (AND ACCURATELY) FOR INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

JUNE 6, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

Join financing and integration experts from primary care centers on this webinar to learn the practical ins and outs of billing for behavioral health services to a variety of third-party payers, including Medicare and Medicaid. After this webinar, participants will be able to identify billing options for integrated behavioral health services, ask questions to identify if Medicaid and Medicare numbers are appropriately linked to the mental health services provided, and employ tips for working with clinical and billing staff at the same time.
https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1104190

WEBINAR: ENGAGING COMMUNITIES TO PROMOTE RECOVERY

JUNE 7, 2016, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA Practice to Recovery webinar will provide information on how to help individuals identify their interests and learn what is available to them in the community as well as describing the value of engaging, educating, and helping to build welcoming places that benefit both individuals in recovery and the community at large. The presenters will provide examples of innovative projects that help challenge negative attitudes while offering opportunity for meaningful engagement in community life.
https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e31x465kocq/event/event_info.html

WEBINAR: TRAUMA: A REOCCURRING THEME IN GIRLS' LIVES

JUNE 7, 2016, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This OJJDP webinar will focus on the process of healing from trauma and the need for gender-responsive and trauma-informed services. It will present the guiding principles of gender-responsive services and the core values of trauma-informed care. These are particularly important guidelines for juvenile justice settings serving girls. Historically, services have been designed for boys based on a model of compliance and control with the expectations that girls would just "fit in."
WEBINAR: STAYING IN TOUCH: THE ART OF CONNECTING CONSUMERS TO YEAR ROUND ACCESS

JUNE 8, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

Join this presentation and discussion about helping enrolled consumers navigate the health care system, and understand their insurance coverage and benefits. Learn how Epilepsy Foundation and Community Health Initiative of Orange County have created systems for staying in touch with their clients, and act as a reliable and trusted resource for clear and timely information. This webinar is part of the HHS Partnership Center and Enroll America Connections national peer learning webinar series featuring navigators from around the country sharing their experience, challenges, and innovative solutions for connecting individuals and families to affordable, quality health care and preventive services.
https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=c3wltzpv66jt&campaign=suzyrhmd6g84

WEBINAR: GOT COVERAGE? NEXT STEPS IN USING YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

JUNE 9, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This HHS webinar will highlight From Coverage to Care health insurance literacy tools and how to use them. The importance of preventive benefits and primary care will also be discussed. Guest speakers will highlight how they use the materials.
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8167795069183530755

WEBINAR: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW OF SUICIDE PREVENTION IN VETERANS

JUNE 9, 2016, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This VA webinar will describe the accuracy of recent empirically tested methods of suicide risk assessment in detecting suicide or suicide attempts, and review recent evidence for interventions to reduce suicide in military and Veteran populations. The presenters will discuss challenges for future work on translating suicide prevention research to routine clinical practice.
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2306045692613640194
WEBINAR: ADDRESSING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF TRANSGENDER AND GENDER NON-CONFORMING PATIENTS

JUNE 13, 2016, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) webinar will focus on ways to address the behavioral health needs of transgender and gender non-conforming patients in a culturally appropriate manner and will feature promising practices of HRSA grantees. Additionally, the HHS Office for Civil Rights will discuss the proposed nondiscrimination rule under Section 1557 of ACA. The webinar’s target audience includes HRSA grantees, health care providers, public health officials, and advocates wanting to improve competency in regards to serving the needs of transgender and gender non-conforming patients in their practices. http://www.samhsa.gov/capt/news-announcements/conferences-trainings/addressing-behavioral-health-needs-transgender-gender-non

WEBINAR: EXAMINING THE INTERSECTION OF INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND SUICIDE AMONG VETERAN POPULATIONS

JUNE 13, 2016, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This VA webinar will provide an overview of intimate partner violence and suicide among Veteran populations. The discussion will be in the context of two ongoing projects to examine these two public health issues. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1188484483574797825

WEBINAR: INTEGRATING COMMUNITY RESOURCES INTO PERSON-CENTERED PLANS

JUNE 14, 2016, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA Recovery to Practice webinar will introduce participants to the importance of developing community connections for supporting and sustaining a life in recovery. It will challenge the common practice of using segregated behavioral health venues for social, occupational, and other pursuits in favor of a “community first” approach that uses mainstream community activities to help meet people’s needs. The webinar will present a practical, person-directed, community-based approach to helping people build their preferred lives with focus on community resources and ‘natural’ supports. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e4idqfior8o/event/event_info.html
WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED

JUNE 14, 2016, 3:00 PM ET

Getting married or graduating from college this spring? The health care law has created special enrollment periods for those who experience special circumstances such as graduating from college and losing health insurance, getting married and needing coverage for a spouse, losing employer insurance, or turning 26 and losing coverage on a parent’s health plan. Join this HHS webinar to learn more about special enrollment periods and how to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. For those who are uninsured and don’t qualify for the special enrollment period, learn what resources are available and when to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5902525138546164739

NIMH TWITTER CHAT: AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN’S MENTAL HEALTH

JUNE 16, 2016, 11:00 AM-12:00 PM ET

In recognition of Men’s Health Month, NIMH is hosting a Twitter chat with the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) on African American men’s mental health.

WEBINAR: TARGETING SOCIAL INFLUENCES THAT SHAPE HEALTH LITERACY IN COMMUNITIES

JUNE 16, 2016, 12:00-1:30 PM ET

This HHS Progress Review webinar features two Healthy People 2020 topic areas, “Health Communication and Health Information Technology” and “Educational and Community-Based Programs.” The webinar will also highlight a network of Federally Qualified Health Centers working to improve health literacy. Health communication, health information technology, and health education are core elements of public health infrastructure, and affect the health literacy of individuals and communities. Health literacy is the capacity to obtain, communicate, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions. Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, CHES) are available. https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCDC/bulletins/14bc33e
WEBINAR: USING THE CULTURAL FORMULATION INTERVIEW TO SUPPORT RECOVERY

JUNE 21, 2016, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA Recovery to Practice webinar will introduce participants to the Cultural Formulation Interview (CFI), an evidence-based tool used to guide practitioners in understanding the worldviews of people seeking services. The presenters will describe the origins of the CFI and how it is used with individuals and families to create a culturally rich mutual understanding of concerns. Scenarios will illustrate how use of this structured tool increases practitioner skills in recovery-oriented practices, including the ability to engage people in personally meaningful, collaborative plans that identify and enhance cultural strengths, and are embedded in the person’s or family’s unique worldview.

https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e5knx1xrydb/event/event_info.html

WEBINAR: HOW EFFECTIVE ARE TRANSITION PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS: FINDINGS FROM THE HEALTHY TRANSITION INITIATIVE

JUNE 21, 2016, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

The Healthy Transition Initiative (HTI) was a five-year grant program funded by SAMHSA to explore the most effective ways to deliver transition oriented services that would result in positive outcomes for youth (ages 16-25) with serious mental health challenges. This SAMHSA webinar will report on an analysis of National Outcome Measure data about individual HTI participants and their outcomes. In addition to a multi-faceted description of the personal situation of the participants at baseline, this webinar will explore change on three outcomes: social connectedness, mental health symptoms, and daily functioning. Using multivariate analysis, significant change was found between intake and 6 month follow-up on all three outcomes. This improvement was sustained at 12-month follow-up.

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9136818856151929348

WEBINAR: CONNECTING THE SYSTEM: TECHNOLOGY FOR CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT

JUNE 22, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

This presentation will explore how navigators are using digital tools and social media to strengthen their outreach and education strategies, and support on-the-ground assistance. Navigators from Alaska Primary Care Association and Centro Med San Antonio will share how they use digital and data sharing strategies as a means of staying connected to consumers. This webinar is part of the HHS Partnership Center and Enroll America Connections national peer learning webinar series featuring navigators from around the country sharing their experience, challenges, and innovative solutions for connecting individuals and families to affordable, quality health care and preventive services.

https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=coq2xzv6sa7n&campaign=adbpr0te3hnx
GRANT WRITING TRAINING WORKSHOP

JUNE 28-29, 2016, MOBILE, ALABAMA

The HHS Office of Minority Health Resource Center is sponsoring this training on writing grants and building sustainable partnerships to improve minority health. This workshop’s targeted audience includes junior investigators, researchers, and health professional staff working in minority health. https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USOPHSOMH/bulletins/14b7885

WEBINAR: TALENT MATTERS: LEVERAGING DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES

JUNE 30, 2016, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

"Where can I find qualified applicants with disabilities?" It's a question asked often by companies looking to diversify and expand their talent pipeline, and the secret is adopting effective outreach and recruitment strategies to attract qualified individuals with disabilities. To help employers learn such strategies, the Department of Labor’s Employer Assistance and Resource Network on Disability Inclusion is hosting a webinar on ways to build a disability-inclusive talent pipeline. Specifically, this panel presentation will focus on partnering with community-based organizations and connecting with service providers that can identify and prepare individuals with disabilities for specific workforce needs. http://askearn.org/m-events.cfm?show=day&CURRENTDATE=06%2030%202016

WEBINAR: HEALTH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: CONNECTING HEALTH INSURANCE LITERACY TO OUTREACH AND COVERAGE TO CARE EFFORTS

JULY 13, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

Navigators developing culturally relevant practices and resources are finding success in reaching non-English speaking communities and hard to reach consumers, including those in the criminal justice system. Join colleagues from Maricopa County, Arizona, MHP Salud, Rio Grande Valley, and Houston’s Fountain of Praise church to explore thoughtful methods for reaching, communicating with, and educating consumers with timely and relevant strategies. This webinar is part of the HHS Partnership Center and Enroll America Connections national peer learning webinar series featuring navigators from around the country sharing their experience, challenges, and innovative solutions for connecting individuals and families to affordable, quality health care and preventive services. https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=hfz7l27o165i&campaign=pl5bg7lmzvdb
WEBINAR: INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE PHARMACOLOGICAL ADHERENCE AMONG ADULTS WITH PSYCHOTIC SPECTRUM DISORDERS, BIPOLAR DISORDER, AND PTSD

JULY 18, 2016, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This VA webinar will discuss a recent report which synthesized evidence examining the effectiveness of interventions to improve medication adherence in patients with psychotic spectrum disorders, bipolar disorder, and PTSD; the effect of these interventions on patient outcomes; and the related costs and any associated intervention specific harms.
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7245778702415373825

WEBINAR: POWERMAPPING: EXPANDING CAPACITY AND BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO CONNECT WITH CONSUMERS ALL YEAR LONG

JULY 27, 2016, 2:00 PM ET

This webinar will focus on “mapping” techniques that help to identify and invite new and perhaps unexpected partners to join in enrollment and coverage to care educational efforts. The Arizona Alliance of Community Health Centers and Philadelphia’s Better Health Network will share their strategies that map for potential new partners and strengthen existing ones. This webinar is part of the HHS Partnership Center and Enroll America Connections national peer learning webinar series featuring navigators from around the country sharing their experience, challenges, and innovative solutions for connecting individuals and families to affordable, quality health care and preventive services.
https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=md9lge0hpeia&campaign=wva21wxziys

NIMH CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH: HARNESSING SCIENCE TO STRENGTHEN THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACT

AUGUST 1-3, 2016, BETHESDA, MD

The 23rd NIMH Conference on Mental Health Services Research will highlight scientific investigative efforts to improve population mental health through high-impact mental health services research.
NATIONAL AI/AN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

AUGUST 9-11, 2016, PORTLAND, OR

The Indian Health Service National AI/AN Behavioral Health Conference is the nation’s premier opportunity to assemble and hear from nationally-recognized speakers, behavioral health care providers, Tribal leaders, and health care officials committed to addressing emergent behavioral health topics in Indian Country. The conference attracts presenters and participants from across the country who want to share their research and promising practices, while providing opportunities for professional development, collaboration, and networking. https://www.ihs.gov/dbh/index.cfm/2016conference/

WEBINAR: SUICIDE MORTALITY AMONG VETERANS DISCHARGED FROM VA ACUTE PSYCHIATRIC UNITS FROM 2005-2010

AUGUST 31, 2016, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This VA webinar will review results from a study which examined suicide rates and risk factors for suicide in the year after discharge from acute VA inpatient units from 2005 to 2010. Rates were stratified to examine the influence of gender and age among male Veterans. Analyses were also conducted to evaluate associations with risk among additional demographic and diagnostic factors known or believed to impact risk. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8668242184655409667

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 2, 2016, WASHINGTON, DC

Sponsored by the HHS Children’s Bureau’s Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, the 20th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect will bring together professionals, researchers, policy makers, parents, and volunteers from a wide variety of disciplines who share a commitment to ensuring the well-being of children and families. http://www.2016nccan.com/
CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

NIMH WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!

NIMH invites comments from the general public on the state of mental illness research and NIMH’s role in the development of this research. Feedback will be used in developing briefing materials that will represent the full diversity of perspectives on mental illness research for the incoming NIMH Director. The NIMH seeks comments on any or all of, but not limited to, the following topics: basic neuroscience research, translational research, clinical research, intervention research, services research, Research Domain Criteria initiative (RDoC), global mental health, translational biomarkers, diversity and training of the workforce, advocacy and outreach efforts, and the Institute’s intramural research efforts. Please provide comments by June 30, 2016.  http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-16-015.html

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

AHRQ’s Effective Health Care Program encourages the public to participate in the development of its research projects. The Program uses these comments to help focus its research, and ensure that the final comparative effectiveness reviews answer the most important questions that clinicians, patients, consumers, and policymakers have about a given treatment, test, or procedure. The Program is currently seeking comments for:

Post-Acute Coronary Syndrome Depression (Comment accepted through June 15, 2016)
https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-key-questions/?pageaction=displayquestions&topicid=647&questionset=285

Medication-Assisted Treatment Models of Care for Opioid Use Disorder in Primary Care Settings (Comments accepted through June 9, 2016)
https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-draft-reports/?pageaction=displaydraftcommentform&topicid=636&productid=2225&documenttype=draftReport

HELP CDC IMPROVE THE VETOVIOLENCE WEBSITE

CDC is conducting a short online customer satisfaction survey of its VetoViolence website (http://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/). CDC will use the data collected from the survey to enhance the design and functionality of the site. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X7XQTSL
PUBLIC COMMENT: FDA PROPOSAL TO BAN ELECTRICAL STIMULATION DEVICES USED TO TREAT SELF-INJURIOUS OR AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR—COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

The FDA has issued a document entitled, *Proposal to Ban Electrical Stimulation Devices (ESDs) Used for Self-injurious or Aggressive Behavior*. ESDs administer electrical shocks through electrodes attached to the skin of individuals to attempt to condition them to stop engaging in self-injurious or aggressive behaviors. A number of significant psychological and physical risks are associated with the use of these devices, including depression, anxiety, worsening of self-injury behaviors and symptoms of PTSD, pain, burns, and tissue damage. In addition, there is a risk of errant shocks from a device malfunction. Banning the product is necessary to protect the public because these risks cannot be corrected through new or updated labeling. Public comments about the proposal will be accepted through July 26, 2016.


CLINICAL TRIAL RECRUITMENT NEWS

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT: BIPOLAR DISORDER (PEDIATRIC) RESEARCH STUDY

TREATMENT OF SEVERE MOOD DYSREGULATION, SMD

(Inpatient: 12- to 15 weeks) This study tests the efficacy of different treatments for decreasing irritability in children with severe mood and behavioral problems. Participants have symptoms of severe irritability and are not doing well on their current medications. The child must be currently in treatment with a physician, medically healthy and not currently hospitalized, psychotic, or suicidal. The study includes day or full hospitalization to discontinue medication, followed by either methylphenidate plus citalopram, or methylphenidate plus placebo. Recruiting ages 7-17. [09-M-0034]


For more information on research conducted by the NIMH in Bethesda, MD click here


MINORITY RESEARCH TWITTER CHAT SUMMARY

On April 27th, NIMHD co-hosted a Minority Health Month Twitter chat with the HHS Office of Minority Health and the FDA Office of Minority Health on increasing minority participation in clinical research. Dozens of other NIH Institutes and Centers, federal health agencies, researchers, and nonprofits joined to discuss this important topic. The summary outlines some themes and resources that came out of the chat.

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNIHNIMHD/bulletins/1470a6e
PILOT STUDIES TO DETECT AND PREVENT SUICIDE BEHAVIOR, IDEATION AND SELF-HARM IN YOUTH IN CONTACT WITH THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

DETECTING AND PREVENTING SUICIDE BEHAVIOR, IDEATION AND SELF-HARM IN YOUTH IN CONTACT WITH THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

REDUCING THE DURATION OF UNTREATED PSYCHOSIS IN THE UNITED STATES
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-16-265.html (R01)

HEALTHY TOMORROWS PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=284005

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR PARAPROFESSIONALS AND PROFESSIONALS
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=283671

STUDIES PROGRAM ON TRAUMA AND JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH
http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=283663

DEFENDING CHILDHOOD AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE POLICY INITIATIVE: SUPPORTING TRAUMA-INFORMED JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS FOR TRIBES
http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=406

PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE
The Outreach Partnership Program is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to increase the public’s access to science-based mental health information through partnerships with national and state organizations. For more information about the program please visit: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml. To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml.

The information provided in the Update is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education and partnership programs.