



UPDATE

October 15, 2012

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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*

SCIENCE AND SERVICE NEWS UPDATES

GENE VARIANTS IMPLICATED IN EXTREME WEIGHT GAIN ASSOCIATED WITH ANTIPSYCHOTICS

Extreme weight gain associated with taking an antipsychotic medication may be linked to certain genetic variants, according to a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). The study was published in the September 2012 issue of the *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

Science News: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2012/gene-variants-implicated-in-extreme-weight-gain-associated-with-antipsychotics.shtml>

MANY TEENS CONSIDERING SUICIDE DO NOT RECEIVE SPECIALIZED MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Most adolescents who are considering suicide or who have attempted suicide do not receive specialized mental health services, according to an NIMH-funded analysis published online August 15, 2012, in *Psychiatric Services*, a journal of the American Psychiatric Association.

Science News: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2012/many-teens-considering-suicide-do-not-receive-specialized-mental-health-care.shtml>

RISK GENE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER BRAIN AMYLOID; NIH STUDY REVEALS MULTIPLE MECHANISMS MAY PLAY ROLE IN COMPLEX DISORDER

Researchers investigating a known gene risk factor for Alzheimer's disease discovered it is associated with lower levels of beta amyloid—a brain protein involved in Alzheimer's—in cognitively healthy older people. The findings suggest that a mechanism other than one related to beta amyloid accumulation may influence disease risk associated with the gene. The study, by researchers at the National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), was published online September 27, 2012 in the journal *Biological Psychiatry*.

Press Release: <http://www.nia.nih.gov/newsroom/2012/10/risk-gene-alzheimers-disease-associated-lower-brain-amyloid>

MORE THAN \$21 MILLION AWARDED TO SCHOOL DISTRICTS TO EXPAND COUNSELING PROGRAMS

The U.S. Department of Education announced the award of more than \$21.2 million to 60 recipients in 24 states to establish or expand counseling programs. Grantees will use funds to support counseling programs in target elementary or secondary schools. The new awards will specifically aid schools in hiring qualified mental-health professionals with the goal of expanding the range, availability, quantity, and quality of counseling services. Parents of participating students will have input in the design and implementation of counseling services supported by these grants.

Press Release: <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/more-21-million-awarded-school-districts-expand-counseling-programs>

ONLINE TOOLKIT AIMS TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS SERVING VETERANS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has developed a new online *Community Provider Toolkit* aimed at delivering support, therapeutic tools, and resources to community providers treating Veterans for mental health concerns. The goal of the toolkit is to further enhance the delivery of mental health services to Veterans through increased communication and coordination of care between community providers and the VA. It not only provides information about accessing, communicating with, and, if needed, making referrals to VA hospitals, but also provides effective tools to assist Veterans who are dealing with a variety of mental health challenges. The toolkit also includes sections intended to increase providers' knowledge about military culture.

Press Release: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2394>

Tool Kit: <http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders>

WHITE HOUSE DRUG POLICY OFFICE AWARDS MORE THAN \$84 MILLION TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO PREVENT YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) announced \$84.6 million in Drug-Free Communities Support Program (DFC) grants to 692 communities across the country. These grants will provide local communities support to prevent youth substance use and reduce the demand for drug consumption. The Program is directed by ONDCP, in partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The DFC Program provides grants of up to \$625,000 over five years to community coalitions that facilitate youth and adult participation at the community level in local youth drug prevention efforts. Coalitions are comprised of community leaders, parents, youth, teachers, religious and fraternal organizations, healthcare and business professionals, law enforcement, and media.

Press Release: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/news-releases-remarks/84-million-to-local-communities-prevent-youth-substance-use>

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTORS BLOG: WORDS MATTER

The mental health field is often stymied by the language used to describe mental disorders. In this blog, NIMH Director Thomas Insel poses the question of whether the use of language is holding the field back from making important progress. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2012/words-matter.shtml>

INSIDE NIMH NEWSLETTER

The latest edition of this NIMH newsletter discusses recent funding opportunities and some new initiatives the Institute is considering for the future. In addition, the issue includes a budget overview with an analysis of the FY2012 budget and an outlook for FY2013.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/inside-nimh/2012-autumn-inside-nimh.shtml>

VIDEO: FROM CLINICAL TRIALS TO CLASSROOM COMMITMENT, NIMH EXPERTISE BENEFITS STUDENTS

In this new video, a mother shares her experience participating in a clinical trial at NIMH for her son with Aspergers Syndrome. In the study, NIMH researchers developed an exercise designed to mitigate frustration in children by teaching them relaxation techniques, which are now used in a special education school.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/video/from-clinical-trials-to-classroom-commitment-nimh-expertise-benefits-students.shtml>

PREVENTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: WHAT DO WE KNOW?

Learn what is known from research about the prevention of Alzheimer's disease and age-related cognitive decline in this new NIA booklet. It discusses Alzheimer's disease risk factors; research about the impact of physical activity, diet, other chronic diseases, mental stimulation, and hormones on Alzheimer's and cognitive decline; and the importance of clinical trials.

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/publication/preventing-alzheimers-disease>

NEW FROM NIDA

NEW TOOL FOR PARENTS: FAMILY CHECKUP: POSITIVE PARENTING PREVENTS DRUG ABUSE

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has launched *Family Checkup*, an online resource that equips parents with research-based skills to help keep their children drug-free. NIDA-funded research has shown the critical role parents play in preventing their children from using drugs. *Family Checkup* poses questions for parents to consider as they interact with their children; highlighting parenting skills that are important in preventing the initiation and progression of drug use among youth. The resource incorporates video examples that show parents how-to and how-not-to emulate each skill with their own children.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/family-checkup>

STUDY FINDS COMBINED DOPAMINE DYSFUNCTION IN DRUG ADDICTED, PATIENTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA

A new NIDA-funded study examined amphetamine-induced dopamine release in patients with comorbid schizophrenia and substance dependence. The results suggest that patients with comorbid mental and substance use disorders suffer from a combined dysfunction: a) increased dopamine sensitivity in the part of the striatum responsible for the psychotic symptoms and, based on prior research, b) reduced sensitivity to dopamine in the area of the striatum associated with reward. Such a set of alterations in dopamine release could set up a vicious cycle of using drugs to self-medicate, which in turn may cause or further worsen psychosis.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2012/10/study-finds-combined-dopamine-dysfunction-in-drug-addicted-schizophrenic-patients>

NEW SAMHSA RESOURCES

SAMHSA NEWS: FOCUS ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

The latest issue of *SAMHSA News* features the newly released National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.

http://www.samhsa.gov/samhsaNewsletter/Volume_20_Number_3/preventing_suicide.aspx

BLOG: PROJECT LAUNCH

This post describes Project LAUNCH (Linking Actions for Unmet Needs in Children's Health), which started by bringing together leaders in a variety of fields: mental health, public health, child welfare and education, among others. The model for the initiative is based on the understanding that the first years of life are critical in the development of a child, and that working together to ensure that all young children are healthy in those early years will set them on a path to success.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/10/09/samhsas-project-launch/>

BLOG: WHAT DO BULLYING AND YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE HAVE IN COMMON?

This post looks at the relationship between bullying and youth substance.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/10/03/what-do-bullying-and-youth-substance-use-have-in-common-more-than-you-might-think/>

PODCAST: CULTURAL AWARENESS: CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN DISASTERS

The goal of this 60-minute podcast is to assist disaster behavioral health responders in providing culturally aware and appropriate disaster behavioral health services for children, youth, and families affected by natural and human-caused disasters. <http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/podcasts.asp>

UPDATED SUICIDE PREVENTION INFORMATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

The Role of High School Teachers in Preventing Suicide and *The Role of High School Mental Health Providers in Preventing Suicide* are part of a series of fact sheets created by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center. These revised fact sheets include updated data and resources and clear steps school professionals can take to respond to students at risk for suicide. <http://www.sprc.org/basics/roles-suicide-prevention>

AHRQ RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

ALCOHOL MAY BE MISUSED BY RESIDENTS IN ASSISTED LIVING SETTINGS

As baby boomers grow older, assisted living (AL) settings become more popular. AL facilities may allow alcohol use, including offering cocktail hours and letting residents keep alcohol in their rooms. A new study funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) suggests that alcohol use is widespread and may be abused in AL facilities. <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/oct12/1012RA23.htm>

ELDERLY AFRICAN AMERICANS LESS LIKELY THAN ELDERLY CAUCASIANS TO RECEIVE A DEPRESSION DIAGNOSIS OR TREATMENT

Researchers examining racial and ethnic disparities in the diagnosis and treatment of depression among the elderly found that 4.2 percent of African Americans received a diagnosis of depression compared to 6.4 percent of caucasians, 7.2 percent of Hispanics, and 3.8 percent of other groups. African Americans who were diagnosed were also less likely to be treated for depression than non-Hispanic caucasians. For example, among African Americans diagnosed with depression, 39.6 percent did not receive treatment compared with 27 percent of caucasians. These differences in depression diagnosis and treatment remained significant, even after adjusting for income, education, insurance coverage, perceived access to care, and other factors. <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/oct12/1012RA38.htm>

CDC SPOTLIGHT ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS (ASDS)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Learning Connection highlights autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in its October Spotlight. The Spotlight features learning products and resources to assist the public health community and healthcare providers learn more about ASDs and developmental disabilities.

<http://www.cdc.gov/learning/spotlight.html>

NEW FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CRIME VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES REPLICATION GUIDES RELEASED

These guides discuss how adult protective services, human services agencies, law enforcement, disability and Deaf advocates, self-advocates, and others can work together to ensure equal and effective access to the criminal justice system for persons with disabilities.

<http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/victimswithdisabilities/index.html>

ADULTS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS UNDER CORRECTIONAL SUPERVISION: A SHARED FRAMEWORK FOR REDUCING RECIDIVISM AND PROMOTING RECOVERY

This guide introduces an evidence-based framework for prioritizing scarce resources based on assessments of individuals' risk of committing a future crime and their treatment and support needs.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/BJAreleases/frameworkpub.html>

REAL WARRIORS, REAL ADVICE: BATTLEFIELD SKILLS THAT MAKE REINTEGRATION CHALLENGING

This podcast focuses on the challenges service members face in “turning off” the behaviors and actions that served them well in combat once they return home. Being aware of the challenges they may experience can make the transition easier for warriors and families. <http://www.realwarriors.net/podcasts/episode027>

SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH INTO WOMEN VETERANS' HEALTH

This spotlight from the VA Health Services Research and Development Service summarizes recent findings from VA researchers on women Veterans' health issues, including post-traumatic stress disorder, homelessness, and access to healthcare.

http://www.hsrp.research.va.gov/news/feature/womens_health1012.cfm

DCOE BLOG

MOBILE DEVICES BRING SESAME STREET'S MESSAGE OF RESILIENCE TO MILITARY FAMILIES

Sesame Workshop has been providing resources that help both military parents and their children stay resilient during transitions. The bilingual (English and Spanish) resources are now available on a new, free mobile application for military families. The *Sesame Street for Military Families* app includes videos, articles, storybooks, and caregiver guides on how parents and children can communicate and express their emotions about challenging transitions.

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=414>

INTRANSITION: REACHING ALL LEVELS OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

InTransition, managed by the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE), bridges the gap for service members with psychological health concerns who are transitioning between behavioral healthcare systems or providers. The program is voluntary and encourages service members to be an active part of their treatment planning process by guiding and educating them on healthy decision-making. The InTransition program assigns licensed behavioral healthcare providers as personal coaches who understand today's military culture, and maintain service members' privacy and confidentiality while being available 24/7. <http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=415>

EVENTS

BULLYING PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

OCTOBER 2012

October is Bullying Prevention Awareness Month. It's a time when communities can unite nationwide to raise awareness of bullying prevention through events, activities, outreach, and education.

SAMHSA Blog: <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/10/01/october-is-bullying-prevention-awareness-month/>
National Child Traumatic Stress Network Resources: <http://www.nctsn.org/resources/public-awareness/bullying-prevention-awareness-month>

NATIONAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

OCTOBER 2012

October marks the second annual National Substance Abuse Prevention Month – an observance to highlight the vital role of substance abuse prevention in individual and community health, and to remember those who lost their lives to substance abuse.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/10/01/join-us-to-celebrate-national-substance-abuse-prevention-month/>

WEBINAR: SCHOOL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUPPORT SERVICES FOR U.S. ARMY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

OCTOBER 16, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

This National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) webinar in the Military Families Learning Community Series will feature an update on U.S. Army Behavioral Health Services, including: (1) types of services and initiatives available to soldiers and their families; (2) challenges facing military children and families; (3) coordinated assets (military and civilian) with a focus on prevention and resilience; and (4) the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness program. The presenter will describe Army School Behavioral Health Programs, Child and Family Assistance Centers, and trainings and/or services available through the Army's Child, Adolescent and Family Behavioral Health Proponency.

http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=16&cal_m=10&cal_y=2012

WEBINAR: WELCOME BACK VETERANS PROGRAMS: SUPPORTING AND TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

OCTOBER 23, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

This NCTSN webinar will describe the work of the McCormick, RAND Corporation, and Duke University Veteran Culture and Clinical Competence Program providing innovative community-based behavioral health programs to their communities.

http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=23&cal_m=10&cal_y=2012

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020: SUBSTANCE ABUSE LEADING HEALTH INDICATORS

OCTOBER 24, 2012, 12:00-12:45PM ET

This webinar will provide an overview of the Healthy People 2020 Substance Abuse Leading Health Indicators. Participants will find out how one coalition worked to solve substance abuse issues among adolescents in their community. The webinar will be led by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Assistant Secretary for Health, Dr. Howard Koh, and will include a roundtable discussion on how participants can take active roles in preventing adolescent substance abuse.

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/connect/webinars.aspx>

WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY POLYPHARMACY IN SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS

OCTOBER 25, 2012, 1:00-2:30PM

This DCoE webinar will review the rates of polypharmacy in service member and Veteran populations with a special emphasis on psychopharmacological medications; identify factors leading to polypharmacy situations and the safety risks; and describe the role of clinicians in working with patients who have complex drug regimens. <http://dcoe.adobeconnect.com/dcoeoctoberwebinar/event/registration.html>

NCCAM TWITTER CHAT: DEPRESSION

OCTOBER 30, 2012, 1:00-2:00PM ET

The National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine will host a Twitter chat about depression. <http://nccam.nih.gov/news/events/twitterchat>

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON USING DATA TO PROMOTE HEALTH EQUITY AND ADDRESS DISPARITIES

NOVEMBER 13-14, 2012, SILVER SPRING, MD

The Knowledge 4Equity National Conference, funded by HHS' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health and Office of Minority Health, is designed to help community-based organizations better understand how to access, analyze, and use existing national, state, and local data.

<http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1136232>

GET INVOLVED IN NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK

JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 3, 2013

National Drug Facts Week is an opportunity for teens to interact with scientists and other experts about drug abuse. Help teens shatter the myths about drugs by hosting and promoting an event during the week. NIDA provides a toolkit with step-by-step suggestions for planning and promoting your event. Register your event today and help provide our nation's youth with the facts they need to succeed and make healthy decisions. By registering, you will have access to NIDA staff who can offer advice about successful events and information on how to get free NIDA materials designed for teens. Be a part of this health observance that offers teens essential, science-based information about drug abuse and addiction!

<http://drugfactsweek.drugabuse.gov>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORTS

The AHRQ 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:

KEY QUESTIONS: PHARMACOTHERAPY FOR ADULTS WITH ALCOHOL-USE DISORDERS IN OUTPATIENT SETTINGS (COMMENTS DUE OCTOBER 18, 2012)

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-key-questions/?pageAction=displayQuestions&topicID=477&questionSet=212&ECem=120920>

PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 PROCESS

HHS is soliciting written comments regarding new objectives proposed to be added to Healthy People 2020 since its launch in December 2010. During this round of public comment, HHS is soliciting input on proposed new objectives to be added to the following Topic Areas: (1) Educational and Community-Based Programs and (2) Social Determinants of Health. The public comment period will be open from October 15, 2012 through 5:00 pm ET on November 2, 2012.

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/publicComment.aspx>

SUBMISSIONS WANTED FOR GRAMMY FOUNDATION® AND MUSICARES® TEENS! MAKE MUSIC CONTEST

NIDA encourages young musicians 14 to 18 years old to participate in the 3rd annual GRAMMY Foundation® and MusiCares®Teens! Make Music Contest, now being coordinated by The Partnership at Drugfree.org. Winners will be announced during National Drug Facts Week. This contest provides a great opportunity for teens to share their thoughts about healthy choices and the dangers of drug abuse through original music and/or music videos. Winners win cash and a backstage experience at the GRAMMY Awards rehearsal in Los Angeles. Submissions must be postmarked by December 3, 2012.

<http://www.drugfree.org/give-get-involved/events/teens-make-music-contest>

CONCEPT CLEARANCES FOR POTENTIAL NEW NIMH RESEARCH INITIATIVES

NIMH has posted a list of potential future initiatives to provide the earliest possible alert to the field of the Institute's research interests and of potential upcoming announcements to solicit that research. While NIMH plans to proceed with these initiatives, their publication and timing are not certain and depend on sufficient funding. The titles and brief descriptions are consistent with the information available at the time of concept clearance. The resultant Funding Opportunity Announcements may differ from the concepts in the final wording of their titles or other aspects. To send questions about a specific concept, use the "Submit Comments" link at the bottom of each concept clearance web page.

IMPROVING HEALTH AND REDUCING PREMATURE MORTALITY IN PEOPLE WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/improving-health-and-reducing-premature-mortality-in-people-with-severe-mental-illness.shtml>

BUILDING AN EVIDENCE-BASED RESPONSE TO DISASTER AND MASS TRAUMA EVENTS

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/building-an-evidence-based-response-to-disaster-and-mass-trauma-events.shtml>

ASCERTAINING CRITICAL TRANSITIONS IN EATING DISORDERS

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/ascertaining-critical-transitions-in-eating-disorders.shtml>

COGNITIVE TRAINING RESOURCE EXCHANGE (COGTREX)

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/cognitive-training-resource-exchange-cogtrex.shtml>

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT SUICIDE PREVENTION IN YOUTH

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/emergency-department-suicide-prevention-in-youth.shtml>

LEVERAGING ARRA RESOURCES TO ACCELERATE RESEARCH ON NEURODEVELOPMENT

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/leveraging-arra-resources-to-accelerate-research-on-neurodevelopment.shtml>

GUT MICROBIOME-BRAIN INTERACTIONS IN MENTAL HEALTH: IMPLICATIONS FOR MENTAL DISORDERS

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/gut-microbiome-brain-interactions-in-mental-health-implications-for-mental-disorders.shtml>

PSYCENCODE: EXPLORING THE FUNCTION OF NON-CODING ELEMENTS IN THE BRAIN

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/psycencode-exploring-the-function-of-non-coding-elements-in-the-brain.shtml>

USING COLLABORATIVE CARE TO REDUCE RACIAL AND ETHNIC DISPARITIES IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/using-collaborative-care-to-reduce-racial-and-ethnic-disparities-in-mental-health-care.shtml>

BUILDING THE NEXT GENERATION OF GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCHERS

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/grants/concept-clearances/2012/building-the-next-generation-of-global-mental-health-researchers.shtml>

CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION NEWS

FINAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ENROLL IN NIH OIL SPILL HEALTH STUDY

Time is running out for workers and volunteers who helped with the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill cleanup to enroll in a long-term study of the possible effects of the oil spill on human health. The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), which is conducting the study, is seeking anyone who helped with the oil spill cleanup in any capacity to call and enroll. Enrollment in the Gulf Long-term Follow-up Study will close soon and would-be participants have until the end of December 2012 to sign up.

NIEHS is seeking all eligible workers and volunteers — those who are healthy as well as those who may have health challenges — to enroll. NIEHS is also making a special request for anyone who worked near the source of the spill, such as oil rig workers and rig support personnel, to enroll. Because of these individuals' proximity to the spill, it will be important to understand how their exposure might affect their health.

<http://www.gulfstudy.nih.gov>

FUNDING INFORMATION

CENTERS FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN FRAGILE X

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-13-004.html>

NIDA ACCEPTING PROPOSALS TO CREATE MOBILE APP THAT HELPS PATIENTS TAKE MEDICATIONS AS PRESCRIBED

NIDA seeks to develop and test a prototype mobile/tablet technology-based application to provide a low-cost, highly personalized, interactive, patient-centric medication adherence tool that improves upon currently available mobile technology-based medication adherence applications. The deadline for receipt of all contract proposals submitted in response to this solicitation is November 13, 2012 at 5:00 PM ET.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2012/10/nida-accepting-proposals-to-create-mobile-app-helps-patients-take-medications-prescribed>



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 help close the gap between mental health research and clinical practice, inform the public about mental illnesses, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. For more information about the program please visit: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partners>. To subscribe to receive the **Update** every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/subscribe-to-the-update.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.