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# UPDATE

September 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*

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## SCIENCE AND SERVICE NEWS UPDATES

### **PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR VETERANS, SERVICE MEMBERS, AND MILITARY FAMILIES**

President Obama signed an Executive Order directing key Federal departments to expand suicide prevention strategies and take steps to meet the current and future demand for mental health and substance abuse treatment services for veterans, service members, and their families.

**<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/08/31/fact-sheet-president-obama-signs-executive-order-improve-access-mental-h>**

### **NEW NATIONAL STRATEGY PAVES WAY FOR REDUCING SUICIDE DEATHS**

On World Suicide Prevention Day, the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention (Action Alliance) released a national strategy to reduce the number of deaths by suicide. The strategy was called for by Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and former Department of Defense (DoD) Secretary Robert Gates when they launched the Action Alliance on September 10, 2010. The *2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention*, a report from the U.S. Surgeon General and the Action Alliance, details 13 goals and 60 objectives for reducing suicides over the next 10 years.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1209102435.aspx>

**Strategy:** <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention>

### **NIH AWARDS \$100 MILLION FOR AUTISM CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM**

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced grant awards of \$100 million over five years for the Autism Centers of Excellence research program, which will feature projects investigating sex differences in autism spectrum disorders (ASD), and investigating ASD and limited speech.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2012/nichd-04.htm>

### **NIH-FUNDED STUDY LINKS LONG-TERM MARIJUANA USE, ESPECIALLY WHEN STARTED DURING ADOLESCENCE, WITH DECREASED IQ AND IMPAIRED COGNITIVE FUNCTION**

NIH-funded research shows that long-term marijuana is associated with impaired intellectual functioning, especially if usage starts during the teen years. Over 1,000 study participants were given neuropsychological tests in early adolescence, prior to initiation of marijuana use, and then re-tested in mid adulthood. Study members with more persistent marijuana dependence showed greater IQ decline and greater impairment across five different cognitive domains, especially executive function and processing speed.

**Press Release:** <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2012/09/nih-funded-study-links-long-term-marijuana-use-especially-when-started-during-adolescence-d>

## **SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$2.3 MILLION IN STATEWIDE CONSUMER NETWORK GRANTS**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced up to \$2.3 million in funding will help up to 11 new statewide consumer networks strengthen coalitions among consumers, peers, policymakers and service providers. Consumer networks can foster peer support groups and offer training for peer support leaders. Grantees also provide counseling services for persons with mental health and substance abuse disorders.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1209122358.aspx>

## **NEW RESOURCES HELP OLDER AMERICANS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES MAINTAIN THEIR INDEPENDENCE; SENIORS, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, AND THEIR FAMILIES GET ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL RESOURCE CENTERS**

HHS announced \$12.5 million in awards to Aging and Disability Resource Centers to support older Americans and people with disabilities stay independent and receive long-term services and supports. These grants, funded by the Affordable Care Act and the Older Americans Act, support counselors who help individuals and their caregivers identify and access long-term services and supports, regardless of income or financial assets.

**Press Release:** <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/09/20120911c.html>

## **VETERANS IN RURAL AREAS TO GET EXPANDED ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE**

HHS and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced a joint effort to expand health care delivery to veterans living in rural areas. The agreement between the two agencies promotes collaboration between VA facilities and private hospitals and clinics, and is supported by \$983,100 in grants to improve access and coordination of care through telehealth and health information exchanges in rural areas. Three states with the highest density of veteran residents, Virginia, Montana, and Alaska, will each receive approximately \$300,000 to implement or upgrade telehealth capabilities for veterans who must otherwise travel long distances to access medical, mental and behavioral health care.

**Press Release:** <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/09/20120912b.html>

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AWARDS MORE THAN \$9.8 MILLION TO FUND CENTERS FOR PARENTS OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The U.S. Department of Education announced the award of more than \$9.8 million in grants to 16 states to operate 25 Parent Training and Information Centers for parents of students with disabilities. The Department also awarded \$1.1 million to provide funding for 11 Community Parent Resource Centers in nine states and Puerto Rico.

**Press Release:** <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-awards-more-98-million-fund-centers-parents-students-dis>

## VETERANS' COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES ASKED TO 'STAND BY THEM'

In recognition of September as Suicide Prevention Month, the VA is calling on individuals and communities across the country to show their support for veterans in crisis and help raise awareness of the VA mental health services veterans have earned. The theme for the outreach campaign, *Stand by Them*, is part of a joint VA and DoD effort focused on veteran and service member support networks, especially their friends and family members who may be the first to realize a veteran or service member is in crisis. The VA is also launching a new national public service announcement, *Side by Side*, that focuses on the important role family and community play in supporting veterans in crisis.

**Press Release:** <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2381>

## RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

### NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE

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#### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: STRATEGY ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

With the release of a new *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* on World Suicide Prevention Awareness Day, NIMH Director Thomas Insel talks about goals for suicide research.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2012/strategy-on-suicide-prevention.shtml>

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#### NIMH VIDEO: HIGH PRIORITY RESEARCH STRATEGIES OF SUICIDE PREVENTION

In this video NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses strategies for suicide prevention with NIMH researcher Dr. Jane Pearson. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/media/video/nimh-director-talks-with-nimh-researcher-about-the-high-priority-research-strategies-of-suicide-prevention.shtml>

### NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: GENETIC SWITCH INVOLVED IN DEPRESSION

The activity of a single gene sets in motion some of the brain changes seen in depression, according to a new study. The finding suggests a promising target for potential therapies.

<http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/september2012/09102012depression.htm>

## NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION 2012 RESOURCES

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### NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION 2012: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR ACTION

This report outlines a national strategy to guide suicide prevention actions. It includes 13 goals and 60 objectives across four strategic directions: wellness and empowerment; prevention services; treatment and support services; and surveillance, research, and evaluation.

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/full-report.pdf>

### HOW YOU CAN PLAY A ROLE IN PREVENTING SUICIDE

This fact sheet describes how individuals and organizations can take action to prevent suicide. It provides facts about suicide, including its prevalence and populations most at risk, and lists warning signs of suicidal behavior and ways to help someone who is a risk for suicide.

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/factsheet.pdf>

### OVERVIEW

This document presents an overview of a national strategy designed to guide suicide prevention activities over the next decade. It describes why there is a need for a national suicide prevention strategy, and its overall goals and objectives based on four strategic directions.

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/overview.pdf>

## NIDA: PEERX PUBLICATION EDUCATION INITIATIVE

**PEERx** is a national public education initiative from the **National Institute on Drug Abuse** (NIDA) that aims to empower teenagers in grades 8–10 to avoid prescription drug abuse. According to the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, teenagers ages 12–17 who had a major depressive episode in the past year were more than twice as likely (17% vs. 6.5%) to have abused psychotherapeutics (i.e., nonmedical use of any prescription-type pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives). Further, after marijuana, psychotherapeutics were the most abused group of drugs by teenagers who have had a major depressive episode in the past year. In response to this serious public health problem, NIDA offers free resources with science-based facts to facilitate discussions with teenagers about the dangers of prescription drug abuse. In addition, the PEERx Activity Guide provides ideas for engaging, educational activities that could be used during NIDA's **National Drug Facts Week** taking place from **January 28 through February 3, 2013**. For additional information or questions, please contact Arlene Remick at [aremick@iqsolutions.com](mailto:aremick@iqsolutions.com).

<http://teens.drugabuse.gov/peerx/>

## NEW SAMHSA RESOURCES

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### "YOU MATTER" CAMPAIGN FOR YOUNG ADULTS IN EMOTIONAL DISTRESS OR SUICIDAL CRISIS

This new online campaign, *You Matter*, promotes the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline which focuses on the positive message that the lives of young adults matter, even as they face trying times or difficult problems. Through a blog and social media, *You Matter* aims to build awareness and trust in the Lifeline among young adults by providing a safe, online space where they can connect with the Lifeline. The campaign showcases hopeful peer-to-peer messages and also supports friends of young adults who are in distress or crisis, providing them with resources to help.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/09/05/youmattercampaign/>

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### SAMHSA ADS CENTER: NEW SPORTS SECTION OF WEBSITE

The SAMHSA ADS Center has created the new *Information by Topic: Sports* section on its website to support athletes, trainers, coaches, and others in better understanding the unique challenges athletes face and ways to promote positive mental health, support athletes in recovery, and reduce discrimination and stigma.

<http://promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/topic/sports/default.aspx>

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### DISASTER RESPONSE: STORIES FROM THE CRISIS COUNSELING ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROGRAM

This issue of SAMHSA's newsletter on disaster behavioral health compiles stories and feedback from Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) staff experiences from recent disasters. Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered by SAMHSA, the CCP has assisted U.S. states and territories in their disaster recovery efforts for close to 37 years.

[http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue\\_vol8\\_issue4.pdf](http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue_vol8_issue4.pdf)

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### BUILDING COMMUNITIES OF RECOVERY: HOW COMMUNITY-BASED PARTNERSHIPS AND RECOVERY SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS MAKE RECOVERY WORK

This archived webinar describes how communities are organizing and networking to provide recovery support to people dealing with mental and substance use disorders, and highlights efforts to change the culture of communities to accept and embrace people in recovery.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA12-4678DVD>

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### COMMUNITIES THAT CARE CURRICULUM

This curriculum equips communities with information to create a public health prevention approach to target youth problem behaviors such as violence, delinquency, and substance abuse. It includes 50 Power Point slides that cover strategic consultation, training, and research-based tools.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/PEP12-CTCPPT>

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#### SUPPORTED EDUCATION EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES KIT

This kit provides information and resources for implementing supported education to enable consumers to pursue goals that have been interrupted due to symptoms of behavioral health conditions. It includes information on getting started, delivering services, and evaluation.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA11-4654CD-ROM>

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#### RECOVERY TO PRACTICE WEBSITE

SAMHSA's Recovery to Practice initiative launched its website designed to help behavioral health professionals, practitioners, and consumers find a variety of concrete tools and strategies that translate recovery concepts and principles into practice. This site features recovery terminology, an events calendar, updates on the six professional disciplines developing recovery-oriented curricula, news and announcements from the field, and related links. <http://www.samhsa.gov/recoverytopractice/index.aspx>

### SAMHSA HOMELESSNESS RESOURCE CENTER FEATURES

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#### HOUSING FIRST: AN INTERVIEW WITH SAM TSEMBERIS

Housing First is a housing and support services model that is used in the United States in both urban and rural areas. Dr. Tsemberis discusses the history of Housing First, which is based on the principles of client choice and offers housing as a basic human right to people with co-occurring disorders experiencing homelessness. <http://homeless.samhsa.gov/Resource/View.aspx?id=54965>

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#### MENTAL HEALTH COURTS: DIVERTING LOSS

Many communities are establishing mental health courts to better serve the needs of people with mental illness who are charged with crimes. The result is a model that offers healthier paths to recovery and higher-quality, more cost-effective services. Melissa Knopp, Esq., Manager of the Specialized Dockets Section of the Supreme Court of Ohio, discusses the establishment of a mental health court in her community.

<http://homeless.samhsa.gov/Resource/View.aspx?id=54968>

### CDC: SURVEILLANCE FOR VIOLENT DEATHS

An estimated 50,000 persons die annually in the United States as a result of violence-related injuries. This report summarizes data from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Violent Death Reporting System regarding violent deaths from 16 U.S. states for 2009. Violent deaths resulting from self-inflicted or interpersonal violence disproportionately affected adults aged over 55 years old, males, and certain racial/ethnic minority populations. For homicides and suicides, relationship problems, interpersonal conflicts, mental health problems, and recent crises were among the primary factors that might have precipitated the fatal injuries. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6106a1.htm>

## AHRQ RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

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### CONVENTIONAL AND ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTIC DRUGS SHOW DIFFERING SAFETY RISKS AMONG OLDER NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

Up to a third of older nursing home residents are treated with antipsychotics to help control behavioral problems. In two studies supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the researchers found that atypical antipsychotic drugs (such as risperidone) were associated with lower hazard rates than conventional antipsychotic drugs (such as haloperidol) for overall death rates and rates of specific causes of death, excluding cancer. Similarly, they found that the risk of developing cardiac disease, hip fractures, and infections were lower for treatment with atypical rather than conventional antipsychotic drugs. However, risks of cerebrovascular events were lower for conventional antipsychotic drugs. In both studies, the researchers analyzed data on new users of antipsychotic drugs (haloperidol, aripiprazole, olanzapine, quetiapine, risperidone, and ziprasidone) among elderly adults, who were eligible for Medicaid and lived in a nursing home in 2001 to 2005. <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/sep12/0912RA11.htm>

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### NO LINK FOUND BETWEEN STIMULANT TREATMENT OF YOUTH WITH ADHD AND CARDIOVASCULAR PROBLEMS

Stimulants are widely considered the first-line drug treatment for children and adolescents with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), with approximately 3.2 percent of youth in the United States being treated with stimulants each year. Stimulants, which increase heart rate and blood pressure, have labeling required by the Food and Drug Administration that warns of the possibility of sudden death from stimulant use in children and adolescents with structural cardiac abnormalities or other serious heart problems. However, a new study found no association between stimulant treatment of youth with ADHD with no known cardiovascular risk factors. The researchers reviewed the records of 171,126 patients with ADHD who were 6 to 21 years of age and without known cardiovascular risk factors. They found that clinical diagnoses of cardiovascular events and symptoms were rare and not associated with stimulant use. <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/sep12/0912RA13.htm>

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### PEDIATRIC VISITS FOR ADHD HAVE RISEN AND THE CONDITION IS INCREASINGLY BEING MANAGED BY PSYCHIATRISTS

ADHD is common among children and adolescents in the United States. Diagnosis from 2003 to 2007 increased 21.8 percent among children aged 4 to 17 years of age, from 7.6 percent to 9.5 percent, representing 5.4 million children. Changes in clinical practice guidelines, the introduction of new medications such as atomoxetine, as well as growing medication-related concerns, prompted researchers to take a fresh look at the diagnosis and treatment of ADHD from 2000 to 2010. During this period, ambulatory visits coded with a diagnosis of ADHD increased by two-thirds and management of these cases by psychiatrists increased, according to a team of Chicago and Boston-based researchers. The number of ADHD-related visits increased from 6.2 million in 2000 to 10.4 million in 2010. <http://www.ahrq.gov/research/sep12/0912RA14.htm>

## DEFENSE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE BLOG: A PERSPECTIVE ON SUICIDE

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post was written by U.S. Public Health Service Cmdr. Sarah Arnold, a physician trained in family medicine and preventive medicine. She served in the Navy for 14 years and completed two tours in Iraq. Five years ago, she lost her friend to suicide and was compelled to write about it, in part because she was the last person to see her colleague and friend before she died, and also for her own healing.

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=406>

## REAL WARRIORS—NEW RESOURCES

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### TEENS AND DEPLOYMENT: WHAT TO EXPECT AND HOW TO HELP

This resource provides tips for preparing teens prior to deployment who may be anxious, proud, sad, or even confused about their parent's upcoming deployment.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/family/children/preparingteens.php>

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### WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDE

This resource provides warning signs of suicide and steps to help a warrior in crisis. The loss of any warrior's life is a tragedy, whether it's in combat or in a different type of battle. Although relatively uncommon overall, military suicides have unfortunately increased recently, especially within the Army and Marine Corps. <http://www.realwarriors.net/active/treatment/suicideprevention.php>

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### NEW PRINT ADS

These new Real Warriors print ads thank service members and veterans for their service and encourage warriors to access Real Warriors resources to help ease the transition from deployment to homecoming.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/pressroom/printads.php>

## EVENTS

### NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

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#### SEPTEMBER 2012

FEMA leads this annual effort through its *Ready Campaign*, in partnership with Citizen Corps and The Ad Council. FEMA asks all Americans to make the pledge to prepare this month. Learn more about creating a family emergency plan, emergency kits and supplies, and planning for people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. <http://www.fema.gov/news-release/fema-kicks-ninth-annual-national-preparedness-month>

## **WEBINAR: EARLY LIFE ORIGINS OF PEDIATRIC AND ADULT DISEASES**

SEPTEMBER 17, 2012, 2:30-3:30 PM ET

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This HHS Maternal and Child Health Bureau Research Innovations and Challenges webinar will provide an overview on life course framework and critical time windows for health and diseases; discuss major factors contributing to early life origins of health and diseases; and provide a discussion on the promise of biomarkers and multi-level data integration in early risk assessment, prediction, and preemptive prevention of pediatric and adult diseases. <http://mchb.hrsa.gov/research/media-webinar.asp>

## **SAMHSA WELLNESS WEEK**

SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2012

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SAMHSA is sponsoring National Wellness Week to inspire individuals and organizations to get involved and take one step for wellness. During National Wellness Week, individuals across the country will be encouraged to improve their health behaviors, while also exploring their talents, skills, interests, social connections, and environment to incorporate other dimensions of wellness.

[http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/10by10/wellness\\_week.aspx](http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/10by10/wellness_week.aspx)

## **TELECONFERENCE: IMPROVING OVERALL HEALTH THROUGH WELLNESS FOR WOMEN WITH DEPRESSION AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE**

SEPTEMBER 18, 2012, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

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SAMHSA's Wellness Initiative brings this teleconference focused on women's health. During this teleconference, participants will: learn how mental health and substance use disorders and poor physical health outcomes are intricately linked, especially for women experiencing depression and cardiovascular disease; gain information about steps women with depression and cardiovascular disease can take to improve their wellness and physical health for themselves and others; and discover how women and communities can work together to achieve the goals of SAMHSA's Wellness Initiative—to promote wellness, improve quality of life, and increase longevity for people with mental and substance use disorders.

<http://www.esi-bethesda.com/wellnessteleconference>

## **WEBINAR: ENHANCING STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL CHANGE IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE SETTINGS**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012, 2:00-3:30PM ET

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Targeted for behavioral health staff working in an integrated care setting, this SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Services webinar will teach participants how to evaluate the importance an individual places on particular behavioral change, and approaches to help the individual consider the limitations and benefits of a potential change. Emphasis will be placed on recognizing and reinforcing when an individual is moving toward change. <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/224378850>

## **WEBINAR: TRIBAL LAW AND ORDER ACT TRIBAL JUSTICE PLAN: AN OVERVIEW AND UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION**

SEPTEMBER 19, 2012, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

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This SAMHSA webinar on the Tribal Law and Order Act will provide an overview of the Tribal Justice Plan (TJP) and accomplishments to date; inform participants on progress made to implement recommendations in the TJP, including detention, alternatives to detention, and offender reentry; explain the work group structure to further implement recommendations; and share information on future consultation and meetings with tribal leaders and tribal justice practitioners. The first webinar in this series will be held on September 12. [https://www.bja.gov/Events/TLOA\\_TJP\\_Webinar\\_09-19-12.pdf](https://www.bja.gov/Events/TLOA_TJP_Webinar_09-19-12.pdf)

## **WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING CAREGIVER SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TRAUMA: A FOCUS ON THE FAMILY**

SEPTEMBER 21, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

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This National Center for Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) webinar in the Role of Trauma among Families Struggling with Substance Abuse Speaker Series will focus on the connection between caregiver trauma and substance abuse, the impact of both on children, and the challenges experienced by families when both substance abuse and trauma are present. Four models of intervening in the area of parenting, substance abuse, and trauma will be presented, including two parenting programs. Speakers will also discuss an attachment curriculum utilized in a residential program for women with substance use disorders and an adaptation of child-parent psychotherapy for parents and children in family residential treatment for substance abuse.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=21&cal\\_m=9&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=21&cal_m=9&cal_y=2012)

## **WEBINAR: EXPANDING SUICIDE PREVENTION TO INCLUDE UPSTREAM APPROACHES**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, 3:30-5:00PM ET

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This SAMHSA webinar will explore “upstream” suicide prevention approaches which may be able to inoculate individuals against suicide. It will highlight the Good Behavior Game (GBG) and its theorized mechanism for reducing suicide attempts. In addition, other upstream approaches and the role of upstream approaches within the spectrum of wellness, prevention, treatment, and aftercare strategies for suicide prevention will be discussed. The potential long-term impact of upstream approaches in preventing a wide range of mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders will be discussed, along with the practice implications of such findings. <http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/r2p-webinars/expanding-suicide-prevention-include-upstream-approaches>

## **WEBINAR: STRONG FAMILIES STRONG FORCES: A PROGRAM TO SUPPORT MILITARY FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN**

SEPTEMBER 25, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar will describe the work of Strong Families Strong Forces, a DoD funded project to develop and test a home-based intervention for military families with young children. They will describe their work with over 100 families, including details of the 8-module attachment-based intervention, and present case vignettes to illustrate the clinical work and varied needs of families during the reintegration phase of the deployment cycle.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=25&cal\\_m=9&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=25&cal_m=9&cal_y=2012)

## **WEBINAR: SCREENING MEASURES FOR PARENT-CHILD DYADS**

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Screening and Assessment for Trauma in the Child Welfare Setting Speaker Series will address trauma screening and assessment for parents and children in the child welfare system, with a focus on how information gained through screening can help inform casework practice, improve family engagement, and guide decision-making on mental health services.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=27&cal\\_m=9&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=27&cal_m=9&cal_y=2012)

## WEBINAR: BULLYING AMONG ADOLESCENTS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012, 12:00-1:30 PM ET

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This Healthy People 2020 *Spotlight on Health* Webinar will provide an overview about bullying among adolescents, bullying prevention and systems-level policy changes, and populations at risk.

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

## WEBINAR: PEER-DRIVEN INNOVATIONS: CHANGING SYSTEMS, CHANGING LIVES

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

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During this SAMHSA webinar, participants will hear how Michigan has accessed and utilized Federal funds to train and develop a strong peer workforce within the state. In addition, participants will learn about the large-scale systems transformation underway in Delaware, a concrete example of what can be accomplished when a powerful and effective collaborative alliance between people with lived experience and a bold, visionary state mental health commissioner is established.

<http://promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/training/teleconference09272012.aspx>

## WEBINAR: MANAGING SUICIDE BEHAVIORS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2012, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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The goal of this DCOE webinar is to educate health care providers about their role in identifying and managing suicidal behaviors. Specifically, this webinar will: review the public health significance of suicide; describe screening and assessment methods for identifying suicidal patients; and identify interventions for managing suicidal behaviors. <http://www.dcoe.health.mil/Training/MonthlyWebinars.aspx>

## WEBINAR: PRENATAL EXPOSURE TO SUBSTANCES AND TRAUMA: FOSTERING PARENT AND CHILD WELL-BEING

SEPTEMBER 28, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Role of Trauma among Families Struggling with Substance Abuse Speaker Series will address the effects of prenatal exposure to substances and trauma on children, discuss assessment and treatment approaches for youth and caregivers, inform participants about Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) through the lifespan, and give a personal testimony on one family's experience with FASD.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=28&cal\\_m=9&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=28&cal_m=9&cal_y=2012)

## **WEBINAR: THE REVISED NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION**

OCTOBER 3, 2012, 3:00-4:30PM ET

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This SAMHSA Suicide Prevention Resource Center webinar will discuss the newly released revised *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* that will guide suicide prevention activities for years to come. The revised strategy emphasizes the role every American can play in protecting their friends, family members, and colleagues from suicide. It also provides guidance for schools, businesses, health systems, clinicians, and many other sectors that takes into account nearly a decade of research and other advancements in the field since the last strategy was published. <http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/r2p-webinars/reviced-national-strategy-suicide-prevention>

## **WEBINAR: DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH TO TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICE WITH CROSSOVER YOUTH**

OCTOBER 9, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Crossover Youth and Trauma-Informed Practice Speaker Series will discuss how child serving systems can improve their response to the needs of youth that cross over from child welfare to juvenile justice. Drawing from the framework provided in the Crossover Youth Practice Model, presenters will look at various decision points in the case of a young person, identify how the system can improve its functioning, and describe trauma-informed interventions best suited for the youth.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=9&cal\\_m=10&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=9&cal_m=10&cal_y=2012)

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

OCTOBER 16, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

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This 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 focus on prevention and resilience, (4) and 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](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 16, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar will describe the work of the McCormick Foundation, RAND Corporation, and Duke University's 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](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=23&cal_m=10&cal_y=2012)

## **HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL "ABOVE THE INFLUENCE" DAY**

OCTOBER 18, 2012

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The Office of National Drug Control Policy is sponsoring the first ever National "Above the Influence" (ATI) Day. Taking place during National Substance Abuse Prevention Month in October, ATI Day will be a time to celebrate youth living the "Above the Influence" lifestyle and to recognize the power of prevention efforts in local communities. This annual tradition will reinforce ATI as a central substance abuse prevention tool on the national level and among community partners, key stakeholders, and youth around the country.

Partners are also invited to engage local teens with ATI activities, a local event or youth experience that supports your respective missions. <http://partners.atipartnerships.com/2012/09/please-join-ondcp%e2%80%99s-%e2%80%9cabove-the-influence%e2%80%9d-campaign-for-the-first-ever-national-%e2%80%9cabove-the-influence%e2%80%9d-day-on-october-18/>

## **2012 SCIENCE OF ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES SUMMIT**

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3, 2012, NATIONAL HARBOR, MD

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HHS under the auspices of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, and the HHS Office of Minority Health invite registration for the 2012 Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit. The program will facilitate thought-provoking dialogue among presenters from diverse disciplines that are taking unique, complementary, and sometimes distinctively different approaches to health disparities. The overall objective is to forge new alliances and provide a launching pad for creativity, collaboration, and innovation that will accelerate improved health for all Americans and a healthier global society. [http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit\\_site/registration.html](http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/registration.html)

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

NOVEMBER 13-14, SILVER SPRING, MD

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The Knowledge 4Equity National Conference, funded by the HHS' Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health and the 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, the conference will include workshops, breakout sessions, and presentations.

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

## **SAVE THE DATE: NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK**

JANUARY 28-FEBRUARY 3, 2013

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**National Drug Facts Week** (NDFW) is a health observance week for teens that aims to shatter the myths about drugs and drug abuse. Through community-based events and activities on the Web, on TV, and through contests, **NIDA** is working to encourage teens to get factual answers from scientific experts about drugs and drug abuse. <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:

**INTERVENTIONS FOR ADULTS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS WHO ARE INVOLVED WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM (COMMENTS DUE OCTOBER 11, 2012)**

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-draft-reports/?pageaction=displayDraftCommentForm&topicid=406&productID=1263&ECem=120913>

## STOP BULLYING VIDEO CHALLENGE

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the Federal Partners are launching a video challenge to help prevent and end bullying in schools and communities across the nation. This challenge invites youth ages 13 to 18 years old to create a 30 to 60 second video that will inform and motivate youth to prevent bullying, and that promotes an environment where kindness and respect for others matters. The focus should be on how youth can be more than a bystander, rather than a video that solely explains why bullying is wrong. Submissions will be accepted through October 14 at 11:00 PM ET.

<http://stopbullying.challenge.gov/>

## FUNDING INFORMATION

HRSA: HEALTHY TOMORROWS PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&oppld=194533>

PILOT INTERVENTION AND SERVICES RESEARCH GRANTS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-279.html>

BASIC SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH ON CULTURE, HEALTH, AND WELLBEING

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-LM-12-002.html>

BASIC BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH ON MULTISENSORY PROCESSING

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-EY-13-001.html>

NIMH RESEARCH EDUCATION MENTORING PROGRAMS FOR HIV/AIDS RESEARCHERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-273.html>



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.