



UPDATE

September 15, 2014

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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*

NEW GRANTS FUND CROSS-LIFESPAN SERVICES RESEARCH FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER; NIH-FUNDED PROJECTS AIM AT IMPROVING ACCESS, TIMELINESS OF INTERVENTIONS

Developing effective, real-world-ready approaches to providing early diagnosis, treatment, and supportive services for people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is the goal of 12 research grants awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). These grants are part of a broad research effort to provide models for the delivery of needed services to children, youth, and adults with ASD, across different communities and care settings, appropriate to each age and individual.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2014/new-grants-fund-cross-lifespan-services-research-for-autism-spectrum-disorder.shtml>

SCIENTISTS PLUG INTO A LEARNING BRAIN: NIH-FUNDED STUDY PROVIDES A NEURAL EXPLANATION FOR WHY SOME SKILLS ARE EASIER TO LEARN THAN OTHERS

Learning is easier when it only requires nerve cells to rearrange existing patterns of activity than when the nerve cells have to generate new patterns, a study of monkeys has found. The scientists explored the brain's capacity to learn through recordings of electrical activity of brain cell networks. The study was partly funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Press Release: <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/082814-learning-brain.aspx>

CDC AWARDS \$7.5 MILLION TO EXPAND THE NATIONAL VIOLENT DEATH REPORTING SYSTEM TO 32 STATES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced new state awardees for the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). CDC's \$7.5 million in funding will expand NVDRS from 18 to 32 participating states and enable greater collection of critical data on violent deaths. NVDRS is the only state-based violent death reporting system that helps states understand when and how violent deaths occur. NVDRS links data from law enforcement, coroners, and medical examiners, vital statistics, and crime laboratories to obtain the most comprehensive data available on homicides and suicides as well as unintentional firearm injuries. States can use the data to develop tailored prevention and intervention efforts to reduce violent deaths.

Press Release: <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/p0908-NVDRS.html>

REPORT REVEALS THE SCOPE OF SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL ILLNESS AFFECTING THE NATION; RELEASED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

A new report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides insight into the nature and scope of substance use and mental illness issues affecting America. National survey data from 2013 as well as information on the efforts and resources being taken to address these problems is being released in conjunction with the 25th annual observance of National Recovery Month. The report shows that 34.6 million adults aged 18 or older received mental health treatment or counseling during the past 12 months. Nearly one in five American adults, or 43.8 million adults, had a mental illness in 2013. Ten million adults (4.2 percent of the adult population) had a serious mental illness (SMI) in the past year. SMI is defined as mental illness that resulted in serious functional impairment, which substantially interfered with, or limited, one or more major life activities.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1409032750.aspx>

REPORTS HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKPLACE PROGRAMS FOR ADDRESSING SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Two new SAMHSA reports highlight the importance of addressing the needs of people in the workplace who have substance use disorders. The reports show that while many employers have policies and programs addressing substance use disorders, many of the 10.8 million full-time workers with these problems may not be receiving help in the workplace. Current illicit substance users comprise 9.5 percent of the nation's full-time workforce.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1408273228.aspx>

25 YEARS OF PTSD RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND TECHNOLOGY PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE MENTAL HEALTHCARE FOR VETERANS

The Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (NCPTSD) celebrates its 25th anniversary. VA created the Center in 1989 to address the needs of Veterans and other trauma survivors with PTSD. Congress called for a center of excellence that would set the agenda for research and education on PTSD without direct responsibility for patient care. VA initially established the Center as a consortium of five divisions, but now it consists of seven VA academic centers of excellence across the U.S. "Our most important accomplishment is that we helped educate policymakers as well as the general public that PTSD was not something that happened only to Vietnam Veterans, but could happen to Veterans of other wars and to any man, woman, or child faced with a catastrophic event," said Dr. Matthew Friedman, currently the Center's Senior Advisor and former Executive Director from 1989 through 2013. "When we started, PTSD was a controversial diagnosis. The Center's research and educational initiatives helped establish the scientific basis for PTSD, and disseminated that information globally."

Press Release: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2619>

VA RALLIES COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR VETERANS DURING SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH: NATIONWIDE EFFORTS SHOW HOW “THE POWER OF 1” CAN HELP VETERANS, SERVICEMEMBERS IN CRISIS

One small act could save the life of a Veteran or service member in crisis – that’s the inspiration behind *The Power of 1* campaign. The campaign launched during Suicide Prevention Month and is a joint project of the VA and the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). “The campaign emphasizes the effect that just one person, one conversation, or one act can have on the life of a Veteran or service member by offering hope and opening the door to support,” said Dr. Carolyn M. Clancy, Interim Under Secretary for Health. “It also is designed to spread the word about VA and DoD mental health resources and suicide prevention efforts.” A new public service announcement, *The Power of 1*, will reinforce this message by focusing on the small, everyday actions that can play a pivotal role in improving a Veteran’s life. It will be broadcast on television and radio stations nationwide during September.

Press Release: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2618>

HHS AWARDS MORE THAN \$295 MILLION IN AFFORDABLE CARE ACT FUNDS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO PRIMARY CARE AT HEALTH CENTERS

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced \$295 million in Affordable Care Act funding to 1,195 health centers in every U.S. State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Basin to expand primary care services. These awards enable health centers to increase access to comprehensive primary health care services by hiring an estimated 4,750 new staff including new health care providers, staying open for longer hours, and expanding the care they provide to include new services such as oral health, behavioral health, pharmacy, and vision services. These investments will help health centers reach an estimated 1.5 million new patients nationwide, including over 137,000 oral health patients and more than 38,000 mental and substance abuse patients.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2014pres/09/20140912a.html>

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: SUICIDE: A GLOBAL ISSUE

NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses a newly-released World Health Organization *World Suicide Report*, an overview of the impact of and factors involved in suicide globally and strategies for preventing suicide.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2014/suicide-a-global-issue.shtml>

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: CHILDHOOD AND BEYOND - SERVICES RESEARCH FOR ASD

In his blog, NIMH Director Thomas Insel talks about new NIMH grants that will support research on services for people of all ages with autism. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2014/childhood-and-beyond-services-research-for-asd.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

NIH NEWS IN HEALTH: FOCUSING ON ADHD

Some kids have trouble paying attention, staying focused, and finishing tasks to a point that interferes with their schoolwork, home life, and friendships. These might be signs of a developmental disorder called Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). This *NIH News in Health* article summarizes what is known about the signs, diagnosis, and treatment of ADHD. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Sep2014/Feature2>

NIH NEWS IN HEALTH: DRINKING TO EXCESS: RECOGNIZE AND TREAT ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

Most people drink alcohol moderately, but others find they can't control their drinking. This *NIH News in Health* article outlines signs that drinking is becoming a problem, and treatment options for alcohol use disorders. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Sep2014/Feature1>

NIH DIRECTOR'S BLOG: TEAM APPROACH HELPS TEEN DEPRESSION

As many as one in five U.S. teenagers experience an episode of major depression by the time they turn 18. Sadly, depression among teens often goes unrecognized, increasing the risk of suicide, substance abuse, and many other problems. Even among those who are diagnosed, few receive proper treatment. NIH Director Francis Collins describes a new NIH-funded study that's found success using a team approach that pairs depressed teens and their parents with a counselor. <http://directorsblog.nih.gov/2014/09/09/team-approach-helps-teen-depression/>

NIDA SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: SHORT VIDEO INCREASES HIV TESTING IN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT PATIENTS WHO INITIALLY DECLINED

A National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)-funded study shows that one-third of emergency department patients who initially declined to be tested for HIV changed their minds after watching a 16-minute video. This video described the importance of testing as well as demonstrated how an HIV test can be conducted without drawing blood (i.e., orally) and provide results in approximately 20 minutes.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2014/09/short-video-increases-hiv-testing-in-emergency-department-patients-who-initially-declined>

ACF FAMILY LIFE BLOG: BRINGING HOPE TO NATIVE COMMUNITIES: RESOURCES FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

For any family or community, suicide is a heartbreaking tragedy. Many Native Americans live in small communities, and when suicide occurs, it touches everyone. Compared with other racial groups, the rate of suicide among American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) males aged 15-24 is up to 4 times higher; for AI/AN females of the same age bracket, the suicide rate is up to 11 times higher. This Administration for Children and Families (ACF) blog post describes projects funded through the Administration for Native Americans that seek to prevent suicide in AI/AN communities.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2014/09/bringing-hope-to-native-communities-resources-for-suicide-prevention>

BULLYING.GOV BLOG: WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

In observance of World Suicide Prevention Day, this blog post looks at the relationship between bullying and suicide. The behaviors are closely related and there is a higher potential for serious harm to everyone involved in bullying: the youth bullying others, the youth being bullied, and the bystanders.

<http://www.stopbullying.gov/blog/2014/09/09/world-suicide-prevention-day>

CDC: PREVALENCE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE, STALKING, AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION

This CDC report examines the prevalence of sexual violence, stalking, and intimate partner violence (IPV) victimization using data from the *2011 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey*. The report describes the overall prevalence of sexual violence, stalking, and IPV victimization; racial/ethnic variation in prevalence; how types of perpetrators vary by violence type; and the age at which victimization typically begins. For IPV, the report also examines a range of negative impacts experienced as a result of victimization, including the need for services.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6308a1.htm>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

PODCAST SERIES LAUNCHED FOR NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

During National Suicide Prevention Week, SAMHSA released a new podcast each day related to a topic in suicide prevention. Topics include the effect of mass media on suicidal behavior, Latinas' suicidal behaviors, preventing indigenous youth suicide, and non-suicidal self-injury. The podcasts are available for download from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's collection of SAMHSA webinars.

<http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/samhsa-webinars>

VIDEO: WHAT IS INTEGRATED CARE

Created for the SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Center for Integrated Health Solutions, this video follows the story of Wendy as she experiences what integrated primary, mental health, and addictions care can be like. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWDUPsH6x2s&feature=youtu.be>

OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION TOOLKIT - UPDATED 2014

This updated toolkit equips communities and local governments with material to develop policies and practices to help prevent opioid-related overdoses and deaths. It addresses issues for first responders, treatment providers, and those recovering from opioid overdose. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Opioid-Overdose-Prevention-Toolkit-Updated-2014/All-New-Products/SMA14-4742>

BLOG POST: FASD AWARENESS DAY 2014

In observance of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness Day, SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Director Frances M. Harding highlights the importance of addressing FASD prevention and intervention in behavioral health settings. FASD is an umbrella term used to describe a range of physical, cognitive, and behavioral deficits that can occur in anyone who has been prenatally exposed to alcohol. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/09/08/fasd-awareness-day-2014/>

BLOG POST: EVEN NON-FATAL OVERDOSES CAN LEAD TO SEVERE CONSEQUENCES

Heroin use and deaths related to prescription opioid use are on the rise in the U.S. As a result, overdose treatments like naloxone, which can help revive people in the throes of an opioid overdose, are attracting increased interest. A number of community-based harm reduction organizations are working to prevent overdose deaths through public education and naloxone distribution programs. However, naloxone is not a free pass—there can be severe costs, even for those who survive an overdose. SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment Director Dr. H. Westley Clark describes possible complications from non-fatal heroin overdoses. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/09/02/even-non-fatal-overdoses-can-lead-to-severe-consequences/>

OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS' FEDERAL OBLIGATION TO RESPOND TO HARASSMENT: BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND CIVIL RIGHTS

This video, developed collaboratively by the U.S. Departments of Education and Justice, and SAMHSA, is designed to help schools, parents, and others who interact with kids understand the differences between harassment and bullying, and their legal obligations with respect to both.

<http://www.stopbullying.gov/videos/2014/02/civil-rights.html>

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES ELDER JUSTICE WEBSITE

The U.S. Department of Justice has launched *Elder Justice*, a website to help prevent elder abuse and financial exploitation. The website is a resource for professionals in the field of elder abuse prevention, as well as victims of elder abuse and their families. Law enforcement and elder justice experts can use the site to share information and raise public awareness. <http://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/>

GET SMART ABOUT DRUGS WEBSITE

The Drug Enforcement Administration announces the launch of the all new GetSmartAboutDrugs.com, a website for parents, educators, and caregivers. Originally launched in 2008, the website has updated drug information and resources and is totally redesigned for easier navigation. Learn how drugs alter brain development; about marijuana use and drugged driving; how to identify drug paraphernalia; why spice/K2 is a serious drug trend, and more. <http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/>

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND MORTALITY CHARTBOOK

The HHS Office on Women's Health presents the 2014 edition of *Women's Health and Mortality Chartbook*, a statistical resource on women's health for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The chartbook features 28 different health indicators by race and ethnicity, and provides readers with an easy-to-use collection of current jurisdiction data on critical issues relevant to women. http://www.healthstatus2020.com/chartbook/ChartBookData_search.asp

REAL WARRIORS APP: SALUTING AND SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVE

The Real Warriors Campaign announced the launch of the Real Warriors app, available for free for iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. The Real Warriors app is an online photo-sharing service that offers peer support for warriors, Veterans, and military families. Users can upload photos to the Wall, salute others, share photos via social networks (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Flickr), and access 24/7 resources.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/mobileapp.php>

DCOE BLOG POST: SIGNS OF SUICIDE: HOW TO HELP

In observance of Suicide Prevention Month, this Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post outlines the risk factors and warning signs associated with suicidal behavior and provides suggestions on how to help someone in crisis. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/14-09-03/Signs_of_Suicide_How_to_Help.aspx

EVENTS

NATIONAL WELLNESS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 15-21, 2014

SAMHSA and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Office of Women's Health launched National Wellness Week to inspire individuals; families; behavioral health and primary care providers; and peer-run, faith-based, and other community organizations to focus on ways to incorporate the Eight Dimensions of Wellness—mental, emotional, financial, physical, occupational, intellectual, social, and spiritual—into a person's life as part of a holistic lifestyle. The ultimate goal of SAMHSA's National Wellness Week—celebrated the third week in September as part of National Recovery Month—is to increase awareness about wellness within communities and to extend the longevity and quality of life of people with mental and substance use disorders. http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/10by10/wellness_week.aspx

UNDERSTANDING UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT MINORS FROM A TRAUMA-INFORMED PERSPECTIVE

SEPTEMBER 16, 2014, 9:00-10:30 AM ET

This virtual town hall meeting, sponsored by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCTSN) Culture Consortium, Terrorism and Disaster Committee, and Policy Taskforce, will address key topics on the issues related to working with unaccompanied and immigrant minors. Join this discussion to learn more about what the NCTSN and its partners are doing to find available resources and connect with others doing this critical work. <http://www.nctsn.com/about-us/events-calendar>

WEBINAR: WHY SOCIAL MEDIA FOR INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Safe States and CDC are offering a new webinar series on social media for injury and violence prevention. The first webinar in the series will cover the basics, including the different types of social media, who is on various platforms, how they use them, and the differences between social media and traditional media/communication methods. http://safestates.site-ym.com/events/event_details.asp

TWITTER CHAT: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR LITTLE ONES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Join HHS for a Twitter chat to learn ways to help keep kids under five healthy before, during, and after an emergency. The chat will feature HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response discussing how leaders and organizations can make sure everyone plans for emergencies with special attention to small children in our communities. A wide range of topics will be discussed, including ways that parents and caregivers can prepare for the needs of young children before, during, and after disaster strikes; recognizing stress and addressing children's mental health needs; and consideration for children with special needs and more. <http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/news/events/Pages/Prep4Kids.aspx>

VIRTUAL TRAINING: PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND RESILIENCE SUMMIT

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2014

DCoE will host the Psychological Health and Resilience Summit for multi-disciplinary military healthcare providers and line leaders. Formerly called the Warrior Resilience Conference, this cross-service training will focus on prevention and treatment of psychological health concerns affecting service members and their families, and current and evolving best practices to enhance resilience and readiness. The virtual learning environment of the summit will feature presentations, an exhibit hall, networking opportunities, resource downloads, and facilitated chat sessions. <http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Conferences.aspx>

WEBCAST: HEALTHIER PREGNANCY: TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES TO BEST PROVIDE ACA-COVERED PREVENTIVE SERVICES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, 9:00–10:30 AM ET

Learn how to implement the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations from practitioners in the fields of obesity, alcohol, depression, IPV, tobacco, and breastfeeding. This live webcast event will address the best ways to implement these services in pre- and perinatal care settings. Experts will highlight the evidence behind the recommendations and describe best practices and models of care currently being used. The event is a Region V HHS initiative led by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Health, Office on Women's Health. HHS Region V partners include representatives from ACF, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, HRSA, and SAMHSA.

<https://www.blsm meetings.net/healthierpregnancy/registration.cfm>

WEBINAR: ALASKA SUICIDE PREVENTION

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, 2:00 PM ET

NIMH in partnership with SAMHSA announces a webinar on effective practices in suicide prevention for Alaska Native (AN) communities. Suicide is a national concern, with approximately 38,000 suicides occurring in the U.S. each year. AN/AI populations bear a disproportionately high burden from suicide and, as such, merit special attention. The geographic isolation of many AN communities appears to contribute to suicide risk. Conversely, access to income, social connectedness, and a link to strong traditional culture appear to be protective against suicide. The speakers will provide an overview of what is known about suicide in Alaska, and will present specific effective strategies currently being used to promote mental wellness and reduce suicide among AN. To request a registration brochure, email [Jolearra Tshiteya](mailto:Jolearra.Tshiteya@seiservices.com) at jtshiteya@seiservices.com.

CREATING HEALING COMMUNITIES: STRENGTHENING BONDS AMONG PEERS, PROVIDERS, AND FAITH LEADERS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014, 3:00–4:30 PM ET

Join the SAMHSA ADS Center to explore spirituality as a tool for promoting wellness and recovery. The teleconference is an opportunity to hear two speakers discuss the work they have been doing to help faith-based communities—both clergy and congregants—increase their awareness of mental health issues, substance use disorders, and trauma, and find ways to welcome and support people who are experiencing these challenges, thus reducing isolation and discrimination and increasing social inclusion. Participants will learn about various models of clergy training, provider training on the role of spirituality in recovery and supporting individuals in embracing their spirituality, the importance of engaging the entire community in the learning process, and positive outcomes in communities where these practices have been implemented. <http://promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/training/teleconference09232014.aspx>

MODELS OF TRAUMA-INFORMED INTEGRATED CARE PART I: COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014, 12:00 PM

In this NCTSN webinar, presenters will describe the present state of comprehensive care for children in the child welfare system, and what it could and should look like through a trauma-informed lens. To register for this free online event, please visit the NCTSN Learning Center for Child and Adolescent Trauma (<http://learn.nctsn.org>) and enroll in the course *Trauma-Informed Integrated Healthcare*, under "Continuing Education." Individuals new to the Learning Center will need to create an account (click on "Create new account" in the upper right corner). Continuing Education Credits (CEs) are available for this course. <http://learn.nctsn.org/course/view.php?id=114>

WEBINAR: SUICIDE IN THE MILITARY AND VETERAN POPULATIONS: IMPLICATIONS FOR CHAPLAINS, HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS, AND LEADERS

SEPTEMBER 25, 2014, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

This DCoE presentation will begin with a description of the epidemiology of suicide in the U.S., with a specific focus on suicide among service members and Veterans. The discussion will include the role and approach of chaplains to suicide prevention in the military. Using data from a survey of chaplains in the Army, this overview will review suicide prevention efforts and factors that may enhance or constrain effective support. The presentation will conclude with recommendations from policy and research perspectives on how the military and civilian communities can bolster suicide prevention efforts. <http://continuingeducation.dcri.duke.edu/suicide-military-and-veteran-populations-implications-chaplains-health-care-providers-and-leaders>

WEBINAR: HOW TO INTEGRATE PRIMARY CARE INTO A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SETTING: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE SAMHSA PRIMARY AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE INTEGRATION PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 26, 2014, 1:30-3:00 PM ET

The majority of people living with SMI and/or addiction also have a chronic physical illness. To better support and improve the health of this population, behavioral health organizations around the country are integrating primary care and wellness services. Join this webinar to gain practical tips and hear lessons learned from SAMHSA Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration (PBHCI) grantees - behavioral health organizations who have taken on the task of integrating primary care into their services - and what outcomes they have already achieved. <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/webinars>

WEBINAR: TBI AND PTSD IN THE POST 9/11 ERA: FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICE

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This VA Health Services Research and Development webinar will review key research findings regarding the co-occurrence of mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) and PTSD, and their implications for evaluating and treating Veterans with both conditions. Specific topics covered will include the shared underlying mechanisms that may contribute to the increased risk of PTSD in those with mTBI and the role of symptoms in differential diagnosis. Additionally, findings from pharmacological and psychological interventions studies of PTSD and mTBI will be reviewed in order to highlight important strategies for patient care.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3213466029140263937>

WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

The HHS Partnership Center offers updated webinars on the healthcare law for faith and community organizations. These webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session. The healthcare 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 webinar to learn more about special enrollment periods and how to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace (HIM). For those who are uninsured and don't qualify for the special enrollment period, learn what resources are available, and when and how to enroll in the HIM. Please email ACA101@hhs.gov by September 30 at 10:00 am ET with any questions. To Join By Phone Only: Dial +1 (646) 307-1719, Access Code: 754-339-340. For those joining by phone only, the Pin Number is the # key.

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/637483015>

TEXT, TALK, ACT TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH

OCTOBER 6, 2014

What will you do when your friend needs help? Will you know what to say and how to respond?

Gather friends for this one-hour national dialogue to talk about the importance of taking care of mental health - and how to help a friend in need - all through a fun and creative text-based dialogue!

<http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/texttalkact>

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

OCTOBER 8, 2014, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

The HHS Partnership Center offers updated webinars on the healthcare law for faith and community organizations. These webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session. Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This webinar and conference call will discuss how to read an insurance card, how to find a doctor, what one needs to know in making an appointment, and what to do in case of a health emergency. Key terms will be discussed as well as recommended health screenings. To Join By Phone Only: Dial: +1 (415) 655-0055, Access Code: 419-247-290. For those joining by phone only, the Pin Number is the # key.

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/164385279>

NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK 2015

JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1, 2015

NIDA has announced the dates for the fifth National Drug Facts Week, which brings together teens and scientific experts to shatter persistent myths about drug use and addiction. Ideas for community-based events, as well as success stories from previous years, are highlighted on the National Drug Facts Week Web portal. Last year, more than 1,000 events were held with teens throughout all states, and several internationally. <http://teens.drugabuse.gov/national-drug-facts-week>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

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:

STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE MENTAL HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (OPEN FOR COMMENT THROUGH OCTOBER 6, 2014)

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-key-questions/?pageaction=displayquestions&topicid=599&questionset=261>.

MILLION HEARTS® HYPERTENSION CONTROL CHALLENGE: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2014 MILLION HEARTS® BLOOD PRESSURE CONTROL CHAMPIONS

In 2012 and again in 2013, Million Hearts® recognized Hypertension Control Champions for their success in achieving hypertension control among their patient populations with high blood pressure. This year, Million Hearts® want to recognize even more Hypertension Control Champions. Clinicians, practices, and health systems that provide primary care and have achieved hypertension control rates greater than 70 percent are eligible to enter. Submit a nomination, or encourage high-performing small and large practices to enter the 2014 Million Hearts® Hypertension Control Challenge by October 10, 2014.

http://millionhearts.hhs.gov/aboutmh/htn_champions.html

FUNDING INFORMATION

PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP PILOTS

An upcoming opportunity to improve outcomes for disconnected youth aims to help this population make successful transitions to adulthood. The Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) will allow jurisdictions to pool portions of formula and competitive grants. This will provide more flexibility for improving outcomes in educational, employment, and other key domains for disconnected youth—defined as low-income youth ages 14–24 who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the justice system, and not working or not enrolled in an educational institution. The opportunity is made possible through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014, which authorized the Departments of Labor, HHS, and Education as well as the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences, and related agencies to establish up to 10 P3 programs. More information, including a P3 factsheet and other resources, is available on FindYouthInfo.gov: <http://findyouthinfo.gov/youth-topics/reconnecting-youth/performance-partnership-pilots>

ADVANCING INTERVENTIONS TO IMPROVE MEDICATION ADHERENCE

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-334.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-335.html> (R21)

GLOBAL BRAIN AND NERVOUS SYSTEM DISORDERS RESEARCH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-332.html>

GUT-MICROBIOME-BRAIN INTERACTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-850.html>

RURAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES OUTREACH PROGRAM

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=264030>

HEALTHY TOMORROWS PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN PROGRAM

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=263409>



National Institute
of Mental Health

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 nonprofit 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.