



UPDATE

August 1, 2015

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<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>

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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*

ATTENTION-CONTROL VIDEO GAME CURBS COMBAT VETS' PTSD SYMPTOMS; REDUCES FLUCTUATIONS IN ATTENTION TOWARD AND AWAY FROM THREAT

A computerized attention-control training program significantly reduced combat veterans' preoccupation with – or avoidance of -- threat and attendant post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms. By contrast, another type of computerized training called attention bias modification – which has proven helpful in treating anxiety disorders – did not reduce PTSD symptoms. National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and Israeli researchers conducted parallel trials in which the two treatments were tested in United States (U.S.) and Israeli combat veterans. Daniel Pine, M.D., of the NIMH Emotion and Development Branch, Yair Bar-Haim, Ph.D., School of Psychological Sciences, Tel Aviv University, and colleagues, report on their findings July 24, 2015 in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/attention-control-video-game-curbs-combat-vets-ptsd-symptoms.shtml>

NIH JOINS WITH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION TO DEBUT POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION VIDEO; NIMH, NICHD, DST LAUNCH "MENTAL HEALTH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN" INITIATIVE

A new video about postpartum depression marks the launch of a mental health education collaboration by two National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institutes and one of the nation's largest African-American women's organizations. The NIMH and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) have partnered with Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. to create the *Mental Health Across the Lifespan Initiative*. This initiative seeks to raise awareness about issues affecting women and their families throughout the lifespan, including mental disorders such as postpartum depression, and issues that can impact mental health, including bullying and aging.

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/nih-joins-with-womens-organization-to-debut-postpartum-depression-video.shtml>

HHS INCREASES ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT; NEW FUNDING AND GUIDANCE WILL HELP STATES COMBAT OPIOID USE DISORDER

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced new steps to increase access to substance use disorder treatment services, focusing on treatment for opioid use disorder. With the announcement, HHS is making additional funding available to states and community health centers to expand the use of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder, and is releasing guidance to help states implement innovative approaches to substance use disorder (SUD) treatment.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/07/20150725a.html>

NIH STUDY IDENTIFIES GENE VARIANT LINKED TO COMPULSIVE DRINKING

Carrying a gene variant that affects the release of a specific brain protein may put one at greater risk of developing an alcohol use disorder, according to the results of a recent animal study. The study was funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). Scientists found that mice carrying the Met68BDNF gene variant, which reduces the release of brain-derived neurotrophic (BDNF) factor, would consume excessive amounts of alcohol, despite negative consequences. BDNF plays a role in the survival of existing neurons and the growth of new neurons and synapses, the junctures through which cell-to-cell communication occurs. The human form of this gene variant, Met66BDNF, leads to a reduction in the normal function of BDNF in the brain and is associated with several psychiatric disorders, including schizophrenia and depression.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2015/niaaa-20.htm>

NIH JOINS PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO FUND RESEARCH ON AUTISM BIOMARKERS; BIOMARKERS CONSORTIUM PROJECT TO IMPROVE TOOLS FOR MEASURING AND TREATING SOCIAL IMPAIRMENT IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Government, non-profit, and other private partners will fund a multi-year project to develop and improve clinical research tools for studying autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The project will receive a total of \$28 million over the next four years to test and refine clinical measures of social impairment in ASD in order to better evaluate potential behavioral and drug therapies. It is supported by the NIH, the Foundation for the NIH, the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative, and others. NIH funding comes from the NIMH, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and NICHD. The effort is the latest addition to the prestigious list of projects supported by the Biomarkers Consortium, a large public-private partnership that aims to accelerate biomedical research progress. The Consortium supports research to identify disease-specific biomarkers, and develop targeted technologies and treatments. Its ultimate goal is precision medicine — an emerging approach to prevention and treatment that takes into account an individual's disease-related variations in genes, environment, and lifestyle.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jul2015/nimh-20.htm>

NEW AHRQ WEB TOOL PROVIDES QUICK ACCESS TO HOSPITAL DISCHARGE DATA

Fast Stats, a new online tool released by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), allows users to analyze the latest state-by-state information on hospital discharges, including all-payer data on discharges in 2014, from 17 states. It provides information on the number of discharges paid for by Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance as well as the uninsured, for categories of conditions—surgical, mental health, maternal, injury, and medical—and supports the Agency's ongoing efforts to increase public access to healthcare data. Because *Fast Stats* provides access to 2014 hospital discharge data from these 17 states, it can be used to analyze the effects of Medicaid expansion and other provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on hospital utilization levels and payment sources.

Press Release: <http://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/press-releases/2015/fast-stats.html>

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: THE BRAIN'S CRITICAL BALANCE

The BRAIN Initiative is supporting scientists aiming to understand how the 86 billion neurons in the brain act together to enable consciousness and behavior. NIMH Director Thomas Insel gives a snapshot of recent work and its implications for understanding normal and disordered brain function.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/the-brains-critical-balance.shtml>

TWITTER CHAT ON CANCER AND PSYCHO-ONCOLOGY WITH NIH EXPERTS

The transcript is now available from the Twitter chat on how patients and caregivers, across all ages, can deal with the psychological impact of cancer.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/twitter-chats/index.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

NIDA DIRECTOR'S BLOG: RESEARCHING MARIJUANA FOR THERAPEUTIC PURPOSES: THE POTENTIAL PROMISE OF CANNABIDIOL

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Director Nora Volkow discusses the possibility of research on cannabidiol, or CBD—one of the main active ingredients in the marijuana plant, and a compound around which there is a growing amount of interest from the public as well as the scientific and medical communities. Extracting and amplifying the medicinal benefits of plants such as marijuana and minimizing their potential harms can lead the way to effective medications, but are also a major scientific challenge. CBD appears to be a safe drug with no addictive effects and the preliminary data suggest that it may have therapeutic value for a number of medical conditions. Addressing barriers that slow clinical research with CBD would accelerate progress. NIDA will do what it can to address such barriers and expedite the study of this potentially valuable compound as well as other components of the marijuana plant.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2015/07/researching-marijuana-therapeutic-purposes-potential-promise-cannabidiol-cbd>

A RAPID TEEN SUBSTANCE USE SCREENING TOOL FOR CLINICIANS

Answers to the three questions part of the *Brief Screener for Tobacco, Alcohol, and other Drugs* can help a busy healthcare provider flag a teen's problematic use of substances, say NIDA-supported researchers.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2015/07/rapid-teen-substance-use-screening-tool-clinicians>

ELECTRONIC QUESTIONNAIRE QUICKLY RATES TEENS' SUBSTANCE USE

With a few simple questions, a new screening tool detects whether a teen is likely to have a mild-to-moderate, or a severe SUD. The tool, *Screening to Brief Intervention*, enables pediatricians and other clinicians to rapidly match adolescents' drug involvement to an appropriate type of brief intervention or referral, as recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2015/07/electronic-questionnaire-quickly-rates-teens-substance-use>

AL-ANON INTERVIEW WITH DR. ROBERT HUEBNER: RESEARCH ON AUD TREATMENT OPTIONS AND THE BENEFIT OF SUPPORT GROUPS

Hear an interview with Dr. Robert Huebner, Director of NIAAA's Division of Treatment and Recovery Research on this YouTube video and podcast post with Al-Anon Family Groups. Dr. Huebner discusses the treatment options for alcohol use disorder (AUD), research demonstrating the benefit of support groups, and how family members and friends of someone with an AUD can support that individual's recovery and long-term success. <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/news-events/news-noteworthy/al-anon-interview-dr-robert-huebner-research-aud-treatment-options-and>

CDC: PREVALENCE OF DISABILITY AND DISABILITY TYPE AMONG ADULTS—U.S., 2013

One in 5 adults in the U.S. lives with a disability. A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides a snapshot of the demographic and socioeconomic aspects of people with disabilities in the U.S. The most common functional disability type reported was serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs (mobility), followed by disability in cognition, independent living, vision, and self-care. Higher percentages of people with disabilities are generally found in southern states. Older adults, women, racial and ethnic minorities, and people with lower education or household income are more likely to report a disability. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6429a2.htm>

OPTIONS FOR LOW-INCOME ADULTS TO RECEIVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT IN SELECTED STATES

The Government Accountability Office was asked to provide information about access to behavioral health treatment for low-income, uninsured, and Medicaid-enrolled adults. This report examines: (1) how many low-income, uninsured adults may have a behavioral health condition; (2) options for low-income, uninsured adults to receive behavioral health treatment in selected non-expansion states; and (3) how selected Medicaid expansion states provide behavioral health coverage for newly eligible enrollees, and how enrollment in coverage affects treatment availability. The study found that nationwide estimates using 2008-2013 data indicated that approximately 17 percent of low-income, uninsured adults had a behavioral health condition, defined as a serious mental illness, a substance use condition, or both. Underlying these national estimates is considerable variation at the state level. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-449>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

MEASUREMENT OF SUICIDAL THOUGHTS, BEHAVIORS, AND RELATED HEALTH OUTCOMES IN THE U.S.: COMPARISON OF NSDUH ESTIMATES WITH OTHER DATA SOURCES

This report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration compares estimates of suicidality (i.e., serious thoughts of suicide, suicide plans, suicide attempts, and receipt of medical care for a suicide attempt) generated from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) with estimates of similar measures acquired from other national data sources. The other data sources discussed include the National Comorbidity Survey Replication, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the National Hospital Discharge Survey, and the Nationwide Inpatient Sample. Substantial differences in estimates of suicidality were evident between the data sources. <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-DR-N20Suicide-2015/NSDUH-DR-N20Suicide-2015.pdf>

BLOG POST: MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH: LIFTING THE BURDEN OF DISPARITIES

Discrimination exacerbates health and health care disparities for communities of color. Inequity results in lack of access to quality, affordable care and can lead to prolonged and unnecessary illness. This is especially true for people with a mental illness or substance use disorder. During July, National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, this SAMHSA blog post shines a light on the discrimination that minorities often experience when living with a mental health condition and describes how it can be prevented.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2015/07/23/minority-mental-health-month-lifting-the-burden-of-disparities/>

BLOG POST: SUICIDE AND RACE

Jorielle R. Brown, Ph.D., Director, Division of Systems Development, SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, and David J. Johns, M.A., Executive Director, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for African Americans, discusses the complexities of suicide rates, and racial and ethnic disparities.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2015/07/28/suicide-and-race/>

NEW RESOURCE FOR DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC DEATH OF PARENT

Rosie Remembers Mommy: Forever in Her Heart is the story of a young girl who is struggling with childhood traumatic grief after the death of her mother. The story follows Rosie as she expresses wishes to see her mom, feels reluctant about school, finds no pleasure in activities she formerly found enjoyable, wonders whether she could somehow have caused her mother's death, and even refuses her favorite meal that Daddy has made. Rosie and Daddy go to meet Anna, who works with children after someone dies. Through play, song, and art, Anna helps Rosie eventually cope with the loss of her mother.

<http://www.nctsn.org/products/rosie-remembers-mommy-forever-her-heart>

KEY STRATEGIES FOR CONNECTING PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS TO SSI/SSDI

This document from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness in collaboration with the Social Security Administration (SSA), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and SAMHSA is intended to improve practices and collaboration among SSA field offices, VA Medical Center staff, organizations, and agencies that provide services to people experiencing homelessness, and other community-based partners.

http://usich.gov/usich_resources/key-strategies-for-connecting-people-experiencing-homelessness-to-ssi-ssdi

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL CRIME AND SAFETY: 2014

The U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice have released the 17th annual report on school crime and student safety. The report covers topics such as victimization, teacher injury, bullying and cyber-bullying, school conditions, fights, weapons, availability and student use of drugs and alcohol, student perceptions of personal safety at school, and criminal incidents at post-secondary institutions.

<https://nces.ed.gov/programs/crimeindicators/crimeindicators2014/>

DEVELOPING A TRAUMA-INFORMED CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

This issue brief from the Administration for Children and Families discusses the steps that may be necessary to create a child welfare system that is more sensitive and responsive to trauma. Every child welfare system is different, and each State or county child welfare system will need to conduct its own systematic process of assessment and planning, in collaboration with key partners, to determine the best approach. After providing a brief overview of trauma and its effects, this issue brief discusses some of the primary areas of consideration in that process, including workforce development, screening and assessment, data systems, evidence-based and evidence-informed treatments, and funding.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/issue-briefs/trauma-informed/>

WEBINAR: CULTURALLY COMPETENT CARE IN RECOVERY-ORIENTED SETTINGS

AUGUST 3, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

Cultural competence and cultural humility can be used to promote progress toward recovery orientation and can help create a trusting, safe space for individuals to receive care. However, the quality of services an individual receives is often adversely impacted by a lack of cultural understanding by professionals engaging in service delivery. This SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar will use a social work lens to discuss cultural competence and cultural humility as a central theme in recovery-oriented practice, and one that can benefit professionals in any field.

https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

WEBINAR: EDUCATION AND TRAINING RESOURCES ON MULTIPLE CHRONIC CONDITIONS FOR THE HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

AUGUST 4, 2015, 2:30 PM ET

This HHS technical assistance webinar will review the recently released *HHS Education and Training Resources on Multiple Chronic Conditions* for the healthcare workforce that will provide health professionals with education to care for people living with multiple chronic conditions for use by healthcare curriculum developers, educators, trainers, students, and practitioners. Additional technical assistance webinars will be held on August 19, 2015 and September 17, 2015. RSVP at mcc@hhs.gov indicating the specific date you would like to attend. <http://www.hhs.gov/ash/initiatives/mcc>

WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED

AUGUST 5, 2015, 2:00 PM ET

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 HHS webinar to learn more about special enrollment periods and how to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace. For those who are uninsured and don't qualify for the special enrollment period, learn what resources are available and when to enroll in the Health Insurance Marketplace.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2627421940136563970>

WEBINAR: INCLUDING FAMILY AND COMMUNITY IN THE RECOVERY PROCESS

AUGUST 5, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar will explain theories of recovery that are inclusive of family and community, the role of personal characteristics, community culture, and community recovery capital in predicting long-term recovery outcomes and various cultures of recovery. The presenter will also discuss recovery capital, family adaptations during active addiction, and family adaptations across stages of long-term recovery. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

WEBINAR: PEER SERVICES: CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT FOR SUCCESS

AUGUST 10, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Save the date for this SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar on peer services. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

WEBINAR: EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE AND RECOVERY-ORIENTED CARE

AUGUST 12, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Save the date for this SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar on evidence-based practice and recovery-oriented care. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

SAMHSA'S 10TH ANNUAL VOICE AWARD

AUGUST 12, 2015, 6:00-9:00 PM PT, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

The SAMHSA Voice Awards honor community leaders in recovery from mental and/or substance use disorders who have played a vital role in raising awareness and understanding of behavioral health problems. The awards also recognize TV and film writers and producers who have incorporated accurate portrayals into their scripts, programs, and productions. This year, the Voice Awards will spotlight the impact that the tragedy of suicide has on individuals, families, and communities. It also will address what everyone can do to connect those in need to the information, services, and supports that could save lives. Reserve your seat no later than August 7, 2015.

<https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1717771>

WEBINAR: BUILDING RECOVERY-ORIENTED SYSTEMS

AUGUST 17, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Save the date for this SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar on recovery-oriented systems. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

CDC PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS: ADOLESCENCE: PREPARING FOR LIFELONG HEALTH AND WELLNESS

AUGUST 18, 2015, 1:00–2:00 PM ET

Save the date for this CDC grand rounds on adolescent health addressing prevention activities and school-based health programs. <http://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/>

WEBINAR: WHOLE HEALTH AND RECOVERY

AUGUST 19, 2015, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

Save the date for this SAMHSA Recovery-oriented Behavioral Healthcare webinar on whole health and recovery. https://ahpnet.adobeconnect.com/e59o9w416eq/event/event_info.html

TWO-PART WEBINAR: RESPONDING TO SUICIDE CLUSTERS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

PART I: UNDERSTANDING SUICIDE CLUSTERS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES: WHAT DO WE KNOW?

AUGUST 20, 2015, 1:30-3:00 PM ET

In Part I of this two-part SAMHSA and The JED Foundation web conference, participants will learn from experts in suicide prevention and college mental health about the current understanding of suicide clusters on college campuses and in other settings. Presenters will discuss the epidemiology and demographics of suicide clusters; what is known about settings in which clusters are more likely to occur; and how to diminish the risk of contagion through effective communication, intervention, and postvention on- and off-campus.

PART II: CASE STUDIES AND PRACTICAL GUIDANCE ON PREVENTION AND POSTVENTION OF CAMPUS SUICIDE CLUSTERS

AUGUST 20, 2015, 3:30-5:00 PM ET

In Part II of this two-part web conference, a panel of clinicians who have experienced suicide clusters on their campuses or who have worked with campuses that have experienced clusters will discuss their experiences, lessons learned about the demographics of suicide clusters, planning for postvention after a cluster, communication and media reporting, and managing the campus response to a cluster.

<http://campusclusters.com/>

WEBINAR SERIES: PEER SUPPORT AND INNOVATIVE PRISON REENTRY PROGRAMS

PART 1: AUGUST 20, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET AND PART 2: SEPTEMBER 11, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation and the Association of State Correctional Administrators are hosting a two-part webinar series focusing on the successful and innovative use of peers and peer support in state correctional facilities. Attendees will learn about the innovative use of peers, and successful collaborations between correctional facilities and peer operated programs in providing a wide array of reentry services. The first webinar will highlight three exemplary programs, and the second will focus on how to develop, implement, fund, sustain, and expand these programs in state correctional facilities. http://apps1.seiservices.com/SAMHSA/CMHS_webinars2015/

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

AUGUST 25, 2015, 3:00 PM ET

Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This HHS webinar 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. Presenters will highlight the Coverage to Care materials on health insurance literacy during the webinar. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4430207593317039618>

WEBINAR: PITCHING PREVENTION: BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH COMMUNICATION: PREVENTION IN ACTION: STORIES FROM THE FIELD

AUGUST 27, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

This SAMHSA webinar is designed to help practitioners begin to develop the skills they need to promote their prevention efforts to diverse audiences, drawing on best practice from the research literature and examples from the field. <https://captus.samhsa.gov/news-and-events/pitching-prevention-building-capacity-through-communication-session-2>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: GO4LIFE MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2015

September 2015 has been designated *Go4Life Month*, in collaboration with the White House Conference on Aging. *Go4Life*, the national exercise and physical activity campaign for people 50 years and older from the National Institute on Aging, is bringing together more than a hundred federal, state, and local partners to encourage older adults to move more and stay active for better health with advancing age. In September, the campaign will celebrate *Go4Life Month* with the theme *Be Active Every Day!* Campaign partners nationwide plan to mark the occasion by increasing awareness and sponsoring an array of activities to engage community members, young and old, in exercise and physical activities they enjoy. <https://go4life.nia.nih.gov/month>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2015

Every September, SAMHSA sponsors Recovery Month to increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use issues, and celebrate the people who recover. The Recovery Month provides tips and resources for planning Recovery Month events and distributing information in communities across the nation. <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/>

DCOE SUMMIT: CONTINUUM OF CARE AND CARE TRANSITIONS IN THE MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM AT DEFENSE HEALTH HEADQUARTERS

SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2015, FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) virtual and in-person training event is geared toward professionals involved in all aspects of psychological health and traumatic brain injury (TBI) care, education, and research for the military population. The summit's psychological health and TBI tracks will address factors that challenge and facilitate the provision of quality, sustained health services across care transitions, and the continuum of care.

<http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Events/2015-Psychological-Health-and-Resilience-Summit.aspx>

CDC PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS: PREVENTING SUICIDE IN THE US: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

Save the date for this CDC grand rounds on suicide prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/>

NIH DIGITAL SUMMIT: OPTIMIZING DIGITAL TO REACH PATIENTS, SCIENTISTS, CLINICIANS, AND THE PUBLIC

OCTOBER 19, 2015, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM ET, BETHESDA, MD

NIH is presenting its first digital summit, developed to explore how patients, health professionals, and researchers are getting and sharing health and science information in today's technology-driven world. The summit is designed to encourage discussion, so come prepared to ask questions in person or virtually. The organizers welcome participants to use the hashtag #NIHDigital to join the conversation online. Researchers, health professionals, and communications professionals interested in digital health are all encouraged to attend. This summit is open to the public and registration is required for in-person attendance. A live webcast will be available at videocast.nih.gov. No registration is necessary for the videocast.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/events/digital-summit.htm>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI): INVITING COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON A FRAMEWORK FOR THE NIH-WIDE STRATEGIC PLAN

In response to a request from Congress, NIH is developing a 5-year NIH-wide Strategic Plan to advance its mission to support research in pursuit of fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems, and the application of that knowledge to extend healthy life and reduce illness and disability. Senior leadership and staff from all 27 Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs) are contributing to the proposed direction and content of the Strategic Plan, with input from the Advisory Committee to the Director, NIH. The framework below identifies crosscutting areas of research exemplifying the breadth of ICOs' priorities and aims to outline a set of unifying principles to guide NIH in pursuit of its mission. The goal of this larger NIH-wide strategic plan is not to outline the myriad of important research opportunities for specific disease applications (as that is covered in the strategic plans from each of the ICOs, which will be referenced appropriately), but to highlight major trans-NIH themes. The *Strategic Plan* is due to Congress in late December, 2015. This RFI seeks input from stakeholders throughout the scientific research community and the general public regarding the above proposed framework for the NIH-wide Strategic Plan. Responses (no longer than 300 words in MS Word or pdf format) are accepted through 11:59 PM ET on August 16, 2015. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-15-118.html>

BRAIN INJURY CENTER SEEKS 'CHAMPIONS' TO SHARE PERSONAL STORIES

The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) is recruiting survivors of TBI to share their stories of courage and resilience for its *A Head for the Future* TBI awareness and prevention initiative. These "TBI champions" will show the importance of recognizing brain injuries, and that recovery is possible. A champion can be a service member, Veteran, or family member who has experienced brain injury in a non-combat situation. Champions will help spotlight TBI prevention and detection, and encourage others who may have sustained a brain injury, to get it checked out. *A Head for the Future* will feature champions using video testimonials, and promote stories through blog posts and social media, including the DVBIC page on Facebook. http://www.dcoe.mil/MediaCenter/News/details/15-07-22/Brain_Injury_Center_Seeks_Champions_to_Share_Personal_Stories.aspx

NIH HOLDS COMPETITION TO CREATE BETTER WEARABLE ALCOHOL BIOSENSOR

To promote the development of a wearable, discreet device capable of measuring blood alcohol levels in real time, NIAAA has issued the *Wearable Alcohol Biosensor Challenge*. A wearable biosensor will aid researchers, clinicians, therapists, and individuals by providing more accurate data on how much an individual is drinking. Competition submissions should include a working prototype, data proving its functionality and reliability, as well as photos and videos. Submissions will be accepted until December 1, 2015. <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/03/02/2015-04254/announcement-of-requirements-and-registration-for-a-wearable-alcohol-biosensor-challenge#h-3>

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT: NIH BIPOLAR DEPRESSION RESEARCH STUDIES ENROLLING PARTICIPANTS

Call about eligibility to participate in depression research studies.

Is Your Bipolar Depression Hard to Treat?

Experiencing thoughts of sadness, hopelessness, guilt, worthlessness, lacking interest in everyday activities you once enjoyed?

NIH researchers seek people between the ages of 18-70 with bipolar disorder, who are currently in a depressive phase, for participation in several brain imaging and medication studies that are evaluating how experimental medications (ketamine, riluzole, and scopolamine) may reduce symptoms rapidly. Participation includes one to four visits, psychiatric interviews, medical history, physical exam, and blood and other medical tests. Some studies are conducted on an outpatient basis, others on an inpatient basis. Participants must be free of other serious medical conditions. Research evaluations and medications are provided at no cost.

The studies are conducted at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. There is no cost to participate. NIMH enrolls eligible participants locally and from around the country. Travel arrangements are provided and costs covered by NIMH. (Arrangements vary by distance and by specific study.) After completing the study participants receive short-term follow-up care while transitioning back to a provider. Atendemos pacientes de habla hispana.

First Steps to Participate in Research:

- Call NIMH
- Learn Study Details
- Be Evaluated for Eligibility
- Consent to Participate

Call: 1-877-MIND-NIH (1-877-646-3644)

TTY: 1-866-411-1010

E-mail: moodresearch@mail.nih.gov

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/adults/adults-depression.shtml>

HHS, NIH, NIMH, Protocol # 01-M-0254

FUNDING INFORMATION

BIG DATA TO KNOWLEDGE (BD2K) DEVELOPMENT OF SOFTWARE TOOLS AND METHODS FOR BIOMEDICAL BIG DATA IN TARGETED AREAS OF HIGH NEED

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-CA-15-017.html>

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS): METHAMPHETAMINE AND SUICIDE PREVENTION INITIATIVE

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=277844>

IHS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION INITIATIVE

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=277845>



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 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.