



UPDATE

April 15, 2011

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*Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health,
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison*

SCIENCE AND SERVICE NEWS UPDATES**DEPRESSED TEENS WITH HISTORY OF ABUSE LESS LIKELY TO RESPOND TO COMBINATION TREATMENT**

Adolescents with treatment-resistant depression who have a history of abuse—especially physical abuse—are less likely to respond to combination treatment than to medication alone, according to data from the NIMH-funded Treatment of Resistant Depression in Adolescents (TORDIA) study. The new study was published in the March 2011 issue of the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. The researchers found that teens without a history of abuse had a higher response rate to combination therapy compared to medication-only therapy (63 percent vs. 37.6 percent). Those with a history of sexual abuse responded similarly to combination and medication-only therapy (48 percent vs. 42 percent). However, those with a history of physical abuse had a much lower response rate to combination therapy (18.4 percent) compared to medication-only (52.4 percent).

Science News: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2011/depressed-teens-with-history-of-abuse-less-likely-to-respond-to-combination-treatment.shtml>

CDC STUDY FINDS SUICIDE RATES RISE AND FALL WITH ECONOMY: STUDY LOOKS AT SUICIDE RATES FROM 1928–2007

The overall suicide rate rises and falls in connection with the economy, according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study released online by the *American Journal of Public Health*. The study, "Impact of Business Cycles on the U.S. Suicide Rates, 1928–2007" is the first to examine the relationships between age-specific suicide rates and business cycles. The study found the strongest association between business cycles and suicide among people in prime working ages, 25-64 years old.

Press Release: http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/p0414_suiciderates.html

NEW RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPORTING ON SUICIDE RELEASED

New recommendations for media reporting on suicide are now available for journalists covering the issue of suicide. The *Recommendations for Media Reporting on Suicide* was developed by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE), among others and is available at www.ReportingOnSuicide.org.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104141640.aspx>

TREATMENTS SHOW PROMISE IN REDUCING AUTISM-RELATED BEHAVIORS, BUT SOME HAVE SIGNIFICANT SIDE EFFECTS

Some medical and behavioral treatments show promise for reducing certain behaviors in children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), but more research is needed to assess the potential benefits and harms, according to a new report funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The research results were published online in the journal *Pediatrics*. The comparative effectiveness report found that two commonly used medications—risperidone and aripiprazole—show benefit in reducing some behaviors, including emotional distress, aggression, hyperactivity and self-injury. However, these medicines are associated with significant side effects, such as rapid weight gain and drowsiness. The review found that no medications used for ASDs improved social behaviors or communication skills. The report also found that several medications show promise and should be studied further, but that secretin, which has been studied extensively, has shown no effectiveness.

Press Release: <http://www.ahrq.gov/news/press/pr2011/autismpr.htm>

SAMHSA INTRODUCES GUIDANCE CHANGING ITS BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS TO REFLECT NEW OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED BY PARITY, HEALTH REFORM AND EMERGING SCIENCE

SAMHSA announced a new approach for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant in the *Federal Register*. Under this new approach states and territories will have the opportunity to use block grant dollars for prevention, treatment, recovery supports, and other services that supplement services covered by Medicaid, Medicare, and private insurance.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104110222.aspx>

NEW WARM LINE HELPS CLINICIANS TACKLE PATIENTS' SUBSTANCE ABUSE; NIH AND ASAM LAUNCH NEW SCREENING RESOURCES

A free, nationwide service was launched to help primary care providers seeking to identify and advise substance-abusing patients. The service, *Physician Clinical Support System for Primary Care* (PCSS-P), offers peer-to-peer mentorship and resources on incorporating screening and follow-up into regular patient care. PCSS-P is a project of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the American Society of Addiction Medicine. NIDA also launched a quick screening tool to help health care providers identify these patients.

Press Release: <http://www.nida.nih.gov/newsroom/11/NR4-08a.html>

ANALYSIS OF OPIOID PRESCRIPTION PRACTICES FINDS AREAS OF CONCERN; NIH REPORT COULD LEAD TO IMPROVED STRATEGIES FOR PAIN MANAGEMENT

An analysis of national prescribing patterns shows that more than half of patients who received an opioid prescription in 2009 had filled another opioid prescription within the previous 30 days. This report also suggested potential opportunities for intervention aimed at reducing abuse of prescription opioids. NIDA researchers published results of this analysis in the April 6, 2011 issue of *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)*.

Press Release: <http://www.nida.nih.gov/newsroom/11/NR4-05.html>

NEARLY ALL AMERICAN ADULTS WITH UNTREATED ALCOHOL USE DISORDERS DON'T THINK THEY NEED TREATMENT

A new report based on a national survey shows that only 1.2 percent of the nation's more than 7.4 million adults aged 21 to 64 with an untreated alcohol abuse disorder perceive they could benefit from treatment. The SAMHSA report highlights the need to raise awareness about adult problem drinking, how to identify when someone has a problem, how to confront a problem drinker, and how to get help.

Full report: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/spotlight/Spotlight034AdultsAlcohol.pdf>

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104062257.aspx>

HHS ANNOUNCES PLAN TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES: NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION LAUNCHES STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND COMMUNITY-LED EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE HEALTH EQUITY

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched two strategic plans aimed at reducing health disparities. The *HHS Action Plan to Reduce Health Disparities* outlines goals and actions HHS will take to reduce health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities. HHS also released the *National Stakeholder Strategy for Achieving Health Equity*, a common set of goals and objectives for public and private sector initiatives and partnerships to help racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved groups reach their full health potential. The strategy incorporates ideas, suggestions, and comments from thousands of individuals and organizations across the country.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/04/20110408a.html>

COMPLEMENTARY AND ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE DIALOGUE LACKING BETWEEN PATIENTS, PROVIDERS; NEW SURVEY FROM AARP AND NCCAM FINDS THAT ALTHOUGH MANY PEOPLE 50+ USE CAM THEY OFTEN DO NOT INFORM THEIR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Despite their high use of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM), Americans over the age of 50 often do not discuss CAM use with their health care providers, a survey indicates. The results were released by from American Association of Retired Persons and the NIH's National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Overall, 53 percent of respondents reported that they had used CAM at some point in their lives. Among those, 58 percent said they had discussed CAM with a health care provider. This dialogue is important because, while CAM is a part of health and wellness for many Americans, some CAM products can interact with conventional medicine.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/apr2011/nccam-13.htm>

EEOC HOLDS HEARING ON EMPLOYMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL DISABILITIES

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) held a public meeting on employment of people with mental disabilities. The Commission heard from invited panelists on the employment rates of people with intellectual and psychiatric disabilities and the challenges they face in the workplace, as well as why it makes good business sense to employ people with disabilities.

Press Release: <http://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/meetings/3-15-11/index.cfm>

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE

NIMH WORKSHOP ON CHILD MALTREATMENT AND TRAUMA: INTEGRATING BIOLOGICAL, COGNITIVE, AND SOCIAL TRAJECTORIES OF DEVELOPMENT

This summary provides an overview of an NIMH multidisciplinary workshop convened to discuss the state of empirical knowledge about, and opportunities regarding, the psychological and biological consequences of maltreatment in children. Although the negative consequences of maltreatment are well documented, little is known about the biological mechanisms underlying the association between childhood maltreatment and later mental illness.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/scientific-meetings/2010/child-maltreatment-and-trauma/index.shtml>

DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE 227TH NATIONAL ADVISORY MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL — JANUARY 14, 2011

The Director's report shares information about new and ongoing NIH and NIMH initiatives.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/advisory-boards-and-groups/namhc/2011/january/directors-report.shtml>

ALLIANCE FOR RESEARCH PROGRESS — FEBRUARY 18, 2011 MEETING

This summary provides an overview of NIMH's fourteenth meeting of the NIMH *Alliance for Research Progress (Alliance)*. The Alliance meeting serves as an opportunity for participants, representatives from national voluntary organizations representing individuals and families affected by mental illness, to hear about exciting new research and advances in the field, to network with colleagues, and to interact directly with the NIMH Director. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/alliance/alliance-report-february-2011/index.shtml>

NIH RADIO: BRAIN ACTIVITY PATTERNS IN ANXIETY-PRONE PEOPLE SUGGEST DEFICITS IN HANDLING FEAR

Anxiety as a personality trait appears to be linked to the functioning of two key brain regions involved in fear and its suppression, according to an NIMH-funded study. Differences in how these two regions function and interact may help explain the wide range of symptoms seen in people who have anxiety disorders.

<http://www.nih.gov/news/radio/mar2011/20110315nimhanxiety.htm>

NIH RESEARCH MATTERS

MORE YOUNG NEURONS EQUALS BETTER BRAIN FUNCTION

Scientists improved the cognitive ability of adult mice by boosting the survival of newborn neurons in the brain's memory hub. Enhancing the survival of these cells, when combined with exercise, produced antidepressant effects as well. The findings may open up new avenues for treating cognitive, mood and anxiety disorders.

<http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/april2011/04112011brainfunction.htm>

NEW GENETIC RISK FACTORS FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

In two large studies involving thousands of DNA samples, scientists from around the world identified a number of new genes and confirmed several others that may be risk factors for late-onset Alzheimer's disease. <http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/april2011/04112011alzheimers.htm>

LATEST NIDA NOTES AVAILABLE

The latest issue of *NIDA Notes* includes articles about preventing alcohol and tobacco use and the potential of physical activity to prevent substance abuse.

http://www.nida.nih.gov/NIDA_Notes/nnv23index.html

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY: NEW ONLINE FACT SHEETS

CHILDHOOD TRAUMA'S IMPACT ON HEALTH RISKS

http://www.samhsa.gov/children/social_media_apr2011.asp

BUILDING RESILIENCE IN CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEALING WITH TRAUMA

http://www.samhsa.gov/children/trauma_resilience.asp

NEW SAMHSA RESOURCES

BIRTH PARENTS WITH TRAUMA HISTORIES AND THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM A GUIDE FOR CHILD WELFARE STAFF

This factsheet highlights the importance of understanding the serious consequences that trauma histories can have for birth parents and the subsequent potential impact on their parenting.

<http://www.nctsnct.org/products/birth-parents-trauma-histories-and-child-welfare-system>

**COPING IN HARD TIMES: FACT SHEET FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS, COUNSELORS,
ADMINISTRATION, SUPPORT STAFF**

This factsheet describes how challenging financial circumstances can affect school personnel, teachers, and their students' sense of safety, ability to calm, self efficacy, connectedness, and hope. It features practical ways to help youth address their problems, stay connected, network, and cope better during economic downturns. http://www.nctsnct.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/Coping_in_Hard_Times_For_Youth.pdf

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND CHILDREN: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
PROJECT ADVOCATES**

This factsheet includes helpful information about how children react to domestic violence, short- and long-term responses to domestic violence, possible reactions to domestic violence, factors that can help children recover, and working with parents and their children through domestic violence situations.

<http://www.nctsnct.org/products/domestic-violence-and-children-questions-and-answers-domestic-violence-project-advocates%20>

CLIENTS WITH SUBSTANCE USE AND EATING DISORDERS

This SAMHSA advisory provides information about the various types of eating disorders (ED) and guidance on how to screen clients in substance use disorders treatment for EDs, refer them to ED treatment as appropriate, and support their recovery.

http://www.kap.samhsa.gov/products/manuals/advisory/pdfs/Advisory_Eating_Disorders.pdf

**PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION FOR SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH
PROBLEMS: WHAT'S WORKING, WHAT'S NEEDED?**

This webcast provides insight into what works in prevention and early intervention; how prevention and early intervention strategies and services can be coordinated more effectively with treatment and recovery services; the role prevention and early intervention play in a recovery-oriented system of care; what happens when someone is identified with a substance use or mental health problem; how to ensure people can access the help they need; and how schools, primary health care, the criminal justice system, and other institutions in our society can be more actively engaged in the practice of prevention and early intervention.

<http://www.recoverymonth.gov/Resources-Catalog/2011/Webcast/04-Prevention-and-Early-Intervention.aspx>

NEW MOTIVATIONAL INTERVIEWING RESOURCE

SAMHSA's Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network launched a new Motivational Interviewing (MI) website to facilitate the dissemination, adoption, and implementation of MI among clinicians, supervisors, program managers, and trainers, and improve treatment outcomes for clients with substance use disorders.

<http://motivationalinterview.org/>

VIOLENCE PREVENTION AT STATE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES

This report presents the results of an environmental scan from a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention initiative aimed at helping state public health agencies (SPHA) prevent child maltreatment. The purpose of this environmental scan was to understand and identify the work that SPHAs are doing to enhance family resilience, foster healthy child development, and prevent child maltreatment.

http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/PHLI_CM_environmental_scan-a.pdf

PUBLICATION TO HELP COMMUNITIES ADDRESS CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO VIOLENCE

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and HHS have jointly released, *Evidence-Based Practices for Children Exposed to Violence: A Selection from Federal Databases*. The publication summarizes findings from federal reviews of research studies and program evaluations to help communities improve outcomes for children exposed to violence. It cites evidence-based practices that practitioners and policymakers can use to implement prevention services and activities for these children.

http://www.safestartcenter.org/pdf/Evidence-Based-Practices-Matrix_2011.pdf

NEW ON REAL WARRIORS WEBSITE

FOUR TIPS FOR SUCCESSFULLY MANAGING CHRONIC PAIN

Whether a veteran has been wounded in action, has experienced a non-battle injury, or is currently working through a recovery, chronic physical pain has the potential to play a significant role in his or her rehabilitation and reintegration process. Managing the psychological and emotional effects of chronic pain can be challenging, but there is hope when it is addressed properly from both a physical and psychological perspective. <http://www.realwarriors.net/veterans/treatment/painmanagement.php>

BUILDING RESILIENCE AS AN INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE

Deploying with a unit or component that is not one's own offers exciting opportunities to gain new experiences and work with different teams. While individual augmentees bring unique expertise and knowledge that greatly supports the overall unit, their deployment also presents unique challenges. This article outlines tips for individual augmentees to build resilience before, during, and after deployment.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/active/deployment/augmentee.php>

DEFENSE CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE (DCOE) BLOG: MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

TIPS FOR HELPING CHILDREN RECONNECT POST-DEPLOYMENT

Review of how children may react post-deployment and tips for helping them reconnect with family members. <http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=230>

TALKING ABOUT DEPLOYMENT: FIVE TIPS FOR COMMUNICATING WITH MILITARY CHILDREN ABOUT TRANSITIONS

Tips for talking openly about the subject of deployment with children.
<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=227>

JUSTICE RESOURCE UPDATE: FOCUS ON REENTRY

The Office of Justice Programs has released the March 2011 issue of its *Justice Resource Update* newsletter. The latest issue features articles on reentry and inmate populations, including pieces that discuss Second Chance Act initiatives, a tool for analyzing recidivism patterns, and jails in Indian Country
<http://www.ncjrs.gov/OJPNewsletter/march2011/juvjust.htm>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2011

Alcohol Awareness Month is an opportunity to raise awareness of alcohol abuse and encourage people to make healthy, safe choices. <http://www.healthfinder.gov/nho/aprtoolkit.aspx>
NIAAA Resources: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL 2011

National Child Abuse Prevention Month is a time to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect, and create strong communities to support children and families.
<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2011

In order to highlight the growing need for concern and awareness about autism, the Autism Society has been celebrating National Autism Awareness Month since the 1970s. The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity for everyone to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community. <http://www.healthfinder.gov/nho/nho.asp?year=2011#5>

OBSERVANCE: MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

APRIL 2011

Each year, the Department of Defense (DOD) recognizes military families by celebrating the Month of the Military Child throughout April. Service members with children across the nation can take this opportunity to spend time with their loved ones, while also learning about the importance of family resilience and readiness. Real Warriors has compiled information and resources to help servicemembers communicate with their family throughout the Month of the Military Child and the entire deployment cycle.

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

ADDICTION PERFORMANCE PROJECT: LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT

WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 15 AND 16, 2011 AND PHOENIX, ARIZONA, MAY 6, 2011

This program includes a dramatic reading of act III from Long Day's Journey into Night by Eugene O'Neill, followed by an expert panel presentation and facilitated audience discussion on caring for drug-addicted patients. The Addiction Performance Project is a continuing medical education program that offers health care providers the opportunity to help break down the stigma associated with addiction and promote a healthy dialogue that fosters compassion, cooperation, and understanding for people living with substance use disorders. This project is part of NIDAMED, NIDA's outreach to practicing physicians, physicians in training, and other health professionals. <http://www.nida.nih.gov/nidamed/APP/index.html>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S OSDFS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

WORKSHOP AND POSTER PROPOSALS DUE: APRIL 18, 2011

The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools (OSDFS) is accepting proposals for workshops and posters for its conference to be held August 8-10, 2011 at the National Harbor in Baltimore, Maryland. The conference will address issues related to: alcohol, drug and violence prevention; health, mental health, and physical education; special populations; emerging issues; and other areas concerning drug and violence prevention. Submissions should relate to one of the conference tracks: alcohol/drug use; bullying/cyberbullying; training or skill-building; youth violence prevention; emergency management planning; health, mental health, environmental health, physical health; resources; data collection; partnerships; special populations; and emerging issues.

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osdfs/news.html>

NIMH AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH VIDEOCAST: ADVANCES IN TREATMENT RESEARCH

APRIL 21, 2011, 10:30 - 11:30 AM

NIMH is hosting a lecture in conjunction with the HHS month-long focus on raising autism awareness. This discussion on advances in autism research will be accessible by live vodcast and archived for later viewing.

<http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?live=10144>

DOD/USDA FAMILY RESILIENCE CONFERENCE

APRIL 27-29, 2011, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

The DOD and US Department of Agriculture (USDA) present this conference which will offer a wide range of workshops, program showcases, panels, keynote addresses, and research presentations for those aiming to improve delivery systems and partnerships to impact the quality of life of military families. Professionals, educators, and health care providers serving military families are invited to attend.

<http://liferaydemo.unl.edu/web/forgingpartnership/generalinformation>

WEBINAR: SUPPORTING MILITARY CHILDREN IN SCHOOL SETTINGS

APRIL 28, 2011, 1:00-2:30 P.M. ET

Deployment affects military service members individually and has a significant effect on their families, especially the children. Children tend to express their feelings and demonstrate behavioral adjustment issues at school. This DCOE webinar will address systemic issues and highlight collaborations between family and school personnel as they support children in school settings.

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/Training/MonthlyWebinars.aspx>

SECOND NATIONWIDE PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY

APRIL 30, 2011, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM LOCAL TIME

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and its community partners will hold the second National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day at sites throughout the United States. This will be an opportunity for the public to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs for safe disposal. The service is free and anonymous.

<http://www.nationaltakebackday.com/>

NIMH RESEARCH VIDEOCAST-- CONNECT THE DOTS: UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

MAY 3, 2011, 2:00PM - 3:00PM ET

In celebration of National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day, NIMH is presenting an expert panel on the latest research related to children's mental health. Learn the state of the science in children's mental health and ask top NIMH scientists about topics ranging from normal brain development to anxiety, bipolar disorder, and ADHD. Register to watch the videocast or attend in person. <http://guest.cvent.com/d/6dqb5l>

SAMHSA'S NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

MAY 3, 2011

Join communities, organizations, and individuals nationwide in raising awareness that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development. This year's national event in Washington, DC, on the evening of May 3, will focus on building resilience in young children dealing with trauma.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/children/national.asp>

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 the 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:

DRAFT REPORT: EFFICACY AND COMPARATIVE EFFECTIVENESS OF OFF-LABEL USE OF ATYPICAL ANTIPSYCHOTICS – UPDATE (DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS IS APRIL 18, 2011)

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=648>

**NOMINATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2011 VOICE AWARDS:
CHAMPIONING THOSE WHOSE VOICES MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

SAMHSA is seeking nominations for consumers and peer leaders who have been leaders in educating the public about behavioral health. This year, SAMHSA is putting special emphasis on the impact of trauma and the significant effects it can have on individuals, families and friends, communities, and our Nation. Consideration is being given to consumers and peer leaders who have successfully advocated for the rights of trauma survivors and promoted the importance of trauma-informed care. All nominations must be submitted by Friday, April 22, 2011. To nominate an eligible consumer/peer leader(s), visit the Voice Awards web site at www.voiceawards.samhsa.gov.

**ONC ANNOUNCES OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON THE FEDERAL HEALTH IT
STRATEGIC PLAN: 2011-2015**

The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) announced an open public comment period on the *Federal Health IT Strategic Plan: 2011-2015*. The Plan reflects ONC's strategy, developed in collaboration with other federal partners, over the next five years for realizing Congress and the Administration's health IT agenda. Despite evidence of the benefits of the use of health IT, today only 25 percent of physician offices and 15 percent of hospitals take advantage of electronic health records. Two major pieces of legislation, enacted over the past two years, are dramatically changing the health IT landscape and providing an opportunity to modernize the way care is delivered and improve the health of all Americans – the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act and the Affordable Care Act. The Plan, originally published in 2008, is being updated to reflect the significant impact of these two pieces of legislation. The deadline for comments is April 22, 2011.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/03/20110325a.html>

2011 SCIENCE AND SERVICE AWARDS WILL HONOR IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE INTERVENTIONS

SAMHSA has issued a call for applications for its 2011 Science and Service Awards, a national program that recognizes community-based organizations and coalitions that have shown exemplary implementation of evidence-based mental health and substance abuse interventions.

Awards will be made in each of the five categories: substance abuse prevention; treatment of substance abuse and recovery support services; mental health promotion; treatment of mental illness and recovery support services; and co-occurring disorders. To be eligible for an award, an organization must have successfully implemented a recognized evidence-based intervention. Examples include those that are published in the scientific literature and/or appear on a federal and/or state registry of evidence-based interventions. Applications must be emailed by May 13, 2011.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104010852.aspx>

SAMHSA IS SEEKING COMMENTS ON A NEW UNIFIED APPLICATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE BLOCK GRANTS

SAMHSA invites comments on its new approach for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant and the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant.

Background about block grant: <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/blockgrant/>

Federal Register Notice: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/search/pagedetails.action?granuleId=2011-8520&packageId=FR-2011-04-11&acCode=FR>

U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE WEB SITE TOPIC NOMINATIONS

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) has expanded its web site with new content. Anyone can nominate a topic for the USPSTF to consider for a future recommendation directly through its web site. A nomination may suggest a new preventive service topic that has not been reviewed by the USPSTF or recommend reconsideration of an existing topic. Nominations are accepted at any time and will be considered by the USPSTF at one of its regularly scheduled meetings in March, July, or November.

<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/tftopicnom.htm>

FUNDING INFORMATION

OPTIMIZING FIDELITY OF EMPIRICALLY-SUPPORTED BEHAVIORAL TREATMENTS FOR MENTAL DISORDERS (R21/R33)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-050.html>

RESEARCH ON CHILDREN IN MILITARY FAMILIES: THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL MILITARY DEPLOYMENT AND REINTEGRATION ON CHILD AND FAMILY FUNCTIONING

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-200.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-201.html> (R13)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-202.html> (R21)

GRANTS TO ENHANCE OLDER ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2011/sm_11_009.aspx

SERVICES GRANT PROGRAM FOR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT FOR PREGNANT AND POSTPARTUM WOMEN

http://www.samhsa.gov/GRANTS/2011/TI_11_009.ASPX

PLANNING GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2011/sm_11_008.aspx

SAMHSA SUICIDE PREVENTION FOLLOW-UP EFFORTS

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104062726.aspx>

CIRCLES OF CARE FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVES COMMUNITIES

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104125741.aspx>

SAMHSA STATE PREVENTION ENHANCEMENT GRANTS

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104130025.aspx>

SAMHSA MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM GRANTS

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1104063819.aspx>

OJJDP: COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=229>

INTEGRATING MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DATA TO EXPLORE MECHANISMS UNDERLYING MENTAL DISORDERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-020.html>

NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES (NIMHD) HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-12-001.html>

NIMHD RESOURCE-RELATED MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-11-005.html>

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF HIV-ASSOCIATED NEURODEGENERATION IN AGING POPULATIONS ON LONG-TERM ANTI-RETROVIRAL THERAPY

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-070.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-071.html> (R21)

NIH/PEPFAR COLLABORATION FOR IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE AND IMPACT EVALUATION

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-11-003.html>

MENTORED RESEARCH SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT AWARD (PARENT K01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-190.html>

INDEPENDENT SCIENTIST AWARD (PARENT K02)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-191.html>

MENTORED CLINICAL SCIENTIST RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD (PARENT K08)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-193.html>

MENTORED PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD (PARENT K23)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-194.html>

MIDCAREER INVESTIGATOR AWARD IN PATIENT-ORIENTED RESEARCH (PARENT K24)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-195.html>

NIH PATHWAY TO INDEPENDENCE AWARD (PARENT K99/R00)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-197.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.