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# UPDATE

September 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*

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## SCIENCE AND SERVICE NEWS UPDATES

### CONTINUED USE OF STIMULANTS FOR ADHD LIKELY DOES NOT INCREASE RISK FOR HYPERTENSION, BUT MAY AFFECT HEART RATE

Chronic use of stimulant medication to treat attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) in children does not appear to increase risk for high blood pressure over the long term, but it may have modest effects on heart rate, according to follow-up data from the NIMH-funded Multimodal Treatment Study of Children with ADHD (MTA). The study was published online ahead of print September 2, 2011, in the *American Journal of Psychiatry*.

**Science Update:** <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2011/continued-use-of-stimulants-for-adhd-likely-does-not-increase-risk-for-hypertension-but-may-affect-heart-rate.shtml>

### VIOLENCE DURING PREGNANCY LINKED TO REDUCED BIRTH WEIGHT

Pregnant women who are assaulted by an intimate partner are at increased risk of giving birth to infants of reduced weight, according to a population-level analysis of domestic violence supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The study analyzed medical records of more than five million pregnant women in California over a 10-year period. Although the results showed a pattern of low-weight births among women who experienced an assault, the study was not designed to establish cause and effect, and so could not prove that violence caused the reduced birth weights. Similarly, the study was not designed to provide a biological explanation for how violence against an expectant mother might cause her child to be of lower birth weight.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2011/nichd-08.htm>

### NATIONAL SURVEY SHOWS A RISE IN ILLICIT DRUG USE FROM 2008 TO 2010; INCREASED RATES OF MARIJUANA USE DRIVE INCREASE, ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUNG ADULTS

The use of illicit drugs among Americans increased between 2008 and 2010, according to a national survey conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows that 22.6 million Americans 12 or older (8.9 percent of the population) were current illicit drug users. The rate of use in 2010 was similar to the rate in 2009 (8.7 percent), but remained above the 2008 rate (8 percent). An increased rate in the current use of marijuana seems to be one of the prime factors in the overall rise in illicit drug use. In 2010, 17.4 million Americans were current users of marijuana compared to 14.4 million in 2007. This represents an increase in the rate of current marijuana use in the population 12 and older from 5.8 percent in 2007 to 6.9 percent in 2010.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1109075503.aspx>

**Full Report:** <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Results-from-the-2010-National-Survey-on-Drug-Use-and-Health-NSDUH-/SMA11-4658>

## **SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$1.1 MILLION TO PROVIDE FOLLOW-UP SERVICES TO PEOPLE AT HIGH RISK OF SUICIDE**

Six crisis centers affiliated with the SAMHSA-funded Suicide Prevention Lifeline received grant awards to develop follow-up services for those at high risk of dying by suicide. The Lifeline works with a nationwide network of more than 150 crisis centers to provide round-the-clock phone counseling, emergency intervention when necessary, and referral services to callers contemplating suicide or concerned about a friend or loved one who may be in crisis.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1109011948.aspx>

## **SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$6.4 MILLION IN GRANTS FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEMS IN AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE COMMUNITIES**

SAMHSA is announcing seven new grants for a total of up to \$6.4 million up to three years to provide tribal and urban American Indian and Alaskan Native communities resources to plan and design a holistic, community-based system of care to support mental health and wellness for their children, youth, and families. The Circles of Care Infrastructure Development for Children's Mental Health Systems in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities grants will help build the capacity of behavioral health systems serving American Indian/Alaska Native communities.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1109070515.aspx>

## **SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$1.5 MILLION FOR THE HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

SAMHSA is awarding up to \$1.5 million, over three years, to Morehouse School of Medicine to enhance the effort to network the 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities throughout the United States to promote behavioral health, expand campus service capacity, and facilitate workforce development. This cooperative agreement is designed to increase racial/ethnic diversity in the health professions to reduce health disparities among traditionally underserved communities.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1108295951.aspx>

## **SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$12.2 MILLION IN MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM GRANTS**

Five minority fellowship program grants are being awarded by SAMHSA for a total of up to \$12.2 million. These three-year grants will be used to train a new wave of behavioral health care providers. The program focuses on increasing the number of culturally competent behavioral health professionals available in underserved racially and ethnically diverse communities.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1108310105.aspx>

## **HHS AWARDS \$137 MILLION TO STATES TO BOOST PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded up to \$137 million to states, partly supported by the Affordable Care Act, to strengthen the public health infrastructure and provide jobs in core areas of public health. The grants will fund key state and local public health programs supported through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and SAMHSA. The awards include up to \$75 million to fund nine Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral, and Treatment programs over the next five years. These programs will allow communities throughout the nation to provide more comprehensive substance abuse screening, secondary prevention, early intervention, and referrals to treatment for people at higher risk for substance abuse.

**Press Release:** <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2011pres/08/20110825a.html>

## **NIH-SUPPORTED STUDIES SHOW ONLINE COURSE HELPS REDUCE HARMFUL COLLEGE DRINKING**

An online alcohol prevention course can help reduce harmful drinking among college freshmen, but the benefits in the fall don't last through the spring, according to a study supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The research evaluated the effectiveness of a commercially available Internet-based alcohol misuse prevention course known as AlcoholEdu.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2011/niaaa-01.htm>

## **ED AWARDS \$1.2 MILLION TO 11 SMALL BUSINESSES TO DEVELOP TECHNOLOGY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

The U.S. Department of Education announced the award of 16 grants of \$75,000 each to 11 small businesses to conduct research and develop technology that makes life and learning easier for individuals with disabilities. Examples of awards include funding to develop neurocognitive training to improve executive function and a web-based application for self-assessment of personal health and wellness by individuals with cognitive disabilities.

**Press Release:** <http://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/department-awards-12-million-11-small-businesses-develop-technology-people-disab>

## WHITE HOUSE DRUG POLICY OFFICE AWARDS MORE THAN \$88 MILLION TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO PREVENT YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

The Office of National Drug Control Policy announced \$12.3 million in new Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFC) grants to 87 communities and 20 new DFC Mentoring grants across the country. The awards announced today are in addition to the nearly \$76 million in Continuation grants simultaneously released to 607 currently funded DFC coalitions and 12 DFC Mentoring Continuation coalitions. These grants provide community coalitions needed support to prevent and reduce youth substance use.

Press Release: [http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/2011\\_dfc\\_national\\_news\\_release.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/2011_dfc_national_news_release.pdf)

### RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

#### NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE

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##### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: NO HEALTH WITHOUT MENTAL HEALTH

NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses the disparity in life expectancy for those with serious mental illness (SMI). Disorders such as schizophrenia, major depression, and bipolar disorder are risk factors for suicide, but most people with SMI do not die by suicide. Rather, the five percent of Americans who have SMI die of the same things that the rest of the population experiences — cancer, heart disease, stroke, pulmonary disease, and diabetes. They are more likely to suffer chronic diseases associated with addiction, obesity, and poverty and they may suffer the adverse health consequences earlier.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2011/no-health-without-mental-health.shtml>

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##### ARCHIVED VIDEOCAST: SUICIDE IN THE US: FINDING PATHWAYS TO PREVENTION

The archived videocast of NIMH's research symposium on suicide prevention is now available.

<http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?Live=10443>

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##### NIMH VIDEO: WHITE HOUSE CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

On August 25, NIMH and eight suicide prevention organizations were named recipients of the administration's Champions of Change initiative — with the White House saying “these organizations have saved the lives of countless individuals through their programs and efforts.”

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/media/video/white-house-champions-of-change.shtml>

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## NAVIGATING YOUR WAY THROUGH A SUCCESSFUL RESEARCH CAREER: AN NIMH WORKSHOP FOR EARLY STAGE INVESTIGATORS

On July 5-6, 2011, NIMH sponsored a workshop for early stage investigators currently supported by Diversity and Re-entry Supplements, to provide the investigators with the tools necessary to continue along the path of competitive research support and the transition to independence. The workshop aimed to instill the importance of producing innovative research within the overall mission of the NIMH in these promising early career researchers. Content of the workshop emphasized issues relating to grantsmanship and strategies for successfully navigating obstacles and developing potential solutions on the journey to a successful research career. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-funding/scientific-meetings/2011/navigating-your-way-through-a-successful-research-career/index.shtml>

## AHRQ: HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR EATING DISORDERS DECLINED, BUT BIG INCREASE SEEN IN PICA DISORDER

Eating disorders as the primary reason for entering the hospital declined by 23 percent from 2007 to 2008 and 2008 to 2009, after a steep and steady increase from 1999 to 2007, according to the latest News and Numbers from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. The severity of eating disorders also lessened, with symptoms like irregular heartbeat and menstrual disorders declining by 39 percent and 46 percent, respectively. However, from 1999 to 2009, hospitalizations jumped 93 percent for patients with an eating disorder called pica, which causes them to eat largely non-edible substances such as clay, dirt, chalk, and feces. Women and children, including those with autism and other mental or developmental disorders, are most likely to suffer from pica. <http://www.ahrq.gov/news/nn/nn090811.htm>

## NIH NEWS IN HEALTH NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

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### RISKY BUSINESS: DEALING WITH YOUR TEEN'S BEHAVIOR

This article provides information for parents about teen health and risky behaviors. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Sep2011/Feature1>

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### WHEN A BUNDLE OF JOY BRINGS SORRY: RECOGNIZING POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION

This article provides an overview of postpartum depression. It's normal to have anxieties while adjusting to parenthood. But after giving birth, some women develop a more extreme condition—a depression that persists for at least two weeks. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Sep2011/Feature2>

## REAL WARRIORS: TOTAL FORCE FITNESS

Keeping fit means more than just physical fitness - it requires a comprehensive approach that focuses on the mind, body, and spirit working together. Stress and associated symptoms, such as headaches or anxiety, can reduce the ability to maintain appropriate weight, fitness, and nutrition. They increase the likelihood of developing chronic pain or impairing the body's normal functions. As a warrior, familiarity with stress management skills and maintaining a healthy lifestyle before, during, and after deployment can reduce depression, prevent a progression to post-traumatic stress disorder, and may reduce the chances of diminished work performance, obesity, and injury.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/active/treatment/totalforcefitness.php>

## NEW SAMHSA RESOURCES

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### FUNDING AND CHARACTERISTICS OF STATE MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES, 2009

This document reports on the ways state mental health agencies are structured; their major administration and policy initiatives; the mental health services they provide or fund, such as inpatient care and community-based services; and how they finance these services.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Funding-and-Characteristics-of-State-Mental-Health-Agencies-2009/SMA11-4655>

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### ILLICIT DRUG USE AMONG OLDER ADULTS

This report presents estimates of past year use of illicit drugs among older adults, based on combined 2007 to 2009 data. It reports on type of drug and differences by age and gender, as well as the importance of targeting treatment and prevention efforts to this population.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Illicit-Drug-Use-among-Older-Adults/NSDUH11-0901>

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### SHARED DECISION-MAKING IN MENTAL HEALTH CARE

This report gives an overview of shared decision-making (SDM), an intervention that enables people to actively manage their own health. It examines research on the effects of SDM in general and mental health care, and includes recommendations for advancing SDM in practice.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Shared-Decision-Making-in-Mental-Health-Care/SMA09-4371>

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### STATE ISSUES AND INNOVATIONS IN CREATING INTEGRATED EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS

This report examines efforts to build state-integrated early learning and development systems for children across six themes: leadership; data usage; quality improvement; community partnerships; physical and behavioral integration; and children with multiple risks. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/State-Issues-and-Innovations-in-Creating-Integrated-Early-Learning-and-Development-Systems/SMA11-4661>

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## DIALOGUE NEWSLETTER: 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11: CELEBRATING RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE

The Dialogue is a quarterly technical assistance journal on disaster behavioral health which is produced by SAMHSA's Disaster Technical Assistance Center. This issue commemorates the events of September 11.

[http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue\\_vol8\\_issue1.pdf](http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue_vol8_issue1.pdf)

## NEW CDC REPORTS

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### HIGHLIGHTING VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

CDC announced a special issue of the *American Journal of Lifestyle Medicine*, with articles edited and co-authored by scientists in CDC's Injury Center. The issue highlights violence as a public health issue and the role of health practitioners in prevention. Millions of violence-related injury cases are treated in emergency departments each year. In addition to injury and death, violence results in other physical and mental health consequences, including health risk behaviors and chronic conditions.

[http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/a0906\\_highlighting\\_violence.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2011/a0906_highlighting_violence.html)

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### CHEMICAL SUICIDES IN AUTOMOBILES

The CDC's Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry analyzed reports of chemical suicides and attempted suicides that occurred in automobiles, using 2006-2009 data from states participating in the Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance System and 2010 data from states participating in the new National Toxic Substance Incidents Program. This report summarizes the results of that analysis, which found that, during 2006-2010, a total of 10 chemical suicide incidents were reported from six states, resulting in the deaths of nine suicide victims and injuries to four law enforcement officers. When responding to suspected chemical suicide incidents, emergency responders must take precautions to ensure both their safety and the safety of any bystanders in the immediate vicinity.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6035a1.htm>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### WEBINAR: INNOVATIONS IN FAMILY-CENTERED APPROACHES TO TRAUMA AND LOSS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2011, 1:00 PM ET

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As part of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) Family Systems Speaker Series, presenters will describe three family-based models of intervention for families who have experienced trauma: FOCUS, Strengthening Family Coping Resources, and Trauma Adapted Family Connections. A moderated panel discussion will allow presenters to elaborate on how each model implements interventions to families' responses to trauma. <http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php>

### WEBCAST: REDUCING SEVERE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY IN THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2011, 1:00 PM ET

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This session of CDC's Public Health Grand Rounds will focus on severe traumatic brain injury explore promising policies, guidelines, and interventions to further reduce the severity and number of cases of traumatic brain injury in the United States. This session will be available for Continuing Education credit. An archived video of the webcast will be made available by September 22.

<http://www.cdc.gov/about/grand-rounds>

### WEBINAR: CASE MANAGEMENT OF MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

SEPTEMBER 22, 2011, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM ET

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This Defense Centers of Excellence (DCOE) webinar will emphasize the need for a collaborative approach to treatment and the role of the case manager. Speakers will provide resources and tips to assist military case managers with service members experiencing persistent symptoms related to concussion and mild traumatic brain injury. <http://www.dcoe.health.mil/Training/MonthlyWebinars.aspx>

## **WEBINAR: DEMYSTIFYING TRAUMA: SHARING PATHWAYS TO HEALING AND WELLNESS**

SEPTEMBER 26, 2011, 3:00 – 4:30 PM ET

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During this SAMHSA webinar, participants will learn how traumatic experiences and their impact are a nearly universal experience, and how broad the impact can be on mind, body, spirit, and relationships. Participants will gain strategies and techniques for listening in a way that is supportive and compassionate, but also allows listeners to cope with the emotional responses that may be triggered by painful stories. Registration will close at 5:00 PM ET on September 25, 2011.

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/archive/training/teleconference09262011.aspx>

## **WEBINAR: THE IMPACT OF TRAUMA AND THE EXPERIENCE OF YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM**

OCTOBER 6, 2011, 12:00 PM ET

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As part of the NCTSN Zero to Six Speaker Series, presenters will discuss the impact of trauma and the experience of young children in the child welfare system, and the signs, symptoms, and consequences of trauma in infants, young children, and their caregivers. <http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php>

## **WEBINAR: USING AND ADAPTING TRAUMA EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES FOR FAMILY TRAUMA CONTEXT**

OCTOBER 12, 2011, 1:00 PM ET

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As part of the NCTSN Family Systems Speaker Series, presenters will discuss the critical impact of parent or other caregiver involvement in two evidence-based practices: Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy and Child-Parent Psychotherapy, describe the ways in which parents take part in each model, and the evidence demonstrating that parent participation and parent well-being is an essential element in the child's recovery. <http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php>

## **NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY**

OCTOBER 29, 2011

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The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will be collecting potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at sites nationwide. The service is free and anonymous with no questions asked. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicines, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away—both potential safety and health hazards.

[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html)

## **SAVE THE DATE: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN RESEARCH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY: PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY FOR THE IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN COHORT CONFERENCE**

DECEMBER 8 – 9, 2011, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

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Save the date for this meeting sponsored by the Veterans Administration, DCOE, and NIH to address bridging the gap between research and clinical practice of psychological health and traumatic brain injury. [tsc2011@experient-inc.com](mailto:tsc2011@experient-inc.com)

## **CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT**

### **NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK: ORIGINAL MUSIC AND MUSIC VIDEO COMPETITION**

Announced by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), along with MusiCares and the GRAMMY Foundation—the two nonprofit organizations of The Recording Academy®—the contest asks young musicians, ages 14-18, to compose or create an original song and/or music video that explores, encourages, and celebrates a healthy lifestyle, or accurately depicts a story about drug abuse. Winners will be revealed during NIDA's second annual National Drug Facts Week, which begins October 31, 2011. Original music compositions or compositions with accompanying videos must be sent to MusiCares, postmarked no later than October 10, 2011. <http://drugfactsweek.drugabuse.gov/contest.php>

## REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: EXPANSION OF SHARING AND STANDARDIZATION OF NIH-FUNDED HUMAN BRAIN IMAGING DATA

The Blueprint Workgroup on Neuroimaging Data-Sharing and the Blueprint Lifespan Human Connectome Project Team are seeking input from the scientific community, health professionals, patient advocates, community-based organizations, students, and the general public about the administrative and technical issues involved in removing barriers to the sharing of human brain imaging data collected using NIH support. This input may include (but is not limited to) issues or potential solutions related to image hosting, as well as the adoption of standardized scanning procedures, imaging protocols, phenotypic characterization, and data formats. Of particular interest is input regarding human-subjects protection and confidentiality issues. Responses will be accepted until October 14, 2011.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-DA-11-021.html>

## HHS ISSUES FACEBOOK APP CHALLENGE

HHS is challenging developers to create a new Facebook “Lifeline” app that would let people establish their Facebook “friends” as emergency contacts able to share health information during emergency situations. The deadline for entries is November 4, 2011. <http://challenge.gov/challenges/220>

## FUNDING INFORMATION

HRSA: RURAL HEALTH NETWORK DEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/SFO.asp?ID=18B016ED-4EFC-41CB-A2AF-8163C024A2ED>

BASIC RESEARCH ON DECISION MAKING: COGNITIVE, AFFECTIVE, AND DEVELOPMENTAL PERSPECTIVES

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-12-130.html>

MHEALTH TOOLS TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE PATIENT-PROVIDER COMMUNICATION, ADHERENCE TO TREATMENT, AND SELF MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC DISEASES IN UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-330.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-331.html> (R03)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-332.html> (R21)

HEALTHY HABITS: TIMING FOR DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE HEALTHY BEHAVIORS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-327.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-328.html> (R03)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-329.html> (R21)

MOLECULAR AND CELLULAR SUBSTRATES OF COMPLEX BRAIN DISORDERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-299.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-11-300.html> (R21)

HUMAN HEREDITY AND HEALTH IN AFRICA (H3AFRICA): COLLABORATIVE CENTERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-008.html> (U54)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-009.html> (U01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-11-010.html> (U41)



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.