UPDATE

December 15, 2013

I. Science and Service News Updates

II. Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources

III. Calendar of Events

IV. Clinical Trial Participation News

V. Funding Information

Subscribe to Receive the Update

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

Follow NIMH on Social Media

http://twitter.com/nimhgov
http://www.facebook.com/nimhgov
http://www.youtube.com/nimhgov

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

VICE PRESIDENT BIDEN ANNOUNCES $100 MILLION TO INCREASE ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

As part of the Administration's ongoing commitment to help individuals experiencing mental health problems, Vice President Biden announced that $100 million will soon be available to increase access to mental health services and improve mental health facilities. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will issue a $50 million funding opportunity to help Community Health Centers establish or expand behavioral health services for people living with mental illness or addiction. Community Health Centers can use these new funds, made available through the Affordable Care Act, for efforts such as hiring new mental health professionals and adding mental and substance use disorders services. Because proximity to mental health services can be a unique challenge in rural America, the Department of Agriculture has a new goal to finance $50 million for the construction, expansion, or improvement of mental health facilities in rural areas over the next three years. These funds, made available through the Department's Community Facilities direct loan program, can be used to improve or construct mental health service facilities, or put in place innovative tools such as telemedicine to expand access to mental health services at rural schools, community centers, hospitals, and other community-based settings.
Press Release: http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/12/10/vice-president-biden-announces-100-million-increase-access-mental-health

FDA APPROVES FIRST GENERIC VERSIONS OF ANTIDEPRESSANT DRUG CYMBALTA

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first generic versions of Cymbalta (duloxetine delayed-release capsules), a prescription medicine used to treat depression and other conditions. Aurobindo Pharma Ltd., Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd., Lupin Ltd., Sun Pharma Global FZE, Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, and Torrent Pharmaceuticals Ltd. have received FDA approval to market duloxetine in various strengths.
Press Release: http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm378282.htm

NIH DEPOSITS FIRST BATCH OF GENOMIC DATA FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; RESEARCHERS GAIN RAPID ACCESS TO FIRST SET OF RAW HUMAN GENOME SEQUENCE

Researchers can now freely access the first batch of genome sequence data from the Alzheimer's Disease Sequencing Project (ADSP), the National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced. The ADSP is one of the first projects undertaken under an intensified national program of research to prevent or effectively treat Alzheimer's disease. The first data release includes whole genome sequence data from 410 individuals in 89 families.
Press Release: http://www.nih.gov/news/health/dec2013/nhgri-02.htm

STUDY BREAKS BLOOD-BRAIN BARRIERS TO UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S

A NIH-funded study in mice shows how a breakdown of the brain's blood vessels may amplify or cause problems associated with Alzheimer's disease. The results, published in *Nature Communications,* suggest that blood vessel cells called pericytes may provide novel targets for treatments and diagnoses.
Press Release: http://www.nih.gov/news/health/dec2013/ninds-13.htm

TOBACCO, DRUG USE IN PREGNANCY CAN DOUBLE RISK OF STILLBIRTH; NIH NETWORK STUDY DOCUMENTS ELEVATED RISK ASSOCIATED WITH MARIJUANA, OTHER SUBSTANCES

Smoking tobacco or marijuana, taking prescription painkillers, or using illegal drugs during pregnancy is associated with double or even triple the risk of stillbirth, according to research funded by the NIH. Researchers based their findings on measurements of the chemical byproducts of nicotine in maternal blood samples, and cannabis, prescription painkillers, and other drugs in umbilical cords. The study findings appear in the journal *Obstetrics and Gynecology*.
Press Release: http://www.nih.gov/news/health/dec2013/nichd-11.htm

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: 10 BEST OF 2013

NIMH Director Thomas Insel reviews his "top 10" selections for 2013, including research advances and historic policy changes affecting mental health care. **http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2013/ten-best-of-2013.shtml**

CDC: PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION USE AMONG ADOLESCENTS

Prior studies have shown an increase in psychotropic medication use among adolescents; however, most studies were based on clinical samples or high-risk populations. This report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides the estimate of any psychotropic medication use in the past month among United States (U.S.) non-institutionalized adolescents aged 12 to 19 years from 2005 to 2010, using National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey data.
http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db135.htm

NEW FROM NIH

NIH DIRECTOR'S BLOG: GENE DISCOVERIES FOR AUTISM

NIH Director Francis Collins describes new gene discoveries for autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Affecting an estimated 1 in 88 U.S. children, ASD is a complicated and diverse group of developmental brain disorders that interfere with language, normal communication, and social interaction. Unlike some other conditions that are caused by mutations in a single gene, as many as 1,000 genes, as well as various environmental factors, are suspected to contribute to the risk of developing ASD.
http://directorsblog.nih.gov/2013/12/03/network-news-gene-discoveries-for-autism/

VIDEO: HOW DOES A PET SCAN WORK?

This *60 Seconds of Science* video from the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering explains what is happening in the body when it undergoes a positron emission tomography (PET) scan. A PET scan uses radioactive tracers to create 3D images of the body. The radiation from the tracers poses little danger to the patient since they quickly pass out of the body.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GHLBcCv4rqk

RESOURCE ON LEWY BODY DEMENTIA

More than one million Americans, most of them older adults, are affected by Lewy Body dementia (LBD), a "cousin" of Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease. This publication describes LBD—a brain disorder that can affect cognition, movement, sleep, and behavior—and offers practical advice for people with the disease and caregivers. **http://www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/publication/lewy-body-dementia**

NCCAM DIRECTOR BLOG: THE MANY POSITIVES IN NEGATIVE STUDY FINDINGS

National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) Director Josephine Briggs discusses the importance of negative study findings. They help everyone—consumers and healthcare providers—avoid interventions that don't help. Negative studies are important in the research process. High-quality data produced during well-performed, carefully monitored studies are of value in deciding on follow-on questions and in the design of subsequent studies.
https://nccam.nih.gov/research/blog/positivenegatives?nav=upd

NEW FROM NIDA

STIMULANT-ADDICTED PATIENTS CAN QUIT SMOKING WITHOUT HINDERING TREATMENT

Smokers who are addicted to cocaine or methamphetamine can quit smoking while being treated for their stimulant addiction, without interfering with stimulant addiction treatment.
http://www.nih.gov/news/health/dec2013/nida-10.htm

MEDICATIONS THAT TREAT OPIOID ADDICTION DO NOT IMPAIR LIVER HEALTH

A trial that compared buprenorphine/naloxone (Bup/Nx) to methadone produced no evidence that either medication damages the liver. Researchers concluded that Bup/Nx and methadone are equally safe for the liver, and Bup/Nx may be considered a first line alternative to the more established medication for treating opioid addiction. **http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2013/12/medications-treat-opioid-addiction-do-not-impair-liver-health**

AHRQ RESOURCES

NEW TOOL ASSESSES EFFECTIVENESS OF PATIENT EDUCATION MATERIALS

A new tool funded by Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) helps healthcare professionals identify high-quality informational print and audiovisual patient education materials. The *Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool* (PEMAT) helps users select from the many patient education materials available to determine those that are easier to understand and act on.
http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/prevention-chronic-care/improve/self-mgmt/pemat/index.html

INNOVATIONS EXCHANGE FOCUSES ON MENTAL HEALTHCARE IN RURAL SETTINGS

The latest issue of the *AHRQ Health Care Innovations Exchange* features three innovation profiles describing programs that increased access and improved mental healthcare for individuals living in rural areas. One of the featured profiles describes a program at the University of Virginia Health System in Charlottesville, in which psychiatric fellows and residents use videoconferencing to serve children and adults with mental illness who live in rural parts of the state. **http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/**

MULTICOMPONENT DISSEMINATION STRATEGIES BETTER AT ENCOURAGING USE OF HEALTH-RELATED EVIDENCE

When determining how to best communicate and disseminate research, including uncertain evidence, to inform healthcare decisions, multicomponent dissemination strategies that address a combination of reach, ability, or motivation appear to be more effective than a single strategy in changing clinicians' behaviors. The research review, *Communication and Dissemination Strategies To Facilitate the Use of Health-Related Evidence*, found that clear communication and active dissemination of evidence to all relevant audiences in easy-to-understand formats are critical to increase awareness, consideration, adoption, and use of health-related evidence. **http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=1757&pcem=en**

MENTAL HEALTH.GOV BLOG: NEW PARITY RULES REINFORCE PROTECTIONS FOR COVERAGE OF MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE USE

Acting HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation describes the final rule published for the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (Parity Act). The Parity Act makes it easier for Americans to get the care they need by prohibiting certain discriminatory practices that limit coverage for mental health and substance use disorder treatment and services. The Parity Act generally requires that, when offered, health insurance coverage for mental and substance use disorder benefits is no more restrictive than benefits for physical health conditions. **http://www.mentalhealth.gov/blog/2013/12/mental-health-parity-act.html**

NEW FROM SAMHSA

CONTINUITY OF CARE: THE ROLE OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

This new publication from SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center highlights key steps emergency departments (EDs) can take to establish continuity of care for patients at risk for suicide and thus substantially reduce the number of suicide deaths and suicide attempts that occur after discharge. **http://www.sprc.org/sites/sprc.org/files/library/ContinuityCare_Suicide_Prevention_ED.pdf**

DIAGNOSES AND HEALTH CARE UTILIZATION OF CHILDREN WHO ARE IN FOSTER CARE AND COVERED BY MEDICAID

This report examines mental illness or substance use disorders prevalence and the utilization of health services among foster care children who are covered by Medicaid. It reports trends across three age groups for use in determining the needs of foster children. **http://store.samhsa.gov//product/SMA13-4804**

NEW WEBPAGES ON SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network has launched a new webpage devoted to secondary traumatic stress (STS). This webpage contains resources related to STS and links to a wide range of documents, programs, and materials that can be used to create STS-informed responses to indirect trauma exposure. **http://www.nctsn.org/resources/topics/secondary-traumatic-stress**

6.8 MILLION ADULTS HAD BOTH MENTAL ILLNESS AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER IN 2011

In 2011, 18.9 million adults in the U.S. had past year substance use disorder (SUD), and 41.4 million adults had mental illness in the past year; 6.8 million adults experienced both. Among adults with SUD, 36.1 percent also had a co-occurring mental illness, whereas, among adults without SUD, 16.2 percent had mental illness. Among adults with mental illness in the past year, 16.5 percent had SUD, compared with 6.3 percent of adults who did not have mental illness. **http://samhsa.gov/data/spotlight/spot111-adults-mental-illness-substance-use-disorder.pdf**

ECSTASY-RELATED ED VISITS ROSE 128 PERCENT

According to a new SAMHSA report, hospital ED visits related to the dangerous hallucinogenic drug Ecstasy, sometimes known as "Molly," increased 128 percent between 2005 and 2011 (from 4,460 visits in 2005 to 10,176 visits in 2011) for visits among patients younger than 21 years old. **http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1312020920.aspx**

UPDATED EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE BRIEFS FOR APPLICATION IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE SETTINGS

The SAMHSA's GAINS Center has updated its briefs about evidence-based practices for justice-involved persons. The briefs cover forensic assertive community treatment; supported employment for justice-involved people with mental illness; illness management and recovery; integrating mental health and substance abuse services; and reducing criminal recidivism. A series of webinars will be held in early 2014 for each of these briefs. **http://gainscenter.samhsa.gov/topical_resources/ebps.asp**

REPORT ON TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACHES FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

The Federal Partners Committee on Women and Trauma has released *Trauma-Informed Approaches: Federal Activities and Initiatives* developed with support from SAMHSA's National Center for Trauma-Informed Care. The report documents the scope and impact of violence and abuse on women and girls, and highlights gender-responsive, trauma-informed approaches that more than three dozen Federal agencies, departments, and offices have implemented. **http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/13juvjust/131202d.html**

ED BLOG POST: ADDRESSING AND PREVENTING SEXUAL ASSAULT ON CAMPUS

This blog post from the U.S. Department of Education (ED), describes research and best practices coming out of the field of public health and the CDC that support the need for a comprehensive, coordinated approach to violence prevention. ED encourages campus and community efforts to increase awareness and engage in primary prevention campaigns. **http://www.ed.gov/blog/2013/11/addressing-and-preventing-sexual-assault-on-campus/**

REAL WARRIORS: EASING HOLIDAY AND REINTEGRATION STRESS

The holidays are a great time to reconnect with family and friends and spend time with loved ones, but the holidays can also be difficult. For service members who are coping with invisible wounds, the holidays may be stressful – especially for members of the National Guard and reserve who may not have the same deployment support networks as their active duty counterparts. This article provides tips for warriors and families going through the reintegration process this holiday season. **http://www.realwarriors.net/guardreserve/reintegration/holidaystress.php**

RESOURCES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE: ATTRIBUTES OF VICTIMIZATION

This report presents data on trends in nonfatal intimate partner violence (IPV) among U.S. households from 1993 to 2011. IPV includes rape, sexual assault, robbery, aggravated assault, and simple assault by a current or former spouse, boyfriend, or girlfriend. This report focuses on attributes of the victimization such as the type of crime, type of attack, whether the victim was threatened before the attack, use of a weapon by the offender, victim injury, and medical treatment received for injuries.
http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4801

BULLETIN EXAMINES FUNCTIONAL IMPAIRMENT IN DELINQUENT YOUTH

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has released the bulletin *Functional Impairment in Delinquent Youth*, which examines the results of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a large-scale longitudinal study of youth detained at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center in Chicago, IL. This bulletin presents findings on juvenile functional impairment in the school, work, home, and community settings; and in terms of behavior toward others, mood, and psychiatric concerns, self-harm, substance use, and rational thought assessed three years after the youth were released from detention.
http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/13juvjust/131211.html

LATEST ISSUE OF JOURNAL OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AVAILABLE

This issue features articles that focus on early diversion and assessment to screen youth out of the juvenile justice system, the lack of research on teen courts and recidivism, the effectiveness of intervention programs and mental health courts for delinquents with mental health issues, and recidivism and delinquency risk factors for male and female offenders. Other articles describe a one-day police–youth team-building program, the impact of Internet-based mindfulness meditation/guided relaxation on incarcerated youth's self-regulation, and a critique of place-based "hot spots" policing in preventing delinquency. **http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/13juvjust/131209.html**

AWARDS TO SUPPORT REENTRY PROGRAMS

Attorney General Eric Holder announced more than $62 million for seven grants to strengthen adult and youth reentry programs and reduce recidivism at the state, tribal, and local levels. They will support programs helping adults and youth to return to their communities through probation projects, substance abuse/mental health treatment, mentoring, and technology training.
http://www.ojjdp.gov/enews/13juvjust/131202c.html

VA BLOG: STRENGTHENING AND TRANSFORMING LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS TO SERVE VETERAN FAMILIES

This U.S Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) blog post describes the VA Supportive Services for Veteran Families program. The competitive grant program, employing the principles of Housing First to assist Veteran families at imminent risk for losing their housing, helps to maintain safe permanent housing. The program helps by rapidly re-engaging Veterans with permanent housing and other support structures to achieve quick housing outcomes and community integration.
http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/11496/serve-veteran-families/

EVENTS

CONFERENCE CALL: Q&A SESSION ABOUT THE OPIOID OVERDOSE TOOLKIT

DECEMBER 18, 2013, 3:00–4:00 PM ET

The SAMHSA *Opioid Overdose Toolkit* educates community members, first responders, opioid prescribers, patients, family members, and overdose survivors on ways to prevent and intervene in an opioid overdose situation. The toolkit explains how to use the drug naloxone to prevent overdose-related deaths. The conference call will begin with an overview of the toolkit followed by an opportunity for stakeholders to ask questions. Call-in Number: 1-800-788-6170 | Passcode: 9714423
http://blog.samhsa.gov/2013/12/12/youre-invited-to-the-qa-session-about-the-opioid-overdose-toolkit/

TWITTER CHAT: ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH APPROACHES

DECEMBER 18, 2013, 4:00 PM ET

NCCAM is co-hosting a Twitter chat with the National Institute on Aging to discuss what the science says about several dietary supplements that have been studied for cognitive function, dementia, and Alzheimer's disease. The chat will also discuss some of the research that's looking at mind and body practices such as music therapy and mental imagery, which have shown promise in treating some symptoms related to dementia, as well as for alleviating stress among caregivers.
http://nccam.nih.gov/news/events/twitterchat?nav=upd

NIDA FAMILY CHECK-UP WEBINAR

DECEMBER 19, 2013, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) webinar will offer tips and guidance on how to talk to kids about the risks associated with substance use. The *NIDA Family Check-Up* is an online resource to help keep children drug-free. It includes strategies that guide parents on effective communication skills to catch problems early, support positive behavior, and stay aware of what is happening in their children's lives. During the webinar, NIDA Family Check-up researcher, Tom Dishion, Ph.D. of Arizona State University, will provide an interactive overview of his intervention research. **http://ems6.intellor.com/index.cgi?p=600167&t=1&do=register&s=&rID=7&edID=6**

WEBINAR: BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY TO USE INDEX DATA ON SOCIAL DETERMINANTS TO SUPPORT THE ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES

DECEMBER 19, 2013, 3:30-5:00 PM ET

The Office of Minority Health and the National Partnership for Action is sponsoring this webinar about how to utilize data about social determinants of health to support the elimination of health disparities. Participants will learn how to use tools in America's Health Rankings, County Health Rankings, and Measure of America; how to use available index data to identify issues, prioritize efforts, and track progress; and understand the importance of using data to establish partnerships and secure funding.
https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/874545970

NIMH TWITTER CHAT ON DEPRESSION AND OLDER ADULTS

DECEMBER 20, 2013, 2:00PM-3:00 PM ET

Join NIMH for a Twitter chat on depression and older adults. Jovier Evans, Ph.D., Chief of the Geriatric Translational Neuroscience Program at NIMH, will be on-hand to discuss the topic and answer questions. Use the hashtag #NIMHchats to follow and participate in the Twitter chat.
http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2013/nimh-twitter-chat-on-depression-and-older-adults.shtml

WEBINAR: AFFORDABLE CARE ACT 101 – THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

DECEMBER 17, 2013, 4:00 PM ET

The HHS Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships is sponsoring this webinar on the main provisions of the Affordable Care Act, the healthcare law. Information on the Health Insurance Marketplace, how to enroll in health insurance, and key websites with resources on the law will be shared. The webinar will end with a question and answer session. Please send any questions to ACA101@hhs.gov prior to December 17 at noon ET. **https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/534929711**

NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK 2014

JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 2, 2014

Coordinated by NIDA, National Drug Facts Week encourages and stimulates community-based events where teens ask questions of addiction scientists or health experts. Events can be sponsored by a variety of organizations, including schools, community groups, sports clubs, and hospitals. Topics for discussion include the science behind illicit drug use, prescription drug abuse, and use of alcohol and tobacco. Event holders who register will receive free booklets with science-based facts about drugs, designed specifically for teens. **http://drugfactsweek.drugabuse.gov/**

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

FEBRUARY 2014

Teen Dating Violence Prevention and Awareness Month is a national effort to raise awareness about abuse in teen and twenty-something relationships and promote programs that prevent it during the month of February. **http://www.cdc.gov/Features/DatingViolence/**

SAVE THE DATE: 22ND NIMH CONFERENCE ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

APRIL 23-25, 2014, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

Join NIMH for the 22nd NIMH Conference on Mental Health Services Research on the NIH campus, April 23-25, 2014. This is a biennial national conference featuring state-of-the-art mental health services research presented via keynote speakers, thematic panels, pre-conference workshops, and paper and poster presentations of findings from recent research studies. For further information, please contact Janet Sorrells at **jsorrell@mail.nih.gov**

SAVE THE DATE: 19TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 2014, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

The Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect announced the 19th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, the only Federally-sponsored national conference devoted to the issues of child maltreatment that serves as the nation's leading training and technical assistance event for practitioners, policy makers, advocates, and researchers. More than 3,000 in-person and virtual participants join together for a two-and-a-half day series of knowledge and skill-building sessions, building collaborative networks and contributing to "lessons learned" that shape public policy, research, and practice in child maltreatment and child welfare. **http://www.pal-tech.com/web/NCCAN19/**

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

JOIN CONVERSATION TO HELP IMPROVE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF ONLINE TOOLS FOR WORKERS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

An online dialogue that runs from December 9-20 will address what can be done to make web-based job tools easier to use by people with intellectual disabilities, cognitive issues, traumatic brain injuries, or other disabilities. The event is being held by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy, the Partnership on Employment and Accessible Technology, and the Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Members of the public are invited to participate. Join this virtual event and post ideas for making online tools easier to use for workers with intellectual disabilities. Participants are encouraged to think about two main questions: *How can websites be improved to make it easier to apply for jobs or do work for your job?,* and *What ideas do you have for making online job-related tools easier to use for everyone?* **http://ASAN-PEATePolicyWorks.IdeaScale.com**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: IDENTIFYING GAPS IN UNDERSTANDING THE MECHANISMS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY-INDUCED HEALTH BENEFITS

Increased physical activity has been linked to numerous health benefits, including improved cardiovascular and respiratory health, insulin sensitivity, bone and muscle strength, and cognitive function. In addition to these improvements, physical activity is associated with reductions in coronary heart disease, stroke, some cancers, type 2 diabetes, and depression. The NIH Common Fund is exploring strategies to help the research community develop a more integrative perspective on the molecular and cellular mechanisms through which physical activity improves multiple health outcomes. The NIH is requesting comments to include, but not limited to, addressing the following:

A. The most pressing research questions related to the molecular and cellular mechanisms by which physical activity improves health and reduces the risk of disease;

B. The types of new protocols, techniques, and tools needed to answer these research questions; and

C. The likely translational applications for new knowledge about the mechanisms by which physical activity improves overall health and the long-term, overarching benefits of this knowledge.

Responses will be accepted until December 31, 2013. **http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-RM-14-001.html**

FUNDING INFORMATION

REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES AMONG MINORITY AND UNDERSERVED CHILDREN

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-034.html (R21)
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-033.html (R01)

WOMEN & SEX/GENDER DIFFERENCES IN DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE/DEPENDENCE

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-038.html (R01)
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-037.html (R03)
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-036.html (R21)

DISCOVERING NOVEL TARGETS: THE MOLECULAR GENETICS OF DRUG ADDICTION AND RELATED CO-MORBIDITIES

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-025.html

TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES GRANTS PROGRAM

http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/fy2014-disability-solicitation.pdf

CHRONIC CONDITION SELF-MANAGEMENT IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-029.html (R01)
http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-030.html (R21)

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/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.