



# UPDATE

February 15, 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*

## THE CLAY HUNT ACT: WHAT THE PRESIDENT JUST SIGNED

The Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act will help the Administration take additional steps to address mental health and prevent suicide among veterans. This new law builds on a long history of executive actions the President has issued to improve access to mental health services for members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their families. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2015/02/12/clay-hunt-act-what-president-just-signed>

## FDA EXPANDS USES OF VYVANSE TO TREAT BINGE-EATING DISORDER

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the approved uses of Vyvanse (lisdexamfetamine dimesylate) to treat binge eating disorder in adults. The drug is the first FDA-approved medication to treat this condition. In binge eating disorder, patients have recurrent episodes of compulsive overeating during which they consume larger amounts of food than normal and experience the sense that they lack control. The efficacy of Vyvanse in treating binge eating disorder was shown in two clinical studies that included 724 adults with moderate-to-severe binge eating disorder. In the studies, participants taking Vyvanse experienced a decrease in the number of binge eating days per week and had fewer obsessive-compulsive binge-eating behaviors compared to those on the inactive pill (placebo).

**Press Release:** <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm432543.htm>

## NATIONWIDE STUDY REPORTS SHIFTS IN AMERICANS' USE OF NATURAL PRODUCTS

A nationally-representative survey shows that natural product use in the United States (U.S.) has shifted since 2007, with some products becoming more popular and some falling out of favor. Overall, natural products (dietary supplements other than vitamins and minerals) remain the most common complementary health approach. The complementary health questionnaire was developed by the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS). The complementary health questionnaire is administered every five years as part of the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS), an annual study in which tens of thousands of Americans are interviewed about their health- and illness-related experiences. The 2012 NHIS survey is the most current, comprehensive, and reliable source of information on the use of complementary health approaches by U.S. adults and children.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/feb2015/nccih-10.htm>

## SAMHSA IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR UP TO \$13.6 MILLION FOR PROJECT LAUNCH EXPANSION GRANTS

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for Project LAUNCH Expansion grants totaling up to \$13.6 million over four years. This program aims to expand the implementation of Project LAUNCH systems improvement and wellness promotion/prevention services into new communities within states and tribes that have completed a Project LAUNCH five-year grant. The goals of this expansion grant are to improve communities' systems and services that strengthen parenting competencies and improve children's developmental and behavioral outcomes. SAMHSA expects that up to \$3.4 million will be available each year to provide up to five grantees up to \$680,000 a year for up to four years. The actual award amounts may vary, depending on the availability of funds.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201502101015>

### RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

#### NEW FROM NIMH

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##### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: PRECISION MEDICINE FOR MENTAL DISORDERS

Earlier this month, President Obama released his budget request for precision medicine. NIH also just announced plans for a study of a million or more volunteers to explore precision medicine. National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Director Thomas Insel discusses what this means for mental disorders in his blog.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/precision-medicine-for-mental-disorders.shtml>

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##### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: IMMUNE TO STRESS?

There is a common assumption that the secrets to understanding individual differences in resilience to stress must be sought in the brain. Now, findings in mice suggest that the peripheral immune system might play a pivotal role. NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses these findings in this blog.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2015/immune-to-stress.shtml>

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##### INSIDE NIMH: LATEST ISSUE

This issue of *Inside NIMH* provides updates on the new 2015 NIMH Strategic Plan, new grants available through the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) initiative, guidelines to enhance the reproducibility and validity of clinical trials, clarifying expectations for data sharing, and more. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/inside-nimh/2015-winter-inside-nimh.shtml>

## NEW FROM NIH

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### NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: NEW BRAIN PATHWAYS FOR OLD MEMORIES

Fearful memories can play a role in anxiety disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which may develop after a terrifying event. People with PTSD may feel stressed or frightened even when they're no longer in danger. <http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/february2015/02022015memories.htm>

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### NIH NEWS IN HEALTH: MANY OLDER PEOPLE TAKE ANTI-ANXIETY MEDS DESPITE RISKS

Despite known risks, older people often take benzodiazepines, a class of drugs that helps treat anxiety and sleep problems. New research raises questions about why benzodiazepines are prescribed so often for older adults when safer alternatives may be available. <http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/feb2015/Capsule1>

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### WOMEN OF COLOR HEALTH DATA BOOK

From the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, this data book provides U. S. Census data on different populations of U.S. women and health updates for women of color.

<http://orwh.od.nih.gov/resources/policyreports/womenofcolor.asp>

## NEW FROM NIDA

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### GENETICS INFLUENCE RESPONSE TO PREVENTION INTERVENTION; INTERACTION OF POLYGENIC SMOKING RISK AND BENEFIT FROM A CLASSROOM PREVENTION INTERVENTION

Substantial evidence has demonstrated that a person's genetics influences his or her risk for smoking initiation, addiction, and difficulty quitting. Recent research has identified multiple genes associated with these variables. A new National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) funded study examined whether an individual's collective gene-based sensitivity to the reinforcing aspects of nicotine (or his/her *polygenic score*) had an impact on how much he or she benefited from an elementary-school-based prevention intervention, as assessed by age of smoking initiation. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/genetics-influence-response-to-prevention-intervention>

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### THE SCIENCE BEHIND DESIGNER DRUGS

"Designer drugs" such as bath salts and spice are manufactured to chemically resemble illicit drugs, but can often be purchased legally because manufacturers continually modify their chemical structures in order to circumvent drug laws. Used for their cocaine- or marijuana-like effects, these designer drugs have been associated with dangerous outcomes, including death. A recent symposium reviewed what is known about the way designer drugs affect the brain. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/science-behind-designer-drugs>

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## NIDA RESEARCHERS DISCOVER FURTHER COMPLEXITY IN BRAIN REWARD CIRCUITRY

NIDA scientists have identified new complexities within the brain's reward circuitry that involves two major chemicals involved in drug addiction -- dopamine and glutamate. Researchers used rodent models to better understand a specific brain circuit where dopamine and glutamate are both released from the same brain cells. They found that dopamine and glutamate were typically stored separately from one another and released from different synapses of the nerve cell. This finding reveals a greater layer of complexity in signaling within brain reward circuits than had previously been recognized.

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2015/02/nida-researchers-discover-further-complexity-in-brain-reward-circuitry>

## SAMHSA RESOURCES

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### DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION: STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

This report summarizes the findings of an interagency meeting hosted by SAMHSA to discuss science, policy, and practice related to the behavioral health challenges of children who have been adopted.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/children-2015-domestic-international-adoption-strategies.pdf>

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### MARIJUANA LIT: FACT-BASED INFORMATION FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROVIDERS

This blog post describes a new resource from SAMHSA's Addiction Technology Transfer Network (ATTC) Coordinating Office to provide accurate information and resources for substance use disorder providers about marijuana use, its harm, and legalization. <http://attcniatx.blogspot.com/2015/02/lost-in-weeds-about-marijuana.html>

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### MARIJUANA: EFFECTS ON THE BODY

This brief video developed as part of the ATTC Marijuana Lit series features NIDA Deputy Director Dr. Wilson Compton who discusses marijuana's effects on the body, heart, and respiratory system. Dr. Compton also provides insight on secondhand smoke exposure, the potency of marijuana available today, and current NIDA research on the impact of new marijuana policies throughout the U.S. <http://vimeo.com/118059010>

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### YOUTH MARIJUANA USE: CONSUMPTION, CONSEQUENCE, AND RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTOR DATA RESOURCES

This newest addition to the SAMHSA Center for Application of Prevention Technology's suite of products on youth marijuana use offers prevention practitioners a comprehensive listing of available data resources and surveys developed by a range of federal agencies. <http://captus.samhsa.gov/access-resources/youth-marijuana-use-consumption-consequence-and-risk-and-protective-factor-data-resources>

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ARCHIVED WEBINAR: CREDENTIALING, LICENSING, AND REIMBURSING PEERS WORKING TO SUPPORT THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OF SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

This archived webinar, hosted by SAMHSA's Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) Technical Assistance Center, explored the trends and benefits of credentialing, licensing, and reimbursement for peer support services to enhance care for SMVF in their communities.

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/recording/6846197475433438466>

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ARCHIVED WEBISODE: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF ADOPTED CHILDREN AND YOUTH

This KSOC-TV LIVE, interactive webisode explored strategies for supporting the unique behavioral health needs of adopted children and their families.

<http://fda.yorkcast.com/webcast/Play/9c0886ae81054e25bee50db63adbc2ed1d>

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BLOG POST: SAMHSA SUPPORTS INDIVIDUALS WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS AND SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE

Helping those with serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance and their loved ones is critically important to SAMHSA and is a core component of its mission. Working within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and across agencies means that SAMHSA can have an even bigger positive impact. SAMHSA Administrator Pamela Hyde describes these cross-agency initiatives.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2015/02/09/samhsa-supports-individuals-with-serious-mental-illness-and-serious-emotional-disturbance/>

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ORAL CARE IS ROOTED IN WHOLE HEALTH

This issue of the electronic newsletter of the SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) focuses on why integrated primary and behavioral healthcare providers need to pay attention to the relationship between dental health and whole health. Individuals with diabetes or those taking certain medications for mental illnesses are at increased risk for oral health problems and dental infections, and those infections can compromise the management of co-morbid health conditions. The issue includes tips for incorporating oral care in integrated settings and a grantee spotlight on how one community mental health center made oral care a priority in their integration efforts.

<http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/esolutions-newsletter/e-solutions-jan-2015>

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**AHRQ HEALTH LITERACY UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS TOOLKIT**

This toolkit from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) can help primary care practices reduce the complexity of healthcare, increase patient understanding of health information, and enhance support for patients of all health literacy levels. <http://www.ahrq.gov/professionals/quality-patient-safety/quality-resources/tools/literacy-toolkit/index.html>

## STOPBULLYING.GOV BLOG: TAKE ACTION TODAY: CREATING SAFE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS AND BUILDING BRIDGES

This StopBullying.gov post provides an overview of the role of school resource officers (SROs) in bullying prevention. SROs serve in elementary, middle, and high schools across the U.S. and, as sworn law enforcement officers, they serve as a security presence on school grounds, but also as educators, informal counselors, and role models to the students they work hard to protect.

<http://www.stopbullying.gov/blog/2015/02/03/take-action-today-creating-safe-school-environments-and-building-bridges>

## NEW REPORTS HIGHLIGHT THE HUMAN SERVICE NEEDS OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, AND QUESTIONING POPULATIONS

One challenge to addressing the human service needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) populations is a lack of relevant research. This blog post summarizes two new reports published by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) which describe what is known and discuss areas for future research related to the use of human services by LGBTQ populations. The first report explores current understanding of the human service needs of low-income and at-risk LGBTQ people and their interactions with human services. The second study outlines the findings of the Los Angeles Foster Youth Survey, part of the Los Angeles LGBT Center's RISE project. The report represents a first step toward population-based data collection on LGBTQ foster youth and highlights some areas where further research can be conducted with LGBTQ youth in foster care. <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2015/02/new-reports-highlight-the-human-service-needs-of-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-populations>

## NEW FROM CDC

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CHRONIC DISEASES, LACK OF MEDICATIONS, AND DEPRESSION AMONG SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN, 2013–2014

This *Preventing Chronic Disease* article reviews the results of a multi-center, cross-sectional survey of Syrian refugees in six Jordanian cities. The researchers studied depression tendency in Syrian refugees in Jordan in light of chronic diseases and medication availability. Also, depression prevalence and depression co-morbidity with chronic diseases were identified. [http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2015/14\\_0424.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2015/14_0424.htm)

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FASTSTATS - MOBILE APPLICATION

The NCHS has launched its first-ever mobile app, *FastStats* that provides on-the-go access to current statistics on topics of public health importance. *FastStats* for iOS puts access to topic-specific NCHS content at the fingertips of healthcare providers. Topics include diseases and conditions, injuries, life stages and populations, healthcare and insurance, and birth and mortality data for each U.S. state and territory. Content is updated automatically when the device is connected to the internet, giving the user the most up-to-date health statistics available. <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/faststats/mobile-application.htm>

## **VA SPOTLIGHT: WORKING TO DECREASE SUICIDE RATES AMONG VETERANS**

This spotlight describes efforts by VA Health Services Research and Development (HSR&D) to support research on suicide, including risk factors, screening, treatment for depression, and prevention. The VA/HSR&D's Mental Health Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (MH-QUERI) works to improve the quality of care, outcomes, and health-related quality of life for Veterans with mental health conditions, with focused research on: serious mental health conditions, recovery-based services for Veterans, PTSD, disparities in mental healthcare, and suicide prevention.

<http://www.hsr.d.research.va.gov/news/feature/suicide.cfm>

## **HHS LEADERSHIP NEEDED TO COORDINATE FEDERAL EFFORTS RELATED TO SMI**

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) was asked to provide information on federal programs that support individuals with SMI. This report identifies (1) the federal programs that support individuals with SMI; (2) the extent to which federal agencies coordinate these programs; and (3) the extent to which federal agencies evaluate such programs. GAO developed and administered a web-based questionnaire to eight federal agencies regarding program goals, target populations, services offered, evaluations, and coordination. GAO also interviewed agency officials. GAO recommends that HHS establish a mechanism to facilitate interagency coordination across programs that support individuals with SMI. GAO also recommends that the Department of Defense (DOD), HHS, Department of Justice (DOJ), and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) document which programs targeting individuals with SMI should be evaluated and how often such evaluations should be completed. HHS disagreed with both recommendations. DOD, DOJ, and VA agreed with the second recommendation. GAO continues to believe the recommendations are valid as discussed in the report. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-15-113>

## **DCOE BLOG POST: MILITARY DOCTORS HELP CIVILIAN THERAPISTS UNDERSTAND SERVICE CULTURE**

Civilian psychological health providers have an unfamiliar new clientele: service members, who are coming home after a decade of war, and their families. Although members of the U.S. Armed Forces look like their civilian peers, their life experience is very different. This Defense Centers for Excellence in Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post summarizes a weeklong series of webinars presented jointly by the Center for Deployment Psychology and Joining Forces, a White House initiative to promote civilian support for military families. [http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-01-](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-01-29/Military_Doctors_Help_Civilian_Therapists_Understand_Service_Culture.aspx)

[29/Military\\_Doctors\\_Help\\_Civilian\\_Therapists\\_Understand\\_Service\\_Culture.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/15-01-29/Military_Doctors_Help_Civilian_Therapists_Understand_Service_Culture.aspx)

### HEALTH OBSERVANCE: TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

FEBRUARY 2015

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February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and ACF's Family and Youth Services Bureau's Family Violence Prevention and Services Program is highlighting healthy relationships public awareness campaigns, webinars, social media events, and radio shows taking place all month.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/resource/tdvam>

### WEBINAR: CLINICAL BENEFITS OF TELEHEALTH TECHNOLOGY IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

FEBRUARY 19, 2015, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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Telemental healthcare, the delivery of behavioral healthcare to a location where the provider is not physically present, is one way to enable access to care. Research consistently supports the use of technology such as video conferencing to deliver effective, evidence-based care. This DCoE webinar focuses on the clinical benefits of remote healthcare, both to the patient and to the therapy process.

[http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly\\_Webinars.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly_Webinars.aspx)

### WEBINAR: A METHOD TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES IN TREATMENT BY RECOGNIZING FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS

FEBRUARY 19, 2015, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

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This joint SAMHSA Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) Center for Excellence and ATTC webinar will cover the Screening and Modifications to Treatment, a new model for identifying individuals in substance abuse treatment who may have an FASD, and making appropriate modifications to improve outcomes. The webinar will provide an in-depth look at this emerging model, including its origins, some typical modifications, training of staff, and keys to implementation and sustainability.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1054869620509924610>

## WEBINAR: YOUTH JUSTICE, YOUTH OF COLOR, AND HEALTH POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

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This Federal Interagency Health Equity Team webinar will address justice policy implementation trends with particular attention to their impact on the mental health and life outcomes for youth of color. The presentation will also include a review of national youth incarceration data and strategies that are used to assist jurisdictions in understanding disparities in their youth justice system. Programs and practices that have significantly contributed to the reduction of delinquency for youth of color, including examples of community-based interventions driven by evidence-based practices, will be used to illustrate the impact of the work as well as opportunities for replication.

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=781550&sessionid=1&key=AF52CA2714D3C5FCC3AFD8F494EEA6D5&sourcepage=register>

## NIMH TWITTER CHAT ON BINGE EATING DISORDER

FEBRUARY 23, 2015, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

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Join NIMH during National Eating Disorders Awareness Week for a Twitter chat on binge eating disorder. NIMH grantee, Cynthia Bulik, Ph.D. will be joining the discussion and answering related questions. Dr. Bulik is Distinguished Professor of Eating Disorders in the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, Professor of Nutrition in the Gillings School of Global Public Health, and Founding Director of the UNC Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2015/nimh-twitter-chat-on-binge-eating-disorder.shtml>

## WEBINAR: HOW CAN WE BETTER DETECT AND PREDICT SUICIDE RISK?

FEBRUARY 24, 2015, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

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Reducing the number of annual deaths by suicide requires finding a way to accurately predict suicide risk for individuals and across populations. Research on suicide shows that expanded screening for risk in healthcare is one important part of this effort and that there are multiple methods of screening that may be effective. It is also critical to determine imminent risk and degrees of risk (i.e., high, moderate, low), approaches to longer windows of risk (e.g., 12 months), and how our assumptions about the 'suicidal process' (i.e., ideation, plans, attempts) affect approaches to risk detection. Join this webinar sponsored by the National Council for Behavioral Health in collaboration with the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention and NIMH to hear from the Prioritized Research Task Force about advances in detecting suicide risk, various approaches to screening for suicide risk, the latest science on imminent/near-term risk assessment, and the research challenges that remain. <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/2414700522357385986>

## **WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING THE DEFENDING CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE: POLICY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CHILD TRAUMA FIELD**

FEBRUARY 25, 2015, 12:00 PM ET

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In this National Child Traumatic Stress Network webinar, presenters will discuss the 2010 Defending Childhood Initiative (DCI) through which DOJ awards grants to develop strategic plans for comprehensive community-based efforts to address the exposure of America's children to violence as victims and as witnesses. Presenters will discuss the history and current status of the DCI, and highlight current and future practice and policy implications for those committed to addressing the needs of children and families exposed to trauma. <http://learn.nctsn.org/>

## **WEBINAR: MORE THAN A GROUP: MAKING WELLNESS AN AGENCY PRIORITY**

FEBRUARY 25, 2015, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

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Organizations can apply the stages of change model for wellness – to organizational life and to the interventions chosen for individual participants. Join this SAMHSA-HRSA CIHS webinar to explore how to apply the stages of change model to implementing wellness, learn how one organization made changes to focus on wellness, discuss organizational and practice initiatives for each stage of change, and get strategies for funding wellness initiatives. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3939840797833045249>

## **SAVE THE DATE: WEBINAR: PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS AND MENTAL HEALTH**

FEBRUARY 26, 2015, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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Save the date for this DCoE webinar focused on physical symptoms and mental health. [http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly\\_Webinars.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly_Webinars.aspx)

## **WEBINAR: REMOTE YET RESOURCEFUL: INTEGRATING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN RURAL PRIMARY CARE**

FEBRUARY 26, 2015, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

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Join this webinar from the SAMHSA-HRSA CIHS to get an overview of integration models used in rural settings, planning best practices, financing considerations, and implementation strategies for primary care and behavioral health providers to collaborate and better meet the behavioral health needs of their communities. Learn how one rural primary care provider successfully collaborated with a behavioral health organization and the local Medicaid plan to improve the health status of the community, including reducing depression and substance abuse. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2291995024703945473>

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

MARCH 5, 2015 2:00-3:00 PM ET

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Many people now have health insurance, but may not know how to use it. This HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships 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. The webinar will highlight the Coverage to Care materials on health insurance literacy.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3659206947380303874>

## **WEBINAR: SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AND RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED**

MARCH 12, 2015; 1:00-2:00 PM ET

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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 Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships 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/4732148876671189506>

## **HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY**

MAY 7, 2015

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National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and to show that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. This year, Awareness Day will address the needs of children, youth, and young adults with mental health and substance use challenges and their families. A national launch event will take place in Washington, DC to highlight strategies for integrating behavioral health with primary healthcare, child welfare, and education. <http://www.samhsa.gov/children/national-childrens-awareness-day-events/awareness-day-2015>

## HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK

MAY 17-23, 2015

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National Prevention Week is a SAMHSA-supported annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. The National Prevention Week 2015 theme is “The Voice of One, the Power of All.” This theme highlights the important role that individuals and communities alike have in helping people lead healthy, productive lives. A planning toolkit for participating in the week’s observances is available. <http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>

### CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

#### COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

The AHRQ Effective Health Care Program encourages the public to participate in the development of its research projects. The Program uses these comments to help focus its research and ensure that the final comparative effectiveness reviews answer the most important questions that clinicians, patients, consumers, and policymakers have about a given treatment, test, or procedure. The Program is currently seeking comments for:

MANAGEMENT AND OUTCOMES OF BINGE EATING DISORDER (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH FEBRUARY 25, 2015)

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayProduct&productID=2045>

#### SAMHSA IS ACCEPTING PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 DRAFT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION AND PLAN

SAMHSA is accepting public comment on Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017 draft Block Grant documents. SAMHSA is requesting approval from the Office of Management and Budget for a revision of the 2016 and 2017 Community Mental Health Services Block Grant and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Plan and Report Guidance and Instructions. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Written comments should be received by March 9, 2015. <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/block-grants>

## HHS SEEKS COMMENTS ON DRAFT NATIONWIDE HEALTH IT INTEROPERABILITY ROADMAP

The HHS Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) is accepting public comments on *Connecting Health and Care for the Nation: A Shared Nationwide Interoperability Roadmap Version 1.0*. The draft Roadmap is a proposal to deliver better care and result in healthier people through the safe and secure exchange and use of electronic health information. The draft Roadmap proposes critical actions that need to be taken by both private and public stakeholders to advance the nation towards a more connected, interoperable health IT infrastructure and was drafted by ONC based on input from public and private stakeholders. The public comment period for the draft Roadmap closes April 3, 2015.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2015pres/01/20150130a.html>

### FUNDING INFORMATION

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR STATE ADOLESCENT AND TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH TREATMENT ENHANCEMENT AND DISSEMINATION PLANNING

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-15-005>

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR STATE ADOLESCENT AND TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH TREATMENT ENHANCEMENT AND DISSEMINATION IMPLEMENTATION

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-15-004>

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS TO BENEFIT HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FOR STATES

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-15-003>

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES MENTORING PROGRAM

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sp-15-002>

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT TO BENEFIT HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FOR STATES-ENHANCEMENT

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-15-010>

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FOR EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SERIOUS EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCES

<http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-15-009>

THE FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM INDIAN TRIBE COMPETITION

<http://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/indian-tribes-funding-opportunities>

THE SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM INDIAN TRIBE COMPETITION

<http://www.nationalservice.gov/build-your-capacity/grants/funding-opportunities/indian-tribes-funding-opportunities>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM

<https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/>

ADOLESCENT BRAIN COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT (ABCD) STUDY - COORDINATING CENTER (U24)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-014.html>

ABCD STUDY - RESEARCH PROJECT SITES (U01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-015.html>

ABCD STUDY - DATA ANALYSIS AND INFORMATICS CENTER

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-DA-15-016.html>

LIFESPAN HUMAN CONNECTOME PROJECT: DEVELOPMENT (U01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-16-150.html>

LIFESPAN HUMAN CONNECTOME PROJECT: AGING (U01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AG-16-004.html>

BRAIN INITIATIVE: NEXT-GENERATION INVASIVE DEVICES FOR RECORDING AND MODULATION IN THE HUMAN CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM (UH2/UH3)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-15-006.html>

BRAIN INITIATIVE: CLINICAL STUDIES TO ADVANCE NEXT-GENERATION INVASIVE DEVICES FOR RECORDING AND MODULATION IN THE HUMAN CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM (UH3)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NS-15-008.html>

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION EXAMINING VIOLENCE AGAINST AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE WOMEN: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HOMICIDE, INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE, SEX TRAFFICKING, SEXUAL VIOLENCE, STALKING, AND TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001130.pdf>

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ON FIREARMS VIOLENCE REDUCTION

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001153.pdf>



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.