



# UPDATE

March 1, 2014

- I. [Science and Service News Updates](#)
- II. [Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources](#)
- III. [Calendar of Events](#)
- IV. [Calls for Public Input](#)
- V. [Funding Information](#)

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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*

## MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF ADULTS EXPERIENCING MAJOR DEPRESSIVE EPISODES DID NOT TALK TO A CARE PROVIDER

A new report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) shows that 38.3 percent of the 15.2 million American adults who had experienced a major depressive episode in the past year did not talk to a healthcare provider or an alternative service provider.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1402201824.aspx>

## SAMHSA ISSUES ADVISORY TO TREATMENT COMMUNITY ON THE DANGER OF HEROIN CONTAMINATED WITH FENTANYL AND WHAT CAN BE DONE TO SAVE LIVES

SAMHSA has issued an advisory to the treatment community about a marked increase in deaths since the beginning of the year that were reportedly linked to the use of heroin contaminated with the drug, fentanyl. Fentanyl is a form of opioid and when used in combination with heroin can cause severe injury and even death. There have been 17 deaths linked to the possible use of fentanyl-contaminated heroin in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area alone since January 24, 2014. In January, there were 22 such deaths reported in Rhode Island. These trends can expand quickly to include large and more distant geographic areas of the country. There have already been reported cases in New Jersey and Vermont.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1402075426.aspx>

## NIH RELEASES COMPREHENSIVE NEW DATA OUTLINING HISPANIC/LATINO HEALTH AND HABITS

A comprehensive health and lifestyle analysis of people from a range of Hispanic/Latino origins shows that this segment of the United States (U.S.) population is diverse, not only in ancestry, culture, and economic status, but also in the prevalence of several diseases, risk factors, and lifestyle habits. These health data are derived from the Hispanic Community Health Study/Study of Latinos (HCHS/SOL), a landmark study that enrolled about 16,415 Hispanic/Latino adults living in San Diego, Chicago, Miami, and the Bronx, who self-identified with Central American, Cuban, Dominican, Mexican, Puerto Rican, or South American origins. These new findings have been compiled and published as the *Hispanic Community Health Study Data Book: A Report to the Communities*. The numerous findings described by the HCHS/SOL researchers confirmed some existing knowledge while also uncovering some new health trends. Data is reported on symptoms of depression and anxiety. The HCHS/SOL project was led by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), with additional funding from six other Institutes.

**Press Release:** <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/feb2014/nhlbi-24.htm>

## NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE

### DIRECTOR'S BLOG: BITS AND BYTES

NIMH Director Thomas Insel talks about the numerous ways in which devices like computers and smartphones could be used to diagnose and treat mental disorders.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2014/bits-and-bytes.shtml>

### CLINICAL TRIALS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NIMH has released several funding opportunity announcements addressing a new direction for the clinical trials research that the Institute supports. Collectively, these opportunities define NIMH's focus on an experimental medicine approach when supporting clinical trial research. This shift in focus aims to accelerate treatment development and bring improved therapies to patients with mental disorders.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/funding/opportunities-announcements/clinical-trials-foas/index.shtml>

## NEW FROM NIDA

### NIDA DIRECTOR'S BLOG: ADDICTION AND FREE CHOICE

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Director Nora Volkow discusses the diminished capacity for choice in addiction. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2014/02/addiction-free-choice>

### NIDA NOTES: CALIFORNIA REAPED LARGE SAVINGS BY DIVERTING DRUG-USING OFFENDERS INTO TREATMENT

A California law that allows qualified drug offenders to enter substance use treatment rather than go to jail or prison saved the state close to \$100 million in its first year, NIDA-supported researchers report. The researchers estimated that California spent an average of \$2,300 less on each of 42,000 offenders who were adjudicated under its Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 than it would have spent without the Act. The savings mainly reflected reduced spending on incarceration, which outweighed the cost of extending treatment to more offenders. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2014/02/california-reaped-large-savings-by-diverting-drug-using-offenders-treatment>

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## INTERVENTION STRENGTHENS AMERICAN INDIAN TEEN MOTHERS' PARENTING

Teen mothers on three American Indian reservations improved on several measures of parenting capability after participating in *Family Spirit*, a home-visiting intervention developed with NIDA support. At 12 months postpartum, the women's children exhibited reduced rates of emotional difficulties that predict later drug abuse and other serious behavioral problems. The infants at highest risk—those whose mothers had histories of drug abuse—benefited the most. <http://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2014/02/intervention-strengthens-american-indian-teen-mothers-parenting>

## SAMHSA RESOURCES

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### A PRACTITIONER'S RESOURCE GUIDE: HELPING FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR LGBT CHILDREN

This guide offers information and resources to help practitioners throughout health and social service systems implement best practices in engaging and helping families and caregivers to support their lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) children. <http://store.samhsa.gov//product/PEP14-LGBTKIDS>

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### HEALTH INSURANCE STATUS OF ADULT SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT ADMISSIONS AGED 26 OR OLDER: 2011

The goal of this report is to provide baseline characteristics for health insurance coverage among adults for future comparison. In 2011, three-fifths of substance abuse treatment admissions aged 26 or older (59.6 percent) reported having no health insurance, 21.3 percent reported having Medicaid, and 10.5 percent reported having private insurance.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k14/TEDS134/sr134-health-insurance-2014.pdf>

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### CORE COMPETENCES FOR INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL AND PRIMARY CARE

The SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) engaged the Annapolis Coalition on the Behavioral Health Workforce to develop core competencies for the integrated behavioral health and primary care health workforce. An organization can use the report's nine competencies (i.e., interpersonal communication, collaboration and teamwork, screening and assessment, care planning and coordination, intervention, cultural competency and adaption, systems-oriented practice, practice-based learning and quality improvement, and informatics) to shape workforce training, inform job descriptions, recruit ideal candidates, orient staff to the integrated care model, and complete performance assessments. <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/workforce>

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## BLOG: FAMILY ACCEPTANCE OF LGBT YOUNG PEOPLE LEADS TO BETTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH OUTCOMES

SAMHSA Administrator Pamela Hyde and SAMHSA Legislative Director Brian Altman discuss the importance of family acceptance for the health and well-being of LGBT youth.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2014/02/16/family-acceptance-of-lgbt-young-people-leads-to-better-behavioral-health-outcomes/>

## NEW RESOURCES FROM THE VA

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### NEW MOBILE APP

*Concussion Coach* is designed for people who have symptoms after a concussion, or mild traumatic brain injury. This self-help app may be more helpful when used along with professional treatment.

[http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/materials/apps/concussion\\_coach\\_app.asp](http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/materials/apps/concussion_coach_app.asp)

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### RESEARCH ON MOBILE APPS

Results of the first preliminary evaluations of the *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Coach* and the *Prolonged Exposure Coach* smartphone apps are available.

<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/a53696#research>

## MENTALHEALTH.GOV BLOG POST: TIPS FOR PARENTS: “OFF-LABEL” PRESCRIBING FOR CHILDREN WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS

Dr. Tiffany Farchione with the Division of Psychiatry Products in the Food and Drug Administration provides tips to parents about what is meant by “off-label” prescribing of medications. Prescribing a drug approved for adults to a child is just one example of off-label use. <http://www.mentalhealth.gov/blog/2014/02/off-label-prescribing-for-children.html>

## NATIVE VOICES: NATIVE PEOPLES’ CONCEPTS OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS: CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The National Library of Medicine released classroom activities and lesson plans for *Native Voices: Native Peoples’ Concepts of Health and Illness*. For grades 6 through 12, these classroom activities and lesson plans familiarize students about the health and medicine of Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/nativevoices/resources/lesson-plans-list.html>

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## EVENTS

### WEBINAR: RESOURCES FOR THE NEW INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

MARCH 6, 2014, 2:00- 3:00 PM ET

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This SAMHSA-HRSA CIHS webinar will discuss the newly released set of core competencies for the integrated workforce, explore a provider's perspective on workforce considerations, and explore resources related to these competencies. CIHS' workforce resources include job descriptions, workforce training, and recruitment and retention programs. <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/webinars>

### TWITTER CHAT: MASSAGE THERAPY FOR HEALTH PURPOSES

MARCH 6, 2014, 3:00 PM ET

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Massage to relieve stress, tension, or low-back pain is an ancient mind and body practice dating back thousands of years, with roots in many different cultures. A lot of scientific research on the clinical effects of massage therapy has been carried out. While often preliminary or conflicting, much of the evidence points toward beneficial effects on pain and other symptoms associated with a number of different conditions, including cancer, depression, fibromyalgia, and HIV/AIDS. To further discuss this topic, and to help answer questions, the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine is hosting a Twitter chat on what the research says about the science and safety of massage therapy for health.

<http://nccam.nih.gov/news/events/livechat>

### WEBINAR: ILLNESS MANAGEMENT AND RECOVERY

MARCH 11, 2014, 2:30 PM ET

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This SAMHSA GAINS Center webinar will review the research on illness management and recovery (IMR) for justice-involved people with mental illness and how to apply IMR in real world settings.

<http://gainscenter.samhsa.gov/eNews/solicit-0226.html>

## WEBINAR: A SURPRISING HEALTH DISPARITY: SUICIDE AMONG MEN IN THE MIDDLE YEARS

MARCH 11, 2014, 3:00 -4:30 PM ET

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This upcoming webinar is designed to support the development of best practices for suicide prevention among men in the middle years of life. Bringing together panelists from the U.S. and Ireland, this webinar will provide data on the scope of the problem, a framework for conceptualizing suicide prevention strategies, and an example of an innovative program that fits within this framework. The webinar is part of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center Research to Practice series and the Injury Control Research Center for Suicide Prevention series on the Intersection of Suicide Research and Public Health Practice. There is no charge. Space is limited. <http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/r2p-webinars/surprising-health-disparity-suicide-among-men-middle-years>

## WEBINAR: A GIRL IN THE MIRROR: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CHALLENGES OF ADOLESCENT GIRLS

MARCH 13, 2014, 3:00 -4:30 PM ET

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This second webinar in SAMHSA's six-part *Girls Matter!* webinar series on girls' behavioral health will explore common, but frequently overlooked and underdiagnosed behavioral health challenges girls face. After attending this webinar, participants will better understand potential concerns and interventions to support girls through these challenges.

<http://womenandchildren.treatment.org/GrowingUpGirls/GirlInMirror.html>

## SAVE THE DATE: NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

APRIL 2014

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The theme of this year's National Minority Health Month is *Prevention is Power: Taking Action for Health Equity*. In the coming weeks, the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Minority Health will share additional details about National Minority Health Month, including activities, tools, and resources for providers, agencies, community and faith-based organizations, families, and individuals to promote the message of prevention and improve the health of minority populations. <http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/>

## HEALTH OBSERVANCE: CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL 2014

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Child abuse and neglect awareness activities are promoted across the country during April of each year. The Administration for Children and Families coordinates Child Abuse Prevention Month activities at the Federal level, providing information and releasing updated national statistics about child abuse and neglect.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>

## NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

APRIL 6-12, 2014

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The Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) by promoting victims' rights, and honoring crime victims and those who advocate on their behalf. The 2014 theme of NCVRW is *30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice*. Press-ready versions of the camera-ready artwork are available for use in public awareness campaigns. [http://ovc.ncjrs.org/ncvrw2014/camera\\_ready.html](http://ovc.ncjrs.org/ncvrw2014/camera_ready.html)

## WEBINAR: LESSONS LEARNED FROM 2013 SAMHSA BRSS TACS AWARDEES

APRIL 20, 2014, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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During its second year, the SAMHSA Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS) project provided competitive awards to 14 peer-run organizations/recovery community organizations and eight state coalitions to promote the adoption of peer-delivered, recovery-oriented services and supports for people in recovery from substance use and mental health conditions. These 22 awards were administered through three different funding opportunities of the BRSS TACS project: Policy Academy Awards, Peer Awards for Health Reform Education, and Peer-Run Organization/Recovery Community Organization Awards. This webinar will highlight the experiences and accomplishments of one awardee from each of the three award programs. <http://beta.samhsa.gov/brss-tacs/webinars>



## WEBINAR: GIRLS AND SUBSTANCE USE: TRENDS, CHALLENGES, AND OPPORTUNITIES

APRIL 22, 2014, 3:00-4:30PM ET

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The third webinar in SAMHSA's six-part *Girls Matter!* series on girls' behavioral health will discuss current trends in adolescent girl substance use as well as effective strategies for intervention, treatment, and support for girls. After completing this webinar, participants will have a working understanding of how the terms gender-responsive, trauma-informed, culturally relevant, recovery-oriented, family-centered, and age-appropriate apply to effective services for girls.

<http://womenandchildren.treatment.org/GrowingUpGirls/SubstanceUse.html>

## 2014 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH CONFERENCE

APRIL 23-25, 2014, BETHESDA, MARYLAND

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Registration is open for the 22nd NIMH Conference on Mental Health Services Research (MHSR): Research in Pursuit of a Learning Mental Health Care System. The MHSR Conference is organized biennially by the NIMH's Services Research and Clinical Epidemiology Branch to promote areas of high priority for services research, and identify opportunities with potential for significant impact on the health and well-being of people with mental disorders. <http://event.cabazon.com/mhsr/home>

## NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2014

MAY 8, 2014

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Awareness Day 2014, taking place May 8, seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. SAMHSA's national launch event for Awareness Day 2014 takes place on May 6 and will focus on the unique needs of young adults, ages 16 to 25 years, with mental health challenges, and the value of peer support in helping young adults build resilience in the four life domains of housing, education, employment, and healthcare access. <http://www.samhsa.gov/children/national.asp>

## NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK 2014

MAY 18-24, 2014

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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 theme of National Prevention Week 2014 is *Our Lives. Our Health. Our Future.* SAMHSA is highlighting the important role everyone has in maintaining a healthy life and ensuring a productive future. A video is available to promote the week.

<http://beta.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>

### CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

#### NIH PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is accepting applications for its Health Communications Internship Program (HCIP). The HCIP gives highly qualified graduate students and recent graduates the opportunity to participate in vital health and science communications projects in one of the many offices that make up the NCI. Deadline is March 4, 2014. <https://hcip.nci.nih.gov/hcip/>

#### REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: INPUT ON FUTURE DIRECTIONS FOR THE SCIENCE OF BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMON FUND PROGRAM

The NIH Common Fund Science of Behavior Change (SOBC) Program has sought to transcend disciplinary and disease-specific boundaries through a focus on mechanisms of behavior change. The SOBC Program seeks input to aid in shaping the directions for potential future investments and is soliciting input from members of the extramural research community working in any area of science relevant to behavior change. NIH also encourages input from stakeholders who: represent research communities focused on a range of diseases or conditions for which behavior change is relevant, are at all stages of career development, or are working at any point on the basic to applied continuum. Input is also requested from groups and organizations with an interest in understanding behavior and intervening to promote and sustain behavior change for purposes of health promotion, health maintenance, disease management, and disease prevention. Responses are accepted through March 6, 2014. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-RM-14-007.html>

## COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULE: CMS MEDICARE PROGRAM: CONTRACT YEAR 2015 POLICY AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE MEDICARE ADVANTAGE AND THE MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT PROGRAMS

The proposed rule would revise the Medicare Advantage program (Part C) regulations and prescription drug benefit program (Part D) regulations to implement statutory requirements; strengthen beneficiary protections; exclude plans that perform poorly; improve program efficiencies; and clarify program requirements. The proposed rule also includes several provisions designed to improve payment accuracy. Comments on the proposed rule will be accepted through 5:00 PM ET on March 7, 2014.

<http://www.regulations.gov/#!documentDetail;D=CMS-2014-0007-0002>

## NIDA'S TEACHERS/EDUCATORS ADVISORS GROUP: CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

NIDA is now accepting applications from teachers, school counselors, school nurses, and other professionals who work with teens to join its Teachers/Educators Advisors Group (TEA). Starting in May 2014, the TEA will meet via webinar and conference call for one hour, three to four times a year. TEA members are asked to share their thoughts and feedback about NIDA for Teens materials, the program's website, and other components. Applicants are expected to participate in at least one meeting and will receive a \$25 stipend for each meeting in which they participate. Email [NIDATAG@iqsolutions.com](mailto:NIDATAG@iqsolutions.com) to request an application. Applications are due March 14, 2014.

## CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION NEWS

### NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT

#### SCHIZOPHRENIA (PEDIATRIC) RESEARCH STUDY: CHILDHOOD ONSET PSYCHOTIC DISORDERS

(Inpatient: 3 weeks & 4-6 months) This study investigates the causes and treatment of childhood psychotic disorders that start prior to age 12. Thorough evaluations are provided including genetic studies, and further participation in a drug treatment sub-study is optional. Currently recruiting ages 6-18. [89-M-0006]

<http://patientinfo.nimh.nih.gov/SchizophreniaPediatric.aspx>

National Institute of Mental Health, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information on research conducted by the National Institute of Mental Health in Bethesda, MD click here <http://patientinfo.nimh.nih.gov>.

## COMBAT INJURY STUDY FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

The *FOCUS-CI—Families OverComing Under Stress: Combat Injury* study evaluates the effects of combat injuries on the entire family while studying the best ways to keep injured service members, Veterans, and their families healthy, strong, and resilient. The goals of the FOCUS-CI are: to evaluate the effects of combat injuries on all members of a family; to shed light on the recovery of injured individuals, and how they and their families may best be helped over time; to learn if a new program will strengthen families and help them learn new skills to deal with the challenges they are facing; and to provide a forum for service members and families to confidentially share whatever successes and challenges they have experienced while adjusting to a combat injury. The FOCUS-CI Study is sponsored by a Department of Defense grant and is being conducted by the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, a Federal university which educates and trains military health professionals. <http://www.cifamilies.org/about-the-study/>

### FUNDING INFORMATION

GRANTS TO DEVELOP AND EXPAND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT COURT COLLABORATIVES  
<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/sm-14-009>

GRANTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS-SERVICES IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING  
<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-14-007>

GRANTS TO EXPAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT CAPACITY IN ADULT TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS AND JUVENILE DRUG COURTS  
<http://beta.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-14-003>

SYNTHETIC PSYCHOACTIVE DRUGS AND STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO COUNTERACT THEIR DELETERIOUS EFFECTS  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-105.html> (R21)  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-104.html> (R03)  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-14-106.html> (R01)

CLINICAL TRIALS TO TEST THE EFFECTIVENESS OF TREATMENT, PREVENTIVE, AND SERVICES INTERVENTIONS  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-320.html> (R01)  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-325.html> (Collaborative R01)

PILOT EFFECTIVENESS STUDIES AND SERVICES RESEARCH GRANTS  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-330.html>

BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS MULTIPLE CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS IN PRIMARY CARE  
<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-114.html>

FAMILY-CENTERED SELF-MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC CONDITIONS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-113.html> (R21)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-112.html> (R01)

EXPLORATORY CLINICAL TRIALS OF NOVEL INTERVENTIONS FOR MENTAL DISORDERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-300.html> (R21/R33)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-15-310.html> (R33)



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 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.