

# National Institute of Mental Health Outreach Partnership Program

*Update*

April 1, 2010

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**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**

### **NIMH: Impaired Brain Connections Traced to Schizophrenia Mutation–Like Patients, Engineered Mice Falter at Working Memory Tasks**

The strongest known recurrent genetic cause of schizophrenia impairs communications between the brain's decision-making and memory hubs, resulting in working memory deficits, according to a study in mice. "For the first time, we have a powerful animal model that shows us how genetics affects brain circuitry, at the level of single neurons, to produce a learning and memory deficit linked to schizophrenia," explained Thomas R. Insel, M.D., director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). "This new research tool holds promise for ultimately unraveling the underlying anatomical connections and specific genes involved." NIMH grantees Joshua Gordon, M.D., Ph.D., Joseph Gogos, M.D., Ph.D., Maria Karayiorgou, M.D., and Columbia University colleagues, report on their discovery in genetically engineered mice in the April 1, 2010 issue of the journal *Nature*. Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2010/impaired-brain-connections-traced-to-schizophrenia-mutation.shtml>

### **SAMHSA, Ad Council and Inspire USA Foundation Launch National Suicide Prevention Campaign for Teens: Suicide is the Third Leading Cause of Death among 15-24 Year Olds**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), working in collaboration with the Ad Council and the Inspire USA Foundation, announced the launch of a national public service announcement (PSA) campaign designed to reduce the incidence of suicide and suicide attempts among teens in the United States. In an effort to provide support for teens who may be contemplating suicide, SAMHSA and the Ad Council launched the Teen Suicide Prevention campaign. Created by DDB New York through the Ad Council, the *We Can Help Us* effort includes television, radio, print and interactive PSAs, as well as in-school and mall posters, directed at 13-17 year-olds. The ads were based on the understanding that teens face a myriad of problems and many are seeking effective ways to cope with them.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1003315551.aspx>

Campaign Website: <http://www.reachout.com>

### **SAMHSA: National Study Offers New Insight on How Physicians Prescribe Psychiatric Drugs – Study reveals that contrary to some beliefs, the vast majority of psychiatric drugs are prescribed to treat psychiatric illnesses rather than other conditions**

A new SAMHSA-sponsored study outlines the conditions that physicians around the country reported treating with psychiatric drugs. Psychiatric medications are one of the most widely prescribed categories of drugs in the nation, yet few studies have comprehensively examined the types of illnesses being treated with these medications. This study looked at the prescription patterns for three major types of psychiatric drugs: antipsychotic drugs, antidepressant drugs, and anti-anxiety drugs.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1003221222.aspx>

### **New National Survey Shows that More than a Quarter of Youth aged 12 to 20 Drank Alcohol in the Past Month: SAMHSA and Ad Council Launch National Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign**

More than a quarter of youth aged 12-20 drank alcohol in the past month, according to a survey by SAMHSA. In a major effort to combat the epidemic of underage drinking, SAMHSA and the Ad Council today launched a new series of national public service advertisements to encourage parents to talk to their children about drinking alcohol at an early age. The campaign and study are being released in conjunction with Alcohol Awareness Month (April) and as part of the Surgeon General's "Call to Action to Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking." The PSAs are being distributed to media outlets throughout the country and will also be available online at the campaign website.

Report: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/180/SR180UADhtml.pdf>

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1003250241.aspx>

Campaign Website: <http://www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov/>

### **NIDA: Common Mechanisms of Drug Abuse and Obesity: Research Suggests Food Availability Could Prompt Addiction**

Some of the same brain mechanisms that fuel drug addiction in humans accompany the emergence of compulsive eating behaviors and the development of obesity in animals, according to research funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The study, conducted by researchers at the Scripps Research Institute, was released in the online version of *Nature Neuroscience* and will also appear in the journal's May 2010 print issue. When investigators gave rats access to varying levels of high-fat foods, they found unrestricted availability alone can trigger addiction-like responses in the brain, leading to compulsive eating behaviors and the onset of obesity.

Press Release: <http://www.nida.nih.gov/newsroom/10/NR3-28.html>

### **NIAAA: Diet Quality Worsens as Alcohol Intake Increases**

People who drink more are also likely to eat less fruit and consume more calories from a combination of alcoholic beverages and foods high in unhealthy fats and added sugars, according to a new study by researchers at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The study of more than 15,000 adults in the United States found that increased alcoholic beverage consumption was associated with decreased diet quality. The article is in the April 2010 issue of the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association*.

Press Release: [http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/NewsEvents/NewsReleases/diet\\_worsens\\_al-intake.htm](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/NewsEvents/NewsReleases/diet_worsens_al-intake.htm)

### **NIH Announces Genetic Testing Registry: Database to Fill Information Gaps and Serve as Research Resource**

The National Institutes of Health announced that it is creating a public database that researchers, consumers, health care providers, and others can search for information submitted voluntarily by genetic test providers. The Genetic Testing Registry (GTR) aims to enhance access to information about the availability, validity, and usefulness of genetic tests. Currently, more than 1,600 genetic tests are available to patients and consumers, but there is no single public resource that provides detailed information about them. GTR is intended to fill that gap. The overarching goal of the GTR is to advance the public health and research into the genetic basis of health and disease.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/mar2010/od-18.htm>

GTR Website: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gtr/>

## **Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources**

### **New on NIMH Website**

#### *Director's Blog: Who Will Develop the Next Generation of Medications for Mental Illness?*

In 2007 NIMH completed a series of practical trials to assess the effectiveness of currently available medications. With the Clinical Antipsychotic Trials of Intervention Effectiveness (CATIE) trial for schizophrenia, the Sequenced Treatment Alternatives to Relieve Depression (STAR\*D) study, and the Systematic Treatment Enhancement Program for Bipolar Disorder (STEP-BD) study, roughly 10,000 patients were studied at nearly 200 sites. None of these studies was perfect, but in aggregate they told us what we might have surmised from several worrisome public health indicators: the medications we have today, even when optimized within a research study, help some people get better, but too few completely recover. It is undeniable that we can improve outcomes for people with mental illness if we provide comprehensive evidence-based care. But, if we are honest with ourselves and our patients, we need to admit that today's treatments, both medications and psychosocial interventions, may be good but they are not good enough.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/index.shtml#p76040>

#### *Director's Blog: In Search of the Missing Genetic Signals*

Based on twin and family studies, we have long known that some mental disorders have a high degree of heritability, as great or greater than most other common medical disorders. In recent years, NIMH-supported researchers have discovered several genes that are associated with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), schizophrenia, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and bipolar disorder. Most of these genes were discovered either through a candidate gene approach comparing cases and controls, or by looking for linkage to genetic variation associated with occurrence of the disease in a family. However, the genomic variants discovered to date can explain only a small fraction of the genetic risk. So where are the missing genetic signals for mental disorders?

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/index.shtml#p75651>

#### *When Fear Overwhelms: Panic Disorder—Now Available In Spanish*

This easy-to-read booklet on panic disorder is now available online in Spanish.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/espanol/cuando-el-miedo-consume-trastorno-de-panico/index.shtml>

### **NIH Research Matters: Psychopathic Traits Linked to Brain Reward System**

People who scored high on a test that measures impulsive and antisocial traits had exaggerated brain responses to certain “rewards,” like winning money or taking stimulant drugs. The new study provides evidence that a dysfunctional brain reward system may underlie vulnerability to a personality disorder known as psychopathy.

<http://www.nih.gov/researchmatters/march2010/03292010brain.htm>

### **New SAMHSA Resources**

#### *Latest SAMHSA News Available—Focus on Parity*

This issue of *SAMHSA News* focuses on the implications of the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/samhsaNewsletter/default.aspx>

*New Online Resource on Early Childhood Trauma Resources*

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network has added a new section to its website that explains the nature and consequences of trauma in early childhood and describes programs and interventions to help children and families.

[http://www.nctsn.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=typ\\_early1](http://www.nctsn.org/nccts/nav.do?pid=typ_early1)

*Considerations for the Provision of E-Therapy*

This new publication highlights key issues for providers who want to incorporate technology into their substance abuse or mental health treatment programs.

<http://download.ncadi.samhsa.gov/prevline/pdfs/sma09-4450/sma09-4450.pdf>

*Homelessness Resource Center: New Special Issue on the Future of Homeless Services*

Guest edited by the Homelessness Resource Center, a special issue of the *Open Health Services and Policy Journal* describes the services and supports needed to help individuals and families exit homelessness and maintain housing. All articles in the special issue are available for free via open access.

<http://homeless.samhsa.gov/Channel/Future-of-Homeless-Services-503.aspx>

*SAMHSA 10x10 Wellness Campaign Launches New Website*

The SAMHSA 10x10 Wellness Campaign, designed to promote health and well-being and prevent early mortality for people with mental health problems, has announced a new website with its campaign-related information.

<http://www.10x10.samhsa.gov>

*Clinical Supervision and Professional Development of the Substance Abuse Counselor*

This Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) for clinical supervisors and administrators presents basic information about clinical supervision in the substance abuse treatment field. It focuses primarily on the teaching, coaching, consulting, and mentoring functions of clinical supervisors.

[http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/br.fcgi?book=hssamhsatip&part=hstat\\_tip52](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/br.fcgi?book=hssamhsatip&part=hstat_tip52)

*Substance Abuse Treatment: Addressing the Specific Needs of Women*

The primary goal of this TIP is to assist substance abuse treatment providers in offering effective, up-to-date treatment to adult women with substance use disorders. The TIP reviews gender-specific research and best practices beginning with the common patterns of initiation of substance use among women and extending to specific treatment issues and strategies across substance abuse treatment services.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/bookshelf/br.fcgi?book=hssamhsatip&part=tip51>

## **New from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

### *Tracking the Impact of Traumatic Brain Injuries*

An estimated 1.7 million deaths, hospitalizations, and emergency department visits related to traumatic brain injury (TBI) occur in the United States each year, according to a report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The report is based on data from 2002-2006 and identifies the leading causes of TBI and incidence by age, race, and gender. There were 52,000 deaths and 275,000 hospitalizations annually, the report said. Almost 1.4 million, or 80 percent, of the people who sustained a TBI were treated and released from an emergency department. According to the report, TBIs contribute to nearly a third, or 30.5 percent, of injury-related deaths in the United States.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/pressrel/2010/r100317.htm>

### *Health Literacy Training for Public Health Professionals*

CDC has launched a free online training program to educate public health professionals about limited health literacy and their role in addressing it in a public health context. Public health professionals can use health literacy principles and approaches to improve epidemiologic investigations, surveillance, communicating with the public, and disseminating findings and recommendations.

[http://www.cdc.gov/Features/OnlineTraining/?s\\_cid=ncbddd\\_govd\\_069](http://www.cdc.gov/Features/OnlineTraining/?s_cid=ncbddd_govd_069)

### *Unintentional Drug Poisoning in the United States*

CDC has released this new issue brief to highlight unintentional drug poisonings. More than 26,000 deaths from unintentional drug poisoning occurred in the United States in 2006. Opioid pain medications (such as oxycodone and methadone) were involved in more than half of these deaths. Overall, the unintentional drug poisoning death rate has been rising in recent years and more than doubled between 1999 and 2006.

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5910a5.htm?s\\_cid=mm5910a5\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5910a5.htm?s_cid=mm5910a5_e)

## **Office of Minority Health Issues Report on Latino Behavioral Health Workforce**

The Office of Minority Health and the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health prepared this new report, *Movilizandonos por Nuestro Futuro: Strategic Development of a Mental Health Workforce for Latinos*, which presents consensus statements and action items on developing the mental health workforce for Latinos.

[http://www.raceandhealth.omhrc.gov/Assets/pdf/Checked/1/MOVILIZANDONOS\\_POR\\_NUESTRO\\_FUTURO\\_CONSENSUS\\_REPORT2010.pdf](http://www.raceandhealth.omhrc.gov/Assets/pdf/Checked/1/MOVILIZANDONOS_POR_NUESTRO_FUTURO_CONSENSUS_REPORT2010.pdf)

## **Calendar of Events**

### **Health Observance: National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day**

*May 6, 2010*

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is a day for everyone to promote positive youth development, resilience, recovery and the transformation of mental health services delivery for children and youth with serious mental health needs and their families. This annual observance is designed to raise awareness of effective programs for children's mental health needs; demonstrate how children's mental health initiatives promote positive youth development, recovery and resilience; and show how children with mental health needs thrive in their communities.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/children/index.aspx>

**Webcast: Effective Street Outreach: Why It's Important, How You Can Do It Better!**

*April 8, 2010, 1:00-2:30 PM ET*

This SAMHSA Homelessness Resource Center webcast highlights best practices for conducting effective street outreach with people experiencing homelessness. Presenters will offer an overview of effective approaches to outreach and engagement, “dos and don'ts” for outreach workers, and new trends in outreach. The webcast will address how outreach practices have changed to adapt to new service models like Housing First, Rapid Re-Housing, and other promising practices.

<http://homeless.samhsa.gov/Resource/View.aspx?id=48146&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

**Promoting Wellness: An Integrated Approach to Homeless Service Delivery**

*March 31-April 01, 2010, Columbia, South Carolina*

SAMHSA's Homelessness Resource Center and Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) is offering a free two-day regional training on innovative strategies for providing homeless services and creating environments that are person-centered, trauma-informed and recovery-oriented for the Southeastern United States. This training will be applicable to anyone providing homeless services, including direct service providers, consumers, administrators, government staff and policy makers.

<http://homeless.samhsa.gov/>

**Preventing Alzheimer's Disease Conference**

*April 26-28, 2010, Bethesda, Maryland*

To examine important questions about Alzheimer's and cognitive decline in older people, the National Institute of Aging and NIH's Office of Medical Applications of Research will convene a state-of-the-science conference in April to assess available scientific evidence. The Preventing Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Decline conference will feature experts from across the United States, who will consider various aspects of Alzheimer's Disease. The three-day conference will conclude with a presentation of a draft state-of-the-science statement.

<http://consensus.nih.gov/2010/alz.htm>

**National Lab Day: A National Barn Raising for Hands On Learning**

*May 12, 2010*

National Lab Day (NLD) unites teachers requesting help on a project with local scientists to provide high-quality science experiences for students. Championed by President Obama and more than 200 science, technology, engineering, and math societies and organizations, NLD is more than just one day—activities go on throughout the year, with an annual celebration in May.

[http://www.nih.gov/about/director/03122010\\_statement\\_natlabday.htm](http://www.nih.gov/about/director/03122010_statement_natlabday.htm)

## **4th National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery**

*July 26-28, 2010, Chicago, Illinois*

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment in partnership with Treatment Alternatives for a Safe Community is sponsoring its 4th National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery. Join with leaders, colleagues and stakeholders in the addiction treatment field to focus on current trends and innovations in creating recovery opportunities for women with substance use disorders and their families. Among topics to be discussed are: family-centered treatment, current developments in health policy, working with the criminal justice system, inter-agency collaboration, women's recovery support, use of technology, culturally responsive approaches, treatment for adolescent girls, housing supports, workforce development, and demonstrating program effectiveness.

<http://SAMHSAWomensConference.org>

## **Calls for Public Input**

### **2010 Science and Service Awards Will Honor Implementation of Evidence-Based Mental Health and Substance Abuse Interventions**

SAMHSA has issued a call for applications for its 2010 Science and Service Awards, a national program that recognizes community-based organizations and coalitions that have shown exemplary implementation of evidence-based mental health and substance abuse interventions.

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

Application deadline: April 9, 2010

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1001065017.aspx>

### **SAMHSA: Celebrating Those Who Make a Difference for Mental Health**

Join SAMHSA in recognizing entertainment industry professionals and mental health consumers who have given a voice to people with mental health problems. The Voice Awards honor film and television writers and producers who incorporate dignified, respectful and accurate portrayals of people with mental illnesses into their scripts, programs and productions. The awards also recognize the accomplishments of consumer leaders who have been instrumental in both raising awareness and understanding of mental health issues and promoting the social inclusion of people with mental health problems. Nominations are open to anyone, are free and there is no limit to the number an individual may submit.

Entertainment industry nominations due: April 30, 2010

Mental health consumer nominations due: May 14, 2010

<http://whatadifference.samhsa.gov/voiceawards/nominate.html>

## **Clinical Trial Participation News**

### **NIMH: Genetics of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Adult Research Study**

Individuals who have been diagnosed with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and their family may be able to participate in an OCD research study. The purpose of this study is to identify genes that affect susceptibility to OCD. By identifying genes that increase or decrease the risk of OCD, researchers can better understand how the condition develops and ultimately improve treatment for people with OCD. OCD is a severe familial condition that affects approximately two percent of the population. The way OCD is inherited is not clearly understood, but researchers believe it is complex and involves multiple genes. This study will detect and localize genes that increase or decrease susceptibility to OCD. The data collected from this study will be combined with data from other research studies to determine gene linkage and association. Eligible volunteers will contribute in three ways: a confidential questionnaire packet, an interview and a sample of blood. Travel is not needed. Participants will receive monetary compensation for their involvement in the study. Individuals may find out if they qualify or get more information by calling 301-496-8977 or toll free at 1-866-644-4363, or sending an email to [kazubad@mail.nih.gov](mailto:kazubad@mail.nih.gov).

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

## **Programmatic Funding**

### **CDC: Maternal Child Health Epidemiology: National and State Coalition Capacity Building to Improve Outcomes**

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=2C0mLzSGGDPhSxvTtWZ6g2cRqh7lp9TJ72Q1X2yJhG3Jcnp5wMd8!-1428305969?oppId=53145&mode=VIEW>

### **HRSA: Geriatric Training Program for Physicians, Dentists, and Behavioral and Mental Health Professions**

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/SFO.asp?ID=63A7E2B1-2A30-47D9-9D5A-180E5ABA45BA>

### **HRSA: Geriatric Education Centers**

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/SFO.asp?ID=F218CA5E-FBC6-46BC-BDA7-D94028370E55>

### **National and Community Service: Nonprofit Capacity Building Program**

[http://www.nationalservice.gov/for\\_organizations/funding/nofa\\_detail.asp?tbl\\_nofa\\_id=81](http://www.nationalservice.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=81)

### **OVW Fiscal Year 2010 Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program and Special Tribal Sexual Assault Coalition Program**

<http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/fy10-tribal-coalitions-solicitation.pdf>

### **USDA: Rural Health and Safety Education Competitive Grants Program**

[http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/rural\\_health.html](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/rural_health.html)

## **Research Funding Opportunities**

### **Selected Request for Applications**

#### **Methods for Prevention Packages Program (MP3 II) (R01)**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AI-10-005.html>

#### **The Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) (R24)**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-TW-10-008.html>

#### **Development and Translation of Medical Technologies that Reduce Health Disparities (SBIR [R43/R44])**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-EB-10-002.html>

#### **National Center for Minority Health Disparities (NCMHD) Building Research Infrastructure and Capacity (P20)**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MD-10-002.html>

### **Selected Program Announcements**

#### **Behavioral and Social Science Research on Understanding and Reducing Health Disparities**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-136.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-137.html> (R21)

#### **Social Network Analysis and Health**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-145.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-146.html> (R21)

#### **Innovative Neuroscience K-12 Education (SBIR [R43/R44])**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-10-154.html>

#### **Research on Autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-158.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-159.html> (R03)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-10-160.html> (R21)



The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) with support from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and in cooperation with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 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 on the NIMH Outreach Program please visit <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partners>.

To subscribe to receive the *Update* every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/subscribe-to-the-update.shtml>

The information provided in the NIMH Update is intended for use by the 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.