



UPDATE

April 1, 2012

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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*

SCIENCE AND SERVICE NEWS UPDATES**BRAIN WIRING A NO-BRAINER?**

The brain appears to be wired more like the checkerboard streets of New York City than the curvy lanes of Columbia, Md., suggests a new brain imaging study. The most detailed images, to date, reveal a pervasive 3D grid structure with no diagonals, say scientists funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Researchers report new evidence of the brain's elegant simplicity March 30, 2012 in the journal *Science*. The study was funded, in part, by the NIH's National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the Human Connectome Project of the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research, and other NIH components.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2012/brain-wiring-a-no-brainer.shtml>

FRIENDLY-TO-A-FAULT, YET TENSE: PERSONALITY TRAITS TRACED IN BRAIN; SCANS REVEAL HOW GENES ALTER CIRCUIT HUB TO SHAPE TEMPERAMENT – NIH STUDY

A personality profile marked by overly gregarious yet anxious behavior is rooted in abnormal development of a circuit hub buried deep in the front center of the brain, say NIH scientists. They used three different types of brain imaging to pinpoint the suspect brain area in people with Williams syndrome, a rare genetic disorder characterized by these behaviors. Matching the scans to scores on a personality rating scale revealed that the more an individual with Williams syndrome showed these personality/temperament traits, the more abnormalities there were in the brain structure, called the insula. Researchers report on their imaging study in Williams syndrome online in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2012/friendly-to-a-fault-yet-tense-personality-traits-traced-in-brain.shtml>

POSSIBLE CAUSES OF SUDDEN ONSET OCD IN KIDS BROADENED; NIH IMMUNE-BASED TREATMENT STUDY UNDERWAY

Criteria for a broadened syndrome of acute onset obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) have been proposed by an NIH scientist and colleagues. The syndrome, Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS), includes children and teens that suddenly develop on-again/off-again OCD symptoms or abnormal eating behaviors, along with other psychiatric symptoms – without any known cause. PANS expands on Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcus (PANDAS), which is limited to a subset of cases traceable to an autoimmune process triggered by a strep infection.

Press Release: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2012/possible-causes-of-sudden-onset-ocd-in-kids-broadened.shtml>

STUDY PROVIDES CLUES FOR DESIGNING NEW ANTI-ADDICTION MEDICATIONS; NIH-FUNDED RESEARCH SHOWS 3D MODEL OF ACTIVITY ON KEY RECEPTOR

Scientists are now one step closer to developing anti-addiction medications, thanks to new research that provides a better understanding of the properties of the only member of the opioid receptor family whose activation counteracts the rewarding effects of addictive drugs. The study was supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and NIMH.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/mar2012/nida-21.htm>

NIH BRAIN IMAGING STUDY FINDS EVIDENCE OF BASIS FOR CAREGIVING IMPULSE; INFANTS' FACES EVOKE SPECIES-SPECIFIC PATTERNS OF BRAIN ACTIVITY IN ADULTS

Distinct patterns of activity — which may indicate a predisposition to care for infants — appear in the brains of adults who view an image of an infant face — even when the child is not theirs, according to a study by researchers at the NIH and in Germany, Italy, and Japan. Seeing images of infant faces appeared to activate circuits in the adult brain that reflect preparation for movement and speech as well as feelings of reward. The findings raise the possibility that studying this activity will yield insights not only into the caregiver response, but also when the response fails, such as in instances of child neglect or abuse.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/mar2012/nichd-16.htm>

HHS ANNOUNCES NEW MEMBERS OF THE INTERAGENCY AUTISM COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary announced that she has invited 15 individuals to serve as public members on the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC). The IACC is a federal advisory committee established by the Combating Autism Act of 2006 and reauthorized by the Combating Autism Reauthorization Act of 2011. The committee is composed of both federal officials and public members, and is charged with coordinating all efforts within HHS concerning autism spectrum disorders (ASD); developing and annually updating a strategic plan for ASD; and providing advice to the Secretary on matters related to ASD. Membership includes a wide array of federal agencies involved in ASD research and services, as well as public stakeholders who represent a variety of perspectives from within the autism community. This makeup of the IACC membership is designed to ensure that the committee is equipped to address the wide range of issues and challenges faced by families and individuals affected by autism.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/03/20120329a.html>

US LABOR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF \$12 MILLION IN GRANTS TO PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FOR FORMERLY INCARCERATED FEMALES

The U.S. Department of Labor announced the availability of approximately \$12 million in grants to provide workforce development and support services for formerly incarcerated adult and youth females as they make the transition from justice facilities back to their communities. Grantees must provide participants with services, including job training that will lead to credentials in high-demand industries; employment preparation; mentoring and assistance in connecting to supportive services such as housing, and treatment for substance abuse and mental health issues; and assistance with parenting and child reunification. While designed to expand opportunities for formerly incarcerated females, services funded by the grants also must be open to eligible formerly incarcerated males.

Press Release: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/ETA20120541.htm>

FDA APPROVES FIRST GENERIC LEXAPRO TO TREAT DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY DISORDER

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first generic Lexapro (escitalopram tablets) to treat both depression and generalized anxiety disorder in adults. Teva Pharmaceutical Industries/IVAX Pharmaceuticals gained FDA approval to market generic escitalopram in 5 milligram, 10 mg, and 20 mg strengths. Teva has been granted a 180-day period of generic drug exclusivity, which means that FDA cannot approve another generic version of escitalopram tablets before the end of that period. Generic drugs approved by FDA have the same high quality and strength as brand-name drugs. The generic manufacturing and packaging sites must pass the same quality standards as those of brand-name drugs.

Press Release: <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm296006.htm>

SAMHSA PROVIDES NEW ONLINE TOOLS FOR CONSUMERS AND PROVIDERS OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO MAKE INFORMED TREATMENT DECISIONS

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is making available new online shared decision-making (SDM) tools that provide a valuable interactive, collaborative connection between individuals and their healthcare providers. Through SDM, consumers work with their behavioral health providers to make informed healthcare decisions best suited to achieving their own successful path to recovery.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1203152332.aspx>

WOMEN ON PROBATION OR PAROLE MORE LIKELY TO EXPERIENCE MENTAL ILLNESS

A new report shows that women aged 18 to 49 on probation or parole are nearly twice as likely to experience mental illness as other women. The SAMHSA study showed that almost half of women in this age range who had been on probation (49.4 percent) and more than half on parole (54.2 percent) in the past year had experienced some form of mental illness -- compared to 27.5 percent of women who had not been on probation or parole.

Full Report: <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/spotlight/Spot063WomenParole2012.pdf>

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1203230918.aspx>

RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE: DIRECTOR'S BLOG POST

BRAIN'S WIRING REVEALED IN HD

NIMH Director Thomas Insel describes new research and images from the "Connectome" scanner that allows one to see the connections of the human brain with the kind of detail and breadth that has been sorely lacking. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2012/brains-wiring-revealed-in-hd.shtml>

AUTISM PREVALENCE: MORE AFFECTED OR MORE DETECTED?

NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses the changing prevalence rate of autism and ASD. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2012/autism-prevalence-more-affected-or-more-detected.shtml>

FROM PARESIS TO PANDAS & PANS

NIMH Director Thomas Insel discusses new research about the evolving understanding of sudden onset of pediatric OCD. <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2012/from-paresis-to-pandas-pans.shtml>

PREVALENCE OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS — AUTISM AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONITORING NETWORK, 14 SITES, UNITED STATES, 2008

This report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides updated (ASD prevalence estimates from the 2008 surveillance year, representing 14 Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) sites in the United States. For 2008, the overall estimated prevalence of ASDs among the 14 ADDM sites was 11.3 per 1,000 (one in 88) children aged eight years who were living in these communities during 2008. The extent to which these increases reflect better case ascertainment as a result of increases in awareness and access to services, or true increases in prevalence of ASDs is not known.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss6103a1.htm>

NEW SAMHSA RESOURCES

TOP HEALTH ISSUES FOR LGBT POPULATIONS

This toolkit equips prevention professionals, healthcare providers, and educators with information on current health issues among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) populations. It includes an overview of terms related to gender identity and sexual expression. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Top-Health-Issues-for-LGBT-Populations/All-New-Products/SMA12-4684>

TRIBAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES LEAD IN OFFERING COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES

This new report shows that 81 percent of substance abuse treatment facilities run by tribal governments provided outreach services to persons in the community who may need treatment. The report shows that the level of outreach services provided by tribal substance abuse facilities was notably higher than the levels among other private and public-run facilities. Overall, 51 percent of all substance abuse treatment facilities provided outreach services. http://www.samhsa.gov/spotlights/CBHSQ_Spot045_Outreach_2012.pdf

NEW MANUAL PROVIDES GUIDANCE IN MANAGING CHRONIC PAIN IN ADULTS WITH OR IN RECOVERY FROM SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

This new manual was developed to equip clinicians with practical guidance and tools for treating chronic noncancer pain in adults with histories of substance use disorders. <http://kap.samhsa.gov/products/manuals/tips/pdf/TIP54.pdf>

LATEST ISSUE OF SAMHSA NEWS AVAILABLE—HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The latest issue of *SAMHSA News* focuses on health information technology (HIT). As the Nation strives to increase access to affordable care, technology is playing a key role. Both HIT and its corollary, electronic health records are central to improving the delivery of services so that all Americans— including those with behavioral health conditions—benefit from health system reform.

http://www.samhsa.gov/samhsaNewsletter/default.aspx?WT.ac=AD20120329SN_WINTER12

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY ACTIVITIES

SOCIAL MEDIA MESSAGES—LGBT YOUTH

SAMHSA has provided public education messages for social media about LGBT youth and the impact of trauma, which can be used to observe National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (NCMHAD). http://www.samhsa.gov/children/social_media_mar2012.asp

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION MATERIALS

The NCMHAD Community Conversations are designed to increase adults' knowledge about trauma and resilience among young people, as well as inspire adults to help these young people by becoming Heroes of Hope. Learn more about the Community Conversation Pilot and access tools to host a conversation.

http://www.samhsa.gov/children/cc_home.asp

HEROES OF HOPE FLICKR CHALLENGE

From April 2 through May 31, the Caring for Every Child's Mental Health Campaign is asking youth across the country to join the Heroes of Hope Flickr Challenge by uploading a photo of their hero to Flickr using the tag "Heroes of Hope." Youth can upload a photo of their hero, a photo with their hero, or a creative picture of a landscape or object that represents their hero. The photo caption should describe why that person is their hero. Twenty photos from the challenge will be linked to SAMHSA's Awareness Day web page.

http://www.samhsa.gov/children/flickr_challenge.asp

COMMUNITY EVENTS PLANNED FOR AWARENESS DAY 2012

Find out what communities are planning in observance of NCMHAD.

http://www.samhsa.gov/children/communityevents_2012.asp

AWARENESS DAY 2012 GRAPHICS

Official Awareness Day icons, web badge, and save the date fliers for 2012 are now available.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/children/awarenessdaymat.asp>

PODCASTS FROM WARRIORS PROGRAM

ENGAGING A NETWORK OF SUPPORT

Warriors experiencing signs or symptoms of psychological health concerns can engage a range of resources and networks of support for care. <http://www.realwarriors.net/podcasts/episode010>

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO SEEK NEEDED CARE

Seeking support for psychological health concerns can help warriors maintain peak performance and readiness. <http://www.realwarriors.net/podcasts/episode009>

RESOURCES FROM THE AGENCY FOR HEALTHCARE RESEARCH AND QUALITY

FACEBOOK PAGE TO HELP HISPANIC POPULATIONS "TAKE THE REINS" OF THEIR HEALTHCARE

A new Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Facebook page connects Spanish-speaking visitors to health information videos and publications that explore treatment options for conditions ranging from cancer to diabetes to depression. AHRQ intends the page to be a cornerstone of their efforts to highlight the Effective Health Care Program's growing array of Spanish-language publications and was launched as part of the *Toma las riendas* ("Take the Reins") campaign.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/insidetrack/index.html#art3>

NEW RESOURCES: NONPHARMACOLOGIC INTERVENTIONS FOR TREATMENT-RESISTANT DEPRESSION IN ADULTS

AHRQ has released a consumer summary, clinician summary, continuing medical education activity, and slide talk to support its recent review on nonpharmacologic interventions for treatment-resistant depression. <http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productid=787&ECem=120329>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

APRIL 2012

Each year, the Department of Defense recognizes military families by celebrating the Month of the Military Child throughout April. Service members with children across the nation can take this opportunity to spend time with their loved ones, while also learning about the importance of family resilience and readiness. Real Warriors has compiled information and resources to help families communicate throughout the Month of the Military Child and the entire deployment cycle.

<http://realwarriors.net/family/children/militarychild.php>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL 2012

Visit the 2012 National Child Abuse Prevention Month web section to prepare for Prevention Month. *Preventing Child Maltreatment and Promoting Well-Being: Network for Action 2012 Resource Guide* is now available to help plan activities. <http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2012

The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity for everyone to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community.

<http://healthfinder.gov/nho/nho.asp#m4> and <http://www.hhs.gov/autism/>

WEBINAR: OVERVIEW OF THE MILITARY SUICIDE RESEARCH CONSORTIUM'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF AT-RISK PERSONNEL AND VETERANS

APRIL 3, 2012, 1:00 PM ET

This National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) webinar in the Military and Civilian Partnerships series will provide an overview of the Military Suicide Research Consortium, describe the application of the interpersonal-psychological theory of suicide as it applies to members of the military, and present recommendations on screening and assessment from the Army's suicide work group.

http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=3&cal_m=4&cal_y=2012

RESEARCH TO PRACTICE: HOW ADVANCEMENTS IN SCIENCE ARE HELPING PEOPLE WITH MENTAL AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

APRIL 4, 2012

SAMHSA's Road to Recovery webcast will highlight examples of research findings that affect practice across diverse topics such as stage-wise treatment, motivational interventions, cognitive behavioral techniques, brain science, recovery-oriented treatment and services, self-directed care, peer support, and the strong impact of trauma in people's lives. The webcast also will focus on how practitioners contribute to science by generating data outcomes, participating in evaluation and services research, and sharing their experiences with others. Finally, this webcast will address how improvements in HIT are supporting enhanced decision-making in behavioral health as well as the integration of behavioral and primary healthcare.

<http://www.recoverymonth.gov/Multimedia/Road-to-Recovery-Television-Series.aspx>

WEBINAR: OVERVIEW OF THE SAMHSA OFFENDER REENTRY PROGRAM REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

APRIL 4, 2012, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment will present key elements of the recently posted Offender Reentry Program RFA—No. TI-12-003—due May 1, 2012. The purpose of the Offender Reentry Program is to expand and/or enhance substance abuse treatment and related recovery and reentry services to sentenced adult offenders returning to the community from incarceration for criminal offenses. An interactive question and answer session will follow the webinar. http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/2012/ti_12_003.aspx

WEBINAR: ADDRESSING TRANSITION ISSUES FOR YOUNG FOSTER CHILDREN

APRIL 5, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

This NCTSN webinar in the Zero to Six Child Welfare Speaker Series will discuss the many transitions experienced by young traumatized children in the child welfare system and the challenges that they pose for young children. Whether responding to the transition from the biological parents' home to a foster home, from foster home to foster home, or the changes brought on by reunification, those working with young children in the child welfare system will benefit from gaining an understanding of the many effects of these transitions as well as methods for appropriate facilitation of transitions.

http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=3&cal_m=4&cal_y=2012

WEBINAR: SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT FOR TRAUMA IN THE CHILD WELFARE SETTING SPEAKER SERIES: AN OVERVIEW

APRIL 26, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

In the first webinar in a series of five presentations on Screening and Assessment for Trauma in the Child Welfare Setting, presenters will describe the prevalence and impact of trauma on children in the child welfare system and the rationale for trauma screening and assessment. They will define screening and assessment, exploring the potential overlap and confusion in the use of these terms, in an effort to create a common language for the discussion. They will describe some common tools for trauma screening and assessment and introduce child welfare-specific measures that will be detailed in a future presentation.

<http://learn.nctsn.org/>

NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY: NATIONAL EVENT

MAY 9, 2012, 7:30-9:30 PM ET, WASHINGTON, DC

Across the country on May 9, communities will be coming together for community conversations about the impact of trauma on children and youth and ways that caring adults, "Heroes of Hope," can help them enhance resilience. Join SAMHSA, more than 115 collaborating federal programs and national organizations, youth and families, and a Special Recognition Award winner in celebrating children and youth who have demonstrated resilience from trauma, as well as the extraordinary people who are their Heroes of Hope. The event in Washington, DC, will focus on resilience in child welfare, juvenile justice, and education systems, as well as helping military families to be resilient. The Awareness Day national event complements activities occurring across the country, such as community events, youth rallies, social media campaigns, and activities with children. <http://www.samhsa.gov/children>

WEBINAR: WORKFORCE IN CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH: CORE COMPONENTS TO ENSURE QUALITY

MAY 17, 2012, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

This National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health webinar will explore the status of core workforce strategies or components used by states to ensure quality in children's mental health care and present recommendations for increasing progress in this area.

<http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/resources/2012calls.html>

NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK

MAY 20-26, 2012

SAMHSA's National Prevention Week 2012 will help bring communities together through local events and celebrations that focus on the prevention of substance use and abuse, and the promotion of mental, emotional, and behavioral well-being. These local events will be part of a new national movement to raise awareness around these important behavioral health issues. Each weekday during National Prevention Week 2012 will focus on an important behavioral health issue:

- Monday, May 21 – Prevention of underage drinking;
- Tuesday, May 22 – Prevention of illicit drug use and prescription drug misuse and abuse;
- Wednesday, May 23 – Prevention of alcohol abuse;
- Thursday, May 24 – Prevention of suicide; and
- Friday, May 25 – Promotion of mental, emotional, and behavioral well-being.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/03/07/helpcelebratepreventionweek2012/>

5TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS; HEALTH, EMPOWERMENT, RESILIENCE, AND RECOVERY

JULY 17–19, 2012, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

SAMHSA, in partnership with Mental Health Systems, Inc., is hosting this conference to bring together a diverse audience with an interest in prevention, mental health, and addiction services for women and girls. Join with leaders, colleagues, and stakeholders to discuss the current research, innovations, and trends in serving women, girls, and their families. <http://samhsawomensconference.org/>

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATA USERS CONFERENCE

AUGUST 8–10, 2012, WASHINGTON, DC

SAMHSA's Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality has announced its first Behavioral Health Data Users Conference. The conference will offer a series of plenary, discussion, and hands-on training sessions on how to use SAMHSA's survey data collections. Those interested in learning more about SAMHSA's mental health and substance use data should attend. Potential participants include state and local mental health and substance abuse officials, federal government staff, mental health and substance abuse service providers, mental health and substance abuse researchers, and representatives of advocacy and consumer organizations. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/03/21/samhsa-announces-first-behavioral-health-data-users-conference-aug-8-10th-washington-dc/>

CLINICAL TRIAL PARTICIPATION NEWS

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT: SCHIZOPHRENIA (PEDIATRIC) RESEARCH STUDY

Children diagnosed with schizophrenia may be eligible to participate in an NIMH research study. The purpose of this study is to find out how the brain works in children with schizophrenia who are treated with antipsychotic drugs. Participants must be 6-18 years old; have met criteria for schizophrenia before age 13; and be free of serious medical conditions. Participation may include clinical assessments, brain imaging, neuropsychological tests, and genetic assessments.

The time required includes three weeks for the diagnostic evaluation portion of the study and an additional 16 weeks for the remainder of study.

All children attend the NIH school and receive academic instruction while participating in research studies. In addition, the results of the child's participation will be summarized and recommendations for future treatment will be given. After the study, staff will be available for future telephone consultation.

Participation includes travel reimbursement and housing for families.

For more information and/or to refer a child, please call: 1-888-254-3823 | 301-496-7962 (TTY: 1-866-411-1010), or send an email to: mrachel@mail.nih.gov. Additional information also can be found at: <http://patientinfo.nimh.nih.gov/SchizophreniaPediatric.aspx>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

A CALL TO IDENTIFY KEY METHODOLOGICAL ROADBLOCKS AND PROPOSE NEW PARADIGMS IN SUICIDE PREVENTION RESEARCH

The NIMH, NIDA, and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism are seeking input to identify the types of research tools needed to support rapid advancement in suicide prevention research. Specifically, this request asks interested parties to provide input on the following topics: a) the key methodological roadblocks that currently exist in suicide prevention research, and b) new paradigms and theoretical models with the potential to spark innovative research. A methodological roadblock is defined as a critical, unresolved challenge that is clearly limiting progress along an important suicide prevention research pathway. New research paradigms and theoretical models are novel ways of thinking about suicidal behavior and avenues for its prevention. This request for information is issued as an invitation to interested parties to contribute these specific methodological challenges and new conceptual paradigms for inclusion in a compendium of ways to facilitate suicide prevention research progress. Responses are being accepted through April 27, 2012. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-12-017.html>

INPUT INTO THE SCIENTIFIC STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SUBSTANCE USE AND ADDICTION DISORDERS

NIH is soliciting input into the Scientific Strategic Plan for the proposed new Institute, the National Institute of Substance Use and Addiction Disorders. This new Institute would result from the proposed reorganization of substance use, abuse, and addiction-related research at the NIH. Responses are being accepted until May 11, 2012. <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-12-045.html>

SEEKING PUBLIC INPUT FOR AHRQ WEBSITE REDESIGN

AHRQ is working to improve and redesign its website. User feedback is a key element driving enhancements to AHRQ.gov and AHRQ is looking for help from the public. One of AHRQ's first tasks is to improve the organization of site information. Members of the public can help by participating in a "card sort" exercise to help AHRQ better understand how information should be categorized and organized on AHRQ.gov. The card sort is very intuitive and should take only 15 or 20 minutes; no web design expertise is needed. The card sort will be available through April 6, 2012.

Clinicians and Medical Researchers card sort:

<https://aquilentux.optimalworkshop.com/optimalsort/ahrq-prof>

General Public card sort: <https://aquilentux.optimalworkshop.com/optimalsort/ahrq-pub>

VA LAUNCHES “PROJECT REACH” CONTEST WITH HUD AND JON BON JOVI SOUL FOUNDATION TO HELP HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS FIND VITAL SERVICES; APPS WOULD PROVIDE MOBILE ACCESS TO HOMELESS SERVICES

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) launched a new contest to help people who work with homeless individuals. It challenges the developer community to create easy, mobile access to resources that homeless individuals need, when they need it, and where they can get it. Project REACH (Real-time Electronic Access for Caregivers and the Homeless) was announced in collaboration with the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, HHS, and the Jon Bon Jovi Soul Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping the lives of people facing economic challenges. Submissions are being accepted until July 27, 2012. <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2278>

FUNDING INFORMATION

NOTICE OF GRANTS.GOV SCHEDULED SYSTEM OUTAGE

Grants.gov will be undergoing scheduled system maintenance on April 28-29, 2012. No application submissions or activity will be able to take place during this maintenance period. The system will be back online April 30, 2012. <http://grants-gov.blogspot.com/2012/02/system-downtime-april-28-29-2012.html>

SAMHSA: OFFENDER REENTRY PROGRAM

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1203193146.aspx>

CDC: IMPROVING HEALTH OF PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES GRANT

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&opId=158533>

BJA: SECOND CHANCE ACT FAMILY-BASED ADULT OFFENDER SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM

<https://www.bja.gov/Funding/12SCAFamilyBasedSol.pdf>

OJJDP: MENTORING BEST PRACTICES RESEARCH

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=248>

OJJDP: FAMILY DRUG COURT PROGRAMS

<http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=249>

OJJDP: COMMUNITY-BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001007.pdf>

NIJ: RESEARCH ON THE LINK BETWEEN VICTIMIZATION AND OFFENDING

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001013.pdf>

NIJ: VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION AMONG RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl001013.pdf>

NIJ: RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ON CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000982.pdf>

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PRGRAMS: IDENTIFYING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE VICTIM-CENTERED RESTORATIVE JUSTICE STRATEGIES

http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/pdftxt/FY2012_Identifying_Culturally_Responsive_Victim.pdf

RESEARCH ON EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-141.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-142.html> (R21)

NLM INFORMATION RESOURCE GRANTS TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-LM-12-001.html>

TECHNOLOGY-BASED INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT IN CARE AND TREATMENT ADHERENCE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSING POPULATIONS WITH HIV

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-141.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-118.html> (R34)

STRATEGIC ALLIANCES FOR MEDICATIONS DEVELOPMENT TO TREAT SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAS-12-122.html>

EARLY DETECTION AND PREVENTION OF MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NR-12-010.html>

USE-ORIENTED BASIC RESEARCH: CHANGE MECHANISMS OF BEHAVIORAL SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-119.html>

HEALTH SERVICES AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH ON THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DRUG, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO ABUSE

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-127.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-128.html> (R21)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-129.html> (R03)

RESEARCH TO ASSIST INFORMAL CAREGIVERS IN ASSESSING AND MANAGING SYMPTOMS IN INDIVIDUALS WITH ALZHEIMERS DISEASE

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-NR-12-011.html>

SMALL BUSINESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-12-003.html> (SBIR[R43/R44])

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OD-12-004.html> (STTR[R41/R42])



The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to help close the gap between mental health research and clinical practice, inform the public about mental illnesses, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. For more information about the program please visit: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partners>. To subscribe to receive the **Update** every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/subscribe-to-the-update.shtml>

The information provided in the **Update** is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education and partnership programs.