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# UPDATE

July 15, 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*

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## NIMH TO SEEK OUTREACH PARTNER PROPOSALS IN CALIFORNIA

The NIMH Outreach Partnership Program has posted an early announcement for an upcoming Solicitation for Proposals from the state of California serving counties in the North/Central and Southern regions of the state, respectively. Non-profit organizations that conduct outreach focused on mental health are invited to submit proposals. Organizations with experience in child and adolescent mental health or mental health disparities are encouraged to apply. The solicitation will be available on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ET) at the NIMH Outreach Partnership Program webpage.

**Announcement:** <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/solicitation-process/outreach-partners-solicitation-process.shtml>

## SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$3.5 MILLION IN SYSTEM OF CARE EXPANSION PLANNING GRANTS FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is awarding up to \$3.5 million for the Expansion of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and their Families program. The purpose of these grants is to develop a comprehensive strategic plan for improving and expanding services provided by systems of care for children and youth with serious mental health conditions and their families. A “system of care” is an organizational philosophy and framework that is designed to create a network of effective community-based services and supports to improve the lives of children and youth with or at risk of serious mental health conditions and their families.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1207101802.aspx>

## SAMHSA AWARDS UP TO \$12 MILLION IN GRANTS TO BENEFIT PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

SAMHSA announced that it is awarding eight new grants totaling up to \$4 million per year over the next three years to public service agencies across the country working to prevent or reduce chronic homelessness in their communities. This grant program is designed to reduce the barriers that persons who are chronically homeless with mental and substance use disorders and their families experience while obtaining treatment and stable housing. The resources provided through the grant will support intensive individualized treatment services designed to increase recovery and sustain permanent supportive housing.

**Press Release:** <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1207091248.aspx>

## **FDA INTRODUCES NEW SAFETY MEASURES FOR EXTENDED-RELEASE AND LONG-ACTING OPIOID MEDICATIONS; STRATEGY EMPHASIZES EDUCATION FOR PRESCRIBERS, PATIENTS ON HIGHLY POTENT PAIN RELIEVERS**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy (REMS) for extended-release (ER) and long-acting (LA) opioids, highly potent drugs approved for moderate to severe, persistent pain that requires treatment for an extended period. The REMS is part of a federal initiative to address the prescription drug abuse, misuse, and overdose epidemic. The REMS introduces new safety measures designed to reduce risks and improve the safe use of ER/LA opioids, while ensuring access to needed medications for patients in pain.

**Press Release:** <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm310870.htm>

## **METHADONE LINKED TO 30 PERCENT OF PRESCRIPTION PAINKILLER OVERDOSE DEATHS**

The prescription drug methadone accounted for two percent of painkiller prescriptions in the United States in 2009, but was involved in more than 30 percent of prescription painkiller overdose deaths, according to a Vital Signs report released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Researchers analyzed national data from 1999-2010, and 2009 data from 13 states. Methadone has been used safely and effectively for decades to treat drug addiction, but in recent years it has been increasingly used as a pain reliever. As methadone prescriptions for pain have increased, so have methadone-related nonmedical use and fatal overdoses. CDC researchers found that six times as many people died of methadone overdoses in 2009 compared to methadone-related deaths in 1999.

**Press Release:** [http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2012/p0703\\_methadone.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2012/p0703_methadone.html)

## **RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES**

### **NIH RADIO: CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIALS**

This National Institutes of Health (NIH) radio podcast discusses what clinical research trials and research studies are, and why they are important to the NIH. <http://www.nih.gov/news/radio/radio.htm>

### **NCCAM RESEARCH BLOG: WHAT CAN NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH TELL US ABOUT THE MEDITATIVE BRAIN?**

This blog post from the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM) discusses what has been learned from research about the effects of meditation practice on the brain.

<http://nccam.nih.gov/research/blog/neuroscience>

## NEW FROM SAMHSA

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### SAMHSA BLOG: A BETTER IDEA: PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS

With the help of federal partners, including the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, SAMHSA recently gathered together experts from all over the country to look at the research on preventing homelessness and share their experiences of what works. This blog post summarizes the discussion of this expert panel.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/07/09/preventing-homelessness/>

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### READY, WILLING, AND ABLE TO WORK: EMPLOYMENT FOR PEOPLE IN RECOVERY

This archived webcast examines challenges people in recovery from mental or substance use disorders face with regard to employment. It considers recovery entrepreneurship programs, employers who hire people in recovery, and community organizations that provide workforce development.

<http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA12-4676DVD>

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### SAMHSA BLOG: EXCESSIVE HEAT EXPOSURES CAN POSE SPECIAL RISKS FOR THOSE ON PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION OR OTHER SUBSTANCES

During this period when parts of the nation are experiencing record high temperatures, SAMHSA is reminding everyone that these conditions can pose certain health risks to everyone – including people with mental and substance use disorders. Individuals with behavioral health conditions who are taking psychotropic medications or using certain substances such as illicit drugs and alcohol may be at a higher risk for heatstroke and heat-related illnesses. These medications and substances can interfere with the body's ability to regulate heat and an individual's awareness that their body temperature is rising. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2012/06/29/excessive-heat-exposure-can-pose-higher-risks-for-those-on-psychotropic-medication-or-other-substances/>

## SAMHSA: NEW REPORTS ABOUT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

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### MONTHLY VARIATION IN SUBSTANCE USE INITIATION AMONG ADOLESCENTS

This report found that, on an average day in June and July, more than 11,000 adolescents age 12 to 17 use alcohol for the first time—December is the only other month with comparable levels. Throughout the rest of the year, the daily average for first-time alcohol use ranges from 5,000 to 8,000 adolescents. The report is based on SAMHSA's 2002 to 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/NSDUH080/SR080InitiationSubstanceUse2012.pdf>

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## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2010 DRUG ABUSE WARNING NETWORK (DAWN) FINDINGS ON DRUG-RELATED EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS

The DAWN report found there were four million drug-related emergency department (ED) visits made by patients age 21 or older in 2010. Of these, nearly two million, or 47.2 percent, involved drug misuse or abuse. Cocaine was found to be the most commonly involved illicit drug among this age group, followed by marijuana, heroin, and amphetamines/methamphetamines. For ED visits made by patients age 20 or younger, 45.3 percent involved drug misuse or abuse. Alcohol was the most commonly involved illicit drug for this age group, followed by marijuana.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k12/DAWN096/SR096EDHighlights2010.pdf>

## LATEST ISSUE OF NIAAA SPECTRUM AVAILABLE

The Summer 2012 issue of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) newsletter features an article about alcohol and HIV/AIDS. Alcohol misuse is closely intertwined with the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Addressing alcohol problems among those who are infected or are at risk is an important strategy for preventing new cycles of HIV infection and AIDS.

[http://www.spectrum.niaaa.nih.gov/media/pdf/NIAAA\\_Spectrum\\_Newsletter\\_Jun2012.pdf](http://www.spectrum.niaaa.nih.gov/media/pdf/NIAAA_Spectrum_Newsletter_Jun2012.pdf)

## NEW REPORTS FROM AHRQ

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### THE PATIENT-CENTERED MEDICAL HOME

This Agency for Healthcare Research Quality (AHRQ) report was commissioned to identify efforts to evaluate the comprehensive patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model, summarize current evidence for this model, and identify gaps in the evidence. Published studies of PCMH interventions often have similar broad elements, but precise components of care varied widely. The PCMH holds promise for improving the experiences of patients and staff, and potentially for improving care processes. However, current evidence is insufficient to determine effects on clinical and most economic outcomes. Ongoing studies identified through the scan have potential to greatly expand the evidence base relating to PCMH.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/clinic/tp/gappcmhpt.htm>

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### SCREENING, BEHAVIORAL COUNSELING, AND REFERRAL IN PRIMARY CARE TO REDUCE ALCOHOL MISUSE

The objective of this research review was to assess the effectiveness of screening followed by behavioral counseling for adolescents and adults with alcohol misuse in primary care settings. Behavioral counseling interventions improve behavioral outcomes for adults with risky/hazardous drinking habits. The best evidence of effectiveness is for brief multi-contact interventions.

<http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/index.cfm/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productid=1134>

## **DCOE BLOG POSTS**

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### **PTSD MYTHS**

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post dispels common myths about post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=387>

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### **TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR PTSD**

This blog post describes treatment options for PTSD. The two main types of treatments available for PTSD include psychotherapy (e.g., prolonged exposure therapy or cognitive processing therapy) and medication (e.g., selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors).

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/article.aspx?id=1&postid=384>

## **REAL WARRIORS, REAL ADVICE PODCAST: FIND A NEW NORMAL AFTER DEPLOYMENT**

This Real Warriors podcast discusses how family dynamics often change during deployment, but that open communication can help families move forward effectively when a warrior returns home.

<http://www.realwarriors.net/podcasts/episode023>

## **THE NATIONAL SURVEY OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT WELL-BEING: PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION USE BY CHILDREN IN CHILD WELFARE**

A research brief released by the Administration for Children and Families examines the use of psychotropic medications by children in child welfare. What makes this brief unique is its exploration of and distinction among the use of psychotropic medications across placement types (in-home and out-of-home settings), mental health needs, and usage in tandem with other mental health treatments or services.

<https://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/index.cfm?event=website.viewArticles&issueid=137&sectionid=1&articleid=3567>

## **EMPLOYMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES: LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF FRAGMENTED AND OVERLAPPING PROGRAMS**

Many federal programs—within the Departments of Education, Labor, and Veterans Affairs; the Social Security Administration; and other agencies—help people with disabilities overcome barriers to employment. The General Accountability Office (GAO) examined the extent to which programs that support employment for people with disabilities provide similar services to similar populations and measure effectiveness. <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-12-677>

## EVENTS

### WEBINAR: CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS OF SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS

JULY 17, 2012, 12:00PM ET

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This National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) webinar in the Secondary Traumatic Stress Speaker Series will address the influence of culture on mental health providers coping with secondary traumatic stress (STS) and the choices that clinicians make to seek, or not seek, support. It also will explore how cultural background informs clinicians' work with children and families who have experienced trauma; illustrate the relationship between culture and STS through a personal case example; and introduce the concept of vicarious resiliency.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=17&cal\\_m=7&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=17&cal_m=7&cal_y=2012)

### WEBINAR: CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS OF SECONDARY TRAUMATIC STRESS - IN SPANISH

JULY 18, 2012, 12:00PM ET

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Presenters will deliver the Cultural Implications for Secondary Traumatic Stress webinar, described above, in Spanish. [http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=18&cal\\_m=7&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=18&cal_m=7&cal_y=2012)

### WEBINAR: RECOVERY SUPPORTS FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

JULY 19, 2012, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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This SAMHSA webinar will continue the discussion on how recovery and recovery support can be implemented to best meet the needs of people experiencing mental health, substance use, and co-occurring conditions. It will begin with a review of the framework of family-centered recovery and recovery-oriented approaches to addressing co-occurring disorders in young people; move to a discussion of the importance of youth voices in the recovery process and in the context of juvenile justice, welfare and education settings; followed by an overview of parental peer supports and their integration with treatment and other services; and conclude with a discussion of models for collaboration across behavioral health and other sectors responsive to the particular configuration of needs, strengths, and resiliency of youth.

<http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaid=231777>

## **WEBINAR: US HISPANIC/LATINO STREET GANGS**

JULY 19, 2012, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

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The purpose of this SAMHSA Addiction Technology Transfer Center presentation is for participants to become more aware of the multiple and complex problems associated with street gangs. The focus of the session is on the cultural nuances related to Hispanic/Latino street gangs. It also will provide help in the development of effective prevention and intervention programs that are culturally relevant and meet the needs of this rapidly growing population. <http://www.attcnetwork.org/learn/education/webinarseries.asp>

## **WEBINAR: THE APPLICATION OF TRAUMA SCREENING/ASSESSMENT IN CHILD WELFARE SETTINGS: PART I - SYSTEMS LEVEL**

JULY 26, 2012, 12:00PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Screening and Assessment for Trauma in the Child Welfare Setting Speaker Series will explore issues of implementation and sustainability of universal trauma screening in an already overburdened child welfare system, how to meaningfully and successfully integrate and embed the practice, and ways to address the effects of this practice on case workers.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=26&cal\\_m=7&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=26&cal_m=7&cal_y=2012)

## **CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT IN THE DEPLOYED SETTING**

JULY 26, 2012, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

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Mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), also known as concussion, is the most common form of TBI sustained in the military. Unlike a severe or moderate TBI, mTBI may not be easily identified. Recognizing the importance for early detection, the Defense Department developed the Military Acute Concussion Evaluation (MACE), a standardized clinical interview for assessing concussion in a deployed setting. This DCoE webinar will present appropriate administration techniques for MACE, as well as discuss concussion care policy to include recurrent concussion and implications for return to duty.

<http://www.dcoe.health.mil/Training/MonthlyWebinars.aspx>



## **THE APPLICATION OF TRAUMA SCREENING/ASSESSMENT IN CHILD WELFARE SETTINGS: PART II - DIRECT LEVEL**

AUGUST 16, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Screening and Assessment in the Child Welfare Setting Speaker Series will discuss overcoming barriers, including differing amounts of clinical experience and training by those administering trauma screening, the challenges of changing an already embedded practice, and the STS issues that arise when a practitioner begins to ask about trauma.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=16&cal\\_m=8&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=16&cal_m=8&cal_y=2012)

## **5TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CTSA COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE: METHODS, METRICS, AND OUTCOMES: EVALUATING THE SUCCESS OF COMMUNITY ENGAGED RESEARCH**

AUGUST 23-24, 2012, BETHESDA, MD

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The NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) is hosting this conference about evaluating the success of community engaged research. Presentations will feature: feasible and replicable methods and metrics developed by and with communities that have improved individual and community health, particularly within underserved communities; how to facilitate the application of these methodologies and metrics to diverse local settings; and tools for assessing and improving the effectiveness of community engagement in improving individual and community health outcomes.

<http://www.ncats.nih.gov/news-and-events/events/events.html>

## **UTILIZING TRAUMA SCREENING AND ASSESSMENTS IN COURT DECISIONS: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE BENCH AND MENTAL HEALTH**

AUGUST 30, 2012, 12:00 PM ET

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This NCTSN webinar in the Screening and Assessment in the Juvenile Justice System Speaker Series will discuss how screening and assessment can impact juvenile court decision-making processes while emphasizing how mental health professionals can provide feedback in a useful way.

[http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal\\_d=30&cal\\_m=8&cal\\_y=2012](http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=30&cal_m=8&cal_y=2012)

## HEALTH OBSERVANCE: RECOVERY MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2012

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Recovery Month promotes the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for mental and substance use disorders, celebrates people in recovery, lauds the contributions of treatment and service providers, and promotes the message that recovery in all its forms is possible. Recovery Month spreads the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover. <http://recoverymonth.gov/>  
**2012 Recovery Month Kit: <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA12-4690>**

## SAMHSA WELLNESS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2012

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As part of Recovery Month, SAMHSA is sponsoring National Wellness Week to inspire individuals and organizations to get involved and take one step for wellness. During National Wellness Week, individuals across the country will be encouraged to improve their health behaviors, while also exploring their talents, skills, interests, social connections, and environment to incorporate other dimensions of wellness.

- Monday, September 17: Overview of Eight Dimensions
- Tuesday, September 18: Physical Dimension
- Wednesday, September 19: Intellectual Dimension
- Thursday, September 20: Spiritual Dimension
- Friday, September 21: Social and Emotional Dimensions
- Saturday, September 22: Financial and Occupational Dimensions
- Sunday, September 23: Environmental Dimension

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/10by10/default.aspx>

## 2012 SCIENCE OF ELIMINATING HEALTH DISPARITIES SUMMIT

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 3, 2012, NATIONAL HARBOR, MD

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The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the auspices of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, the NIH National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, and the HHS Office of Minority Health invite registration for the 2012 Science of Eliminating Health Disparities Summit. The program will facilitate thought-provoking dialogue among presenters from diverse disciplines that are taking unique, complementary, and sometimes distinctively different approaches to health disparities. The overall objective is to forge new alliances and provide a launching pad for creativity, collaboration, and innovation that will accelerate improved health for all Americans and a healthier global society. [http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit\\_site/registration.html](http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/summit_site/registration.html)

### CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

#### CDC INJURY CENTER LAUNCHES VIDEO CONTEST

In recognition of the CDC Injury Center's 20th Anniversary, the Center is conducting a nationwide video contest to help raise awareness of injury and violence prevention. Individuals can participate in the *Seeing My World through a Safer Lens* video contest by submitting a short, creative video that answers the question, "What does Injury and Violence Prevention Look Like in My Community?" The video should highlight real-life stories and examples of how injuries and violence are being prevented in one's community. Winners will be selected in the following three categories: General Public View, Injury and Violence Professional View, or Student View. The winning video in each category will receive a \$500 cash prize and will be featured on the CDC's Injury Center website. The contest runs now through July 31, 2012. <http://www.cdc.gov/features/SaferLensVideoContest/>

#### SUBMIT INPUT ABOUT THE 2013 NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY

Beginning in 2010, the development of the *National Drug Control Strategy* included extensive dialogue and consultation with policy makers, practitioners, subject matter experts, and partners across the Nation and around the world. As a result of this robust input, the *Strategies* have presented a comprehensive approach to reducing drug use and its consequences. The Office of National Drug Control Policy is beginning the development of the *2013 Strategy*, and welcomes input into the process. Comments accepted through August 9th. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/2013strategycomments>

## FUNDING INFORMATION

### NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR INSTITUTIONAL CTAS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WEBINAR

NIH released a new Funding Opportunity Announcement for Institutional Clinical and Translational Science Awards (CTSA). These integrated academic homes for clinical and translational science continue to focus on enhancing the quality, safety, efficiency, and cost effectiveness of translational research and training the translational research workforce. NCATS which administers the CTSA program, will host a technical assistance webinar on July 23, 2012 from 2:00–3:30 p.m. ET. All potential applicants are encouraged to register for the webinar by July 20; however, participants can join the event through its conclusion.

**Webinar:** <http://www.ncats.nih.gov/news-and-events/events/events.html>

**FOA:** <http://www.ncats.nih.gov/research/cts/ctsa/funding/apply/tr-12-006.html>

DIMENSIONAL APPROACHES TO RESEARCH CLASSIFICATION IN PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-13-080.html>

NIH DIRECTOR'S TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH AWARDS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-RM-12-017.html>

RESEARCH ON PSYCHOPATHOLOGY IN INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-219.html>

RESEARCH ON CHILDREN IN MILITARY FAMILIES: THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL MILITARY DEPLOYMENT AND REINTEGRATION ON CHILD AND FAMILY FUNCTIONING (R13) (CONFERENCE GRANT)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-223.html>



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.