UPDATE

March 15, 2017

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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**

**STUDY FINDS EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS TO PREVENT ALCOHOL USE AMONG AMERICAN INDIAN AND RURAL YOUTH**

Community-based and individual-level prevention strategies are effective ways to reduce alcohol use among American Indian and other youth living in rural communities, according to a new study supported by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) also provided support for the study.


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

**NEW FROM NIH**

**NIH DIRECTOR’S BLOG: IS SOCIAL MEDIA MAKING US LONELIER?**

Initially, most of us thought that Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other social media applications would help to bring people together. Such apps have made it possible—even simple—to catch up with former classmates living thousands of miles away, share a video of your baby’s first steps with relatives near and far, or strike up new acquaintances while discussing the stock market or last night’s ballgame. National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director Francis Collins describes a new NIH-funded study that suggests that social media may also have the power to make people feel left out and alone.

[https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2017/03/14/is-social-media-making-us-lonelier/](https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2017/03/14/is-social-media-making-us-lonelier/)

**NIH DIRECTOR’S BLOG: REPORT RECOMMENDS REMOVING BARRIERS TO CANNABIS RESEARCH**

NIDA Director Nora Volkow summarizes the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine’s recently released report on the health effects of cannabis and its constituent compounds, based on a comprehensive assessment of research conducted since 1999. *The Health Effects of Cannabis and Cannabinoids* is its first report on the subject since 1999, when the National Academies reached the conclusion that "accumulated data indicate a potential therapeutic value for cannabinoid drugs, particularly for symptoms such as pain relief, control of nausea and vomiting, and appetite stimulation." The new report is based on reviews of research on both the cannabis plant itself and its constituents, but its conclusions are substantially similar to the 1999 report: While cannabis use, particularly smoked cannabis, poses some long-term health and safety risks, there is evidence that cannabis or cannabinoids can treat certain medical conditions, which include nausea and vomiting from chemotherapy, spasticity from multiple sclerosis, and pain. [https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2017/02/nasem-report-recommends-removing-barriers-to-cannabis-research](https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2017/02/nasem-report-recommends-removing-barriers-to-cannabis-research)
**NIAAA SPECTRUM: ANIMAL STUDY SUGGESTS ALCOHOL USE BEFORE PREGNANCY MAY INCREASE VULNERABILITY OF OFFSPRING TO STRESS IN ADULTHOOD**

The effects of alcohol use during pregnancy on an unborn child are well known. However, a recent NIAAA-funded study in rats has shown that a mother’s alcohol use before conception also could have negative effects on her child’s health and response to stress during adulthood.


**E-CIGARETTES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

This NIDA blog post for teens reviews the scientific evidence on the risks and possible benefits of e-cigarettes. For people looking to quit using tobacco, e-cigarettes might be helpful. But for teens who don’t smoke, e-cigarettes could eventually just hook them on tobacco. [https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/e-cigarettes-what-you-need-know](https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/e-cigarettes-what-you-need-know)

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR: SUICIDE IN THE WORKPLACE**

This article uses Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries data to examine how the frequency of workplace suicides has changed over time and to analyze the distribution of workplace suicides among selected demographic groups and case categories. It introduces propensity ratios as a tool for measuring and comparing the proportional share of workplace suicides among groups.


**NEW FROM SAMSHA**

**BLOG POST: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REPORTED TO HAVE GREATEST IMPACT ON OVERALL HEALTH**

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services Director Paolo del Vecchio blogs about the toll that mental and substance use disorders take on Americans’ health, longevity, and productivity. Collectively, depression, anxiety, and mood disorders have the greatest impact on Americans’ health for any condition, according to claims data from more than 40 million Blue Cross Blue Shield members. Substance use disorders have the fifth greatest impact, while hypertension, diabetes, and high cholesterol are also in the top five. The post describes the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Index which found that behavioral health had the greatest impact on overall health.

[https://blog.samhsa.gov/2017/03/06/behavioral-health-reported-to-have-greatest-impact-on-overall-health/](https://blog.samhsa.gov/2017/03/06/behavioral-health-reported-to-have-greatest-impact-on-overall-health/)
BLOG POST: PROVIDER CLINICAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS PROVIDES NO-COST TRAINING AND CLINICAL MENTORING TO END OPIOID USE DISORDER EPIDEMIC

This Addiction Technology Transfer Center blog post describes two SAMHSA-funded projects that address the opioid crisis: Providers’ Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment and Providers’ Clinical Support System for Opioid Therapies. Both projects provide a wide array of no-cost, evidence-based educational resources and trainings with clinical expert mentorship to support primary care providers to effectively treat their patients with substance use disorders, specifically opioid use disorder. http://www.attcnetwork.org/find/news/attcnews/epubs/addmsg/March2017article.asp

HOUSING ACCESS AND STABILITY WITH SOAR

This issue brief looks at the integration of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) model into Housing First programs. The SOAR process can assist eligible applicants with obtaining SSI and/or SSDI benefits, thus providing a stable source of income that helps maintain housing. Housing First is an approach that focuses on quickly accessing permanent housing and then arranging for the services necessary to retain that housing. Having SOAR-trained case managers within a Housing First agency will facilitate expedited access to both income and health insurance. https://soarworks.prainc.com/article/housing-access-and-stability-soar

CDC GUIDELINE FOR PRESCRIBING OPIOIDS FOR CHRONIC PAIN: VIDEOS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) produced a suite of videos to help improve communication between prescribers and patients about prescription opioids. These videos complement CDC’s Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain and aim to educate patients and providers about opioids and their risks. Available on YouTube, these videos can be easily used as Public Service Announcements (PSAs), shared on social media, or featured in trainings and presentations.

PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS: WHEN BENEFITS OUTWEIGH THE RISKS

This 60-second PSA for health care providers features two patients beginning opioid therapy. Prescription opioids can be prescribed by doctors to treat moderate to severe pain, but can also have serious risks and side effects. https://youtu.be/xkpftmVL7MA?list=PLvrp9iOILTQYPA_9rg3DFsG56BjUzOWFi

PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS: EVEN WHEN PRESCRIBED BY A DOCTOR

This informational, 90-second video raises awareness about prescription opioids among the general public. Some people might think prescription opioids are safer than alcohol or illegal drugs, but the truth is they carry serious risks and side effects. Individuals should talk with their doctor about concerns and make informed decisions about pain management together. https://youtu.be/EsAgnVMWxBc?list=PLvrp9iOILTQYPA_9rg3DFsG56BjUzOWFi
PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS: BACK ON TRACK

This 60-second animated PSA for health care providers highlights the risks of opioids and offers some non-opioid options for chronic pain management. https://youtu.be/EfojmJtvnFU?list=PLvrp9iOLTQYPA_9rg3DFsG56BjUzOWFi

NEW FROM REAL WARRIORS

STRATEGIES FOR COPING WITH FLASHBACKS

This article explains how flashbacks after a traumatic event can affect your daily life and offers tips to use when having flashbacks related to a traumatic event. http://www.realwarriors.net/veterans/treatment/coping-with-flashbacks.php

HOW TO DEVELOP HEALTHY SLEEP HABITS

This article corrects common myths about sleep and offers tips to improve your sleep habits. http://www.realwarriors.net/active/deployment/sleep.php

VA BLOG POSTS

DECODING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PTSD AND HEART DISEASE

This blog post from the Department of Veteran’s Affairs (VA) describes research that explored the effect of emotional trauma, specifically post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), on the heart. Emotional trauma isn’t only about the mind – it also manifests physically in the body, especially in the heart. Many studies over the past quarter-century explain the connection between chronic PTSD and a higher risk for heart disease. http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/35463/decoding-the-relationship-between-ptsd-and-heart-disease/

CAN YOGA EASE PTSD? VA WANTS TO FIND OUT

A VA psychologist in Indiana is exploring the effects yoga might have on Veterans suffering with PTSD. “There’s just not that much research out there yet about the effect of yoga on PTSD symptoms,” said Dr. Louanne Davis, a clinical research psychologist at the Indianapolis VA and an associate scientist in clinical psychology at the Indiana University School of Medicine. “But we know that yoga is soothing. Yoga is very meditative and emphasizes being aware or mindful of your breathing and how your body feels moment to moment. This type of practice stimulates the calming branch of the nervous system and helps to reduce the hyperarousal that is one of the symptoms of PTSD.” http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/35309/can-yoga-ease-ptsd-va-wants-find/
ADDICTION RECOVERY METHODS FOUND USEFUL IN TREATING SOME VETERANS WITH PTSD

Veterans today can receive many types of effective treatment to address PTSD. Although the personal struggles are different, many addiction therapies have been found to help PTSD patients. In addition to non-12-step recovery methods like cognitive behavioral therapy and exposure therapies, new approaches to PTSD treatment, like mindfulness, eye movement desensitization and reprocessing, sensory experiencing, and sensorimotor therapy show great promise. For some, tenets of 12-step recovery programs like Alcoholics Anonymous can be helpful as a set of loose guidelines and philosophy toward better living, particularly the psychological reframing of the issue from a failure of self-imposed willpower to an acceptance of new tools and community support. [http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/35422/addiction-recovery-methods-found-useful-treating-veterans-ptsd/](http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/35422/addiction-recovery-methods-found-useful-treating-veterans-ptsd/)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SHORT TAKES ON SUICIDE PREVENTION

The VA Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center for Suicide Prevention is hosting a podcast series on suicide prevention. Recently released podcasts address topics such as collaborative safety planning for older adults and sleeping well as an upstream approach to suicide prevention. [http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/media/](http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/media/)

NEW FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUVENILE DRUG TREATMENT COURT GUIDELINES

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention has released the Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines. Juvenile drug treatment courts are designed for youth with substance use disorders who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. The new guidelines provide juvenile courts with an evidence-based, treatment-oriented approach that emphasizes family engagement, and addresses the substance use and often co-occurring mental health disorders experienced by the youth. [https://www.ojjdp.gov/juvenile-drug-treatment-court-guidelines.html](https://www.ojjdp.gov/juvenile-drug-treatment-court-guidelines.html)

POLYVICTIMIZATION IN LATER LIFE: WEB-BASED TRAINING

The Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center offers this six-hour web-based training presented in five modules. The purpose of the training is to strengthen awareness of polyvictimization in later life and to provide knowledge and skills of professionals to address the needs of victims. The training addresses the context of polyvictimization; victims and perpetrators of polyvictimization; best practices to work with older adults affected by polyvictimization using trauma-informed, ethical, and culturally appropriate practices; and the latest research and best practices to serve this population. [https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspOnline_polyvictimization.cfm](https://www.ovcttac.gov/views/TrainingMaterials/dspOnline_polyvictimization.cfm)
HEALTH OBSERVANCE: BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH

MARCH 2017

The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBC) recognizes Brain Injury Awareness Month every March. The theme this year is: “Think Ahead: Be safe. Know the signs. Get help.” During March, the A Head for the Future initiative will focus efforts on raising awareness about: the causes of traumatic brain injury (TBI), how to prevent or minimize brain injuries, what to do if you think you experienced a TBI, and what you can do to help your recovery. The goal of raising awareness about TBI is to help people affected by TBI find information and key resources. DVBC’s Brain Injury Awareness Month page provides links to resources, social media, events, and more. [http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/brain-injury-awareness-month-march-2017](http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/brain-injury-awareness-month-march-2017)

WEBINAR: OUTCOMES AFTER MILD TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY IN RECENTLY RETURNED SOLDIERS: EVIDENCE INCLUDING THE ARMY WARRIOR STRONG STUDY

MARCH 16, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

Concussion, also known as mild TBI, is common in returning service members. However, there is limited definitive evidence on concussion outcomes. In this Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury webinar, the presenter will discuss the results of the Warrior Strong study, a large longitudinal study on a non-clinical population of recently deployed soldiers. A substantial number of service members in the study experienced post-concussion symptoms. The study highlights the prevalence of undetected mild TBI in the military and the chronic effects service members experience. The presenter will also discuss the implications of the study results on targeted treatment of post-concussive symptoms. [http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly_Webinars.aspx](http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly_Webinars.aspx)

WEBINAR: MENTAL HEALTH—WHO’S LEADING THE LEADING HEALTH INDICATORS? LEARN HOW TO PREVENT YOUTH SUICIDE

MARCH 16, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

Join this Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) webinar to learn about progress made toward achieving the Healthy People 2020 Mental Health Leading Health Indicators. Hear how one community organization is implementing the Sources of Strength Program to prevent suicide among youth. [https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/webinars-events](https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/webinars-events)
WEBINAR: ADDRESSING CIRCUMSTANCE FROM THE PAST

MARCH 16, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

Many people with mental or substance use disorders experience homelessness, are at risk of homelessness, or are housed in environments unsuitable for recovery. This webinar, the first in a series produced by SAMHSA’s Homeless and Housing Resource Network, will provide attendees with an understanding of the housing barriers faced by people experiencing homelessness who have a history of criminal justice involvement, less than honorable discharge from the military, or spotty rental history, including evictions and utility arrears, and it will also provide guidance on helping these individuals and families access permanent housing. https://events-na2.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/916603251/en/events/event/shared/1033525243/event_landing.html?sco-id=1033483998&_charset_=utf-8

AMERICA’S OPIOID OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC: WHAT WE KNOW AND HOW HEALTH PRACTITIONERS CAN HELP

MARCH 17, 2017, 10:00-11:00AM ET

In the United States, the number of drug overdose and opioid-involved deaths has been on the rise, with more than 50 percent of drug overdoses resulting in a death that involved opioid use. Between 2000 and 2015, more than 500,000 people died as a result of drug overdoses, and opioid overdoses are responsible for an estimated 91 deaths every day nationwide. This presentation will focus on the epidemiology and history of the opioid overdose epidemic, the CDC’s activities to address overdoses, and resources for dental and medical practitioners. This lecture in the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research Clinical Research Fellowship Grand Rounds is available via videocast. https://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?live=22008&bhcp=1
VIDEOCAST LECTURE: PROMOTING RESILIENCE IN MILITARY FAMILIES: AFTER DEPLOYMENT, ADAPTIVE PARENTING TOOLS

MARCH 27, 2017, LECTURE: 10:00 AM ET; FACEBOOK LIVE Q&A SESSION: 2:00 PM ET

This spring, as part of a commitment to expanding research and resources on health issues that affect the military, the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH) is hosting a series of events on integrative health and U.S. military personnel, Veterans, and their families.

The After Deployment, Adaptive Parenting Tools (ADAPT) program is the first of its kind focused on post-deployment parenting practices in military families. Developed in response to the effects of a parent’s deployment on children, the ADAPT program incorporates emotion socialization techniques, including yoga, mindfulness meditation, and emotion coaching. This lecture will discuss the rationale for incorporating mindfulness approaches into a parenting program, walk through the goals and content of the ADAPT program’s different formats, and discuss two NIH-funded randomized trials evaluating program outcomes. Watch the lecture on Facebook LIVE or via NIH videocast. A question and answer session will be held with the presenter via Facebook Live after the lecture.

Facebook LIVE: https://www.facebook.com/nih.nccih/

WEBINAR: HOW TO GET YOUR EHR TO MATCH REALITY FOR UDS MEASURES ON DEPRESSION

MARCH 28, 2017, 2:00 PM

Is your electronic health record (EHR) working for you or against you? Does your agency’s Uniform Data System (UDS) report accurately reflect the work you do for depression screening and other behavioral health integration activities? Join this SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration Center for Integrated Health Solutions webinar to learn strategies and steps your team can use to make the most of the EHR to support improved health outcomes for your patients. Gain insight from a health technology expert and practical tips from an agency who learned to make their EHR a true part of the team to improve UDS depression measures through inputting and analyzing depression screening data from the EHR.

https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1137874
WEBINAR: IRRITABLE KIDS: WHAT THE RESEARCH TEACHES US

MARCH 30, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Are you concerned about your child’s irritability? Does your child have severe temper tantrums or “rages?” Join this NIMH webinar and learn about severe irritability and disruptive mood dysregulation in children and youth with Kenneth Towbin, M.D., Chief of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in the NIMH Emotion and Development Branch. Dr. Towbin will discuss: common signs and severity of symptoms, how parents can help a child with severe irritability, what treatment options exist, and ongoing research about irritable children conducted at NIMH in Bethesda, MD. https://irritablekidswebinar.eventbrite.com

WEBINAR: STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES TO PEOPLE WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONDITIONS

MARCH 30, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

In the course of their work as first responders, police officers routinely encounter people with mental and/or substance use disorders. However, many officers lack training in responding to mental health crises or options other than a hospital emergency department or the jail. This SAMHSA GAINS Center webinar will examine efforts to ensure successful interactions between police officers and people experiencing a mental health crisis, a mental health co-response strategy in Portland (ME), and the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion initiative in King County (WA). https://t.e2ma.net/message/0dwtj/4ce6po

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2017, CHICAGO, IL

The HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) Resource Center University Vision, Design and Capacity technical grant writing workshops provide university faculty and health professionals with strategies to make grant proposals more competitive. This hands-on workshop hosted by Northeastern Illinois University is for junior faculty, staff, and college/university health professionals from Historically Black Colleges and Universities who are interested in community-based participatory research, who are committed to working with underserved populations, and who want to build their institution’s capacity to compete and receive competitive grant awards. https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=100
NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH 2017: BRIDGING HEALTH EQUITY ACROSS COMMUNITIES

APRIL 2017

During National Minority Health Month, OMH will join with its partners in raising awareness about efforts across health, education, justice, housing, transportation, and employment sectors to address the factors known as the social determinants of health – environmental, social, and economic conditions that impact health. Visit the OMH website to learn more about National Minority Health Month and sign up for the National Minority Health Month topic on its email list to be notified about new tools and resources to support #NMHM17 events and programs.

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

APRIL 2017

The theme of the 2017 National Child Abuse Prevention Month is “Building Community, Building Hope.” Strong, nurturing communities that are supportive of families can get involved and play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect, and promoting child and family well-being.

Administration for Children and Families Resources: https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/preventionmonth/

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

APRIL 2017

Communities can use this month to raise awareness about alcohol abuse and take action to prevent it, both at home and in the community. https://healthfinder.gov/NHO/AprilToolkit.aspx
VIDEOCAST LECTURE: PAIN AND OPIOID MANAGEMENT IN VETERANS: EVIDENCE, LESSONS LEARNED, AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN THE USE OF COLLABORATIVE AND INTEGRATED CARE APPROACHES

APRIL 10, 2017, 10:00 AM ET: LECTURE; 2:00 PM ET: FACEBOOK LIVE Q&A SESSION

The overall goal of the Options for Pain Treatment Interventions study is to pilot test a novel collaborative care intervention to improve pain, opioid safety, and use of non-pharmacologic pain management strategies in Veterans in VA primary care. This NCCIH lecture will discuss the ongoing pilot randomized controlled trial among 100 Veterans in VA primary care with chronic pain and high-risk prescription opioid use. The presenter will focus on a scripted primary care-based intervention that involves the use of shared decision-making and “SMART” goal planning to develop a multi-modal pain care plan that aligns with Veterans’ personal values and goals for health and wellness. The lecture will also explore how this trial and other similar studies are laying the groundwork for a generation of new research investigating biopsychosocial, non-pharmacologic care for Veterans with chronic pain. Watch the lecture on Facebook LIVE or via NIH videocast. A question and answer session will be held with the presenter via Facebook Live after the lecture.

Facebook LIVE: https://www.facebook.com/nih.nccih/

WEBINAR: FINDING HER TRIBE: WOMEN’S RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEERS AND COMMUNITY

APRIL 11, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This SAMHSA webinar looks at the importance of inclusion and community relationships to women’s health and well-being. Topics include social inclusion, sense of community belonging and meaningful purpose, peer supports, mutual help and recovery communities, and others. https://www.samhsa.gov/women-children-families/trainings/relationships-matter

WEBINAR: WHAT TO DO (AND NOT DO) WHEN CHILDREN ARE ANXIOUS

APRIL 20, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Caregivers play a vital role in helping a child manage anxiety. Sometimes it’s hard to know what to say and do when a child is anxious. This NIMH webinar will offer the practical strategies to help caregivers and children break the cycle of anxiety. Participants will learn how to present important concepts about the nature and causes of anxiety, effective ways to change unhelpful thinking, how to face feared situations in a gradual, manageable way, and how to identify and change the cycle of accommodating anxiety within the family. https://whattodowhenchildrenareanxious.eventbrite.com
WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING DEPRESSION IN TEENAGERS

APRIL 27, 2017 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Depression is a leading cause of disability worldwide, and is a major contributor to the overall global burden of disease. Depression has its origins early in life, but current treatments are inadequate. Close to a third of young people with depression do not respond to treatment and many of those who do respond eventually relapse. Join Dr. Argyris Stringaris, Chief of the NIMH Mood Brain and Development Unit in Bethesda, MD, for this webinar on depression in teenagers. https://understandingdepressioninteenagers.eventbrite.com

2017 NIH REGIONAL SEMINAR: PROGRAM FUNDING AND GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

MAY 3-5, 2017, NEW ORLEANS, LA

The NIH Office of Extramural Research is hosting this seminar, which offers attendees from around the globe a comprehensive program designed around the latest in NIH grants policies, program, and process information, presented by approximately 70 NIH and HHS program, peer review, policy, and grants management officials. https://regionalseminars.od.nih.gov/neworleans2017/

WEBINAR: MOTHERHOOD: WHAT IT MEANS FOR WOMEN’S RECOVERY

MAY 9, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

Substance use and mental health problems may challenge a woman’s ability to effectively parent. Many effective interventions and supports are available to support women, their children, and their families. This SAMHSA webinar will discuss those interventions and supports, along with the importance of support for women who choose not to parent. Learn more about using motherhood as a pivot point to access help in substance use and mental health, incorporating family-centered approaches for women with behavioral health disorders and their children, meeting the needs of complex families, and more. https://www.samhsa.gov/women-children-families/trainings/relationships-matter
HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK

MAY 14-20, 2017

National Prevention Week is an annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. The 2017 Daily Health Themes include:

- Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use: Monday, May 15
- Prevention of Underage Drinking and Alcohol Misuse: Tuesday, May 16
- Prevention of Prescription and Opioid Drug Misuse: Wednesday, May 17
- Prevention of Illicit Drug Use and Youth Marijuana Use: Thursday, May 18
- Prevention of Suicide: Friday, May 19
- Promotion of Mental Health and Wellness: Saturday, May 20

https://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week/about

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

SAMHSA SEEKS FEEDBACK ON AWARENES S DAY PLANNING

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (Awareness Day) is on Thursday, May 4, 2017. SAMHSA wants to hear about organizations’ Awareness Day 2017 activities and how they can be most supportive. Fill out this Awareness Day 2017 Activities Update by Friday, March 17. Your response will inform future planning and help SAMHSA best support your organization's participation.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfqbe9_vKx1GdgiyfPvqHYbxOmlvMkpPrN6d_02-Fuh4D8E1w/viewform

THE ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM SEEKS FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY

The All of Us Research Program (formerly known as the Precision Medicine Initiative Cohort Program) will create a community of one million or more people from across the U.S. to improve the future of health. Those who join the program will contribute their health, environment, and lifestyle information over an extended period of time. By gathering information from such a large group of people, researchers will be able to learn how specific factors impact an individual’s health, and disease prevention and treatment. This approach to tailoring health care for each unique individual is called "precision medicine." The research program developers want to hear from everyone about their thoughts and ideas for how to make All of Us a success. Ideas on topics such as participant engagement and communications, health information data security, and the type of data to be collected are welcome from researchers, health care providers, patients, or anyone who wants to contribute to greater knowledge.

https://app.hatchbuck.com/OnlineForm/62861057585
SAMHSA’S ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT REGIONAL TRAININGS: REGISTRATION DUE BY MARCH 24, 2017

Local stakeholders interested in initiating, expanding, or improving the practice of assisted outpatient treatment (AOT) in their community or state are invited to register for SAMHSA-sponsored training on launching and operating an AOT program. SAMHSA will present two-day trainings at three different sites (Las Vegas, NV: May 16-17; Rockville, MD: June 1-2; Detroit, MI: June 28-29) to address the common barriers that public mental health officials and judges have reported as reasons for not fully implementing AOT in their communities. The curriculum will be targeted to leaders and policymakers of state and local mental health agencies, judges who currently preside over civil commitment dockets, coordinators and providers of outpatient services to high-risk individuals with mental illness, and leaders of peer and/or family advocacy groups. Attendees will hear from and interact with their counterparts in jurisdictions that currently practice AOT, receive practical instruction on establishing and maintaining successful AOT programs, forge useful connections, exchange insights and observations, and develop concrete action plans. The training will be free, but attendees must cover their own travel costs and make their own travel arrangements. This opportunity is not available to current SAMHSA AOT grantees. Applications due: March 24, 2017.

Prospective Applicant Letter:
http://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20170313/7c/f1/51/27/6e7b84354cd53ab6a1bbfa09/AOT___Cover_Letter_Final_030617.pdf
Application: https://s3.amazonaws.com/emma-assets/w2ccb/08b3cb3baec6bb76dac95dd864335909/AOT_2017_Registration_Form_fillable_FINAL_030617.pdf

FEEDBACK SOUGHT: NIH’S PRIORITIES IN ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS

This month, the National Institute of Aging (NIA) is inviting comments and suggestions from the public regarding the content of the fiscal year 2019 Bypass Budget on Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias. NIA welcomes comments on a range of topics, including the current state of the science, notable research priorities moving forward, and potential conceptual or technical barriers to overcome. Comments accepted through March 27, 2017.

https://www.nia.nih.gov/research/blog/2017/03/nihs-priorities-alzheimers-disease-and-related-dementias-let-your-voice-be

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SEEKS COMMENTS ON NEW IDEA WEBSITE

The U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) has recently launched a new IDEA.ed.gov website to provide resources to support the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). OSERS is seeking input from users of the IDEA.ed.gov website as part of its effort to provide updated, easy-to-navigate IDEA resources to children with disabilities and their families, teachers, administrators, advocates, and other stakeholders.

https://sites.ed.gov/osers/2017/03/department-of-education-seeks-comments-on-new-idea-website/
SAMHSA GRANTS FOR THE BENEFIT OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS
https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-17-009

SAMHSA: TARGETED CAPACITY EXPANSION-HIV PROGRAM: SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT FOR RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY POPULATIONS AT HIGH RISK FOR HIV/AIDS
https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-17-011

COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID ABUSE SITE-BASED PROGRAM FISCAL YEAR 2017 COMPETITIVE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT
https://www.bja.gov/Funding/CARA17.pdf

FROM GENOMIC ASSOCIATION TO CAUSATION: A CONVERGENT NEUROSCIENCE APPROACH FOR INTEGRATING LEVELS OF ANALYSIS TO DELINEATE BRAIN FUNCTION IN NEUROPSYCHIATRY
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-176.html (Collaborative U01)
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-179.html (U01)

BLUEPRINT NEUROTHERAPEUTICS NETWORK: SMALL MOLECULE DRUG DISCOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT FOR DISORDERS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

ALCOHOL-PTSD COMORBIDITY: PRECLINICAL STUDIES OF MODELS AND MECHANISMS

MARIJUANA, PRESCRIPTION OPIOID, OR PRESCRIPTION BENZODIAZEPINE DRUG USE AMONG OLDER ADULTS
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-17-196.html (R01)
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-17-197.html (R21)
https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-17-198.html (R03)

HOMELESS VETERANS’ REINTEGRATION PROGRAM, INCARCERATED VETERANS TRANSITION PROGRAM AND THE HOMELESS FEMALE VETERANS’ AND HOMELESS VETERANS’ WITH FAMILIES PROGRAM
https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=292108

PROMOTING CAREGIVER HEALTH USING SELF-MANAGEMENT
The Outreach Partnership Program is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to increase the public’s access to science-based mental health information through partnerships with national and state organizations. For more information about the program please visit: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml. To subscribe to receive the Update every two weeks, go to: http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml.

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