

National Institute of Mental Health Outreach Partnership Program

Update

August 15, 2009

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**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Mental Health
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison**

Science and Service News Updates

HHS Announces Senate Confirmation of Dr. Francis Collins as Director of the National Institutes of Health

The Department of Health and Human Services announced that the United States Senate unanimously confirmed Dr. Francis Collins as the next Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). “Dr. Collins is one of our generation's great scientific leaders. A physician and geneticist, Dr. Collins served as Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, where he led the Human Genome Project to completion,” said Secretary Sebelius. “Dr. Collins will be an outstanding leader. Today is an exciting day for NIH and for science in this country.”

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/08/20090807d.html>

NIMH: Web-based Programs Encourage Safer Sex Behaviors among Men at Risk for HIV/AIDS

A single-session, online, multimedia intervention effectively reduced risky sexual behaviors among young men who have sex with men, a group at high risk for HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. Such low-cost programs may help reverse the steady rise in HIV diagnoses among this population. The study was published online ahead of print on June 5, 2009, in the journal, *AIDS and Behavior*.

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2009/web-based-programs-encourage-safer-sex-behaviors-among-men-at-risk-for-hiv-aids.shtml>

NIMH: Economic Analysis Estimates Cost of Providing Comprehensive Mental Health Care Following Disasters: Study Clarifies Public Health Value of Large-Scale Mental Health Recovery Efforts

Making evidence-based mental health services accessible to everyone in a disaster-stricken area would have substantial public health benefits, according to a statistical model developed by NIMH-funded researchers. Rough estimates of cost show such comprehensive care would be within the range of other accepted medical practices. However, given the considerable costs and resources required, further studies are needed to determine whether such broader efforts are advisable and, if so, to what degree. The study was published in the August 2009 issue of the *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2009/economic-analysis-estimates-cost-of-providing-comprehensive-mental-health-care-following-disasters.shtml>

NIMH: Combination Treatment for Psychotic Depression Holds Promise

A combination of an atypical antipsychotic medication and an antidepressant known as a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) may be more effective in treating psychotic depression than an atypical antipsychotic alone, according to results from an NIMH-funded clinical study. Researchers reported the results of the Study of Pharmacotherapy of Psychotic Depression (STOP-PD) in the March 2009 issue of the *Archives of General Psychiatry*.

Science Update: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/science-news/2009/combination-treatment-for-psychotic-depression-holds-promise.shtml>

NINR: A Brief Behavioral Intervention Can Reduce Depression in Stroke Survivors

A nurse-led behavioral intervention can reduce the incidence of depression in stroke survivors, according to the results of a study published in the recent issue of the journal *Stroke*. The intervention, called Living Well with Stroke (LWWS), provided individualized counseling sessions aimed at increasing pleasant social interactions and physical activity as a way to elevate mood, and was designed to be used alone or in conjunction with antidepressant medications. This study was funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR).

Press release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/aug2009/ninr-06.htm>

SAMHSA Announces Additional Funding to Bolster Increasingly Strained National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Crisis Centers: Effects of The Economy are Placing Increased Demands on Crisis Services Centers at The Same Time They Face Cutbacks from Other Funding Sources

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is moving to provide urgent funding to suicide prevention centers around the nation that are dealing with the enormous hardship wrought by the economic downturn. Many of these centers must cope with a sharp rise in the number of callers in crisis (often because of financial problems). At the same time these centers are threatened with significant cutbacks in funding from state and local governments and other sources of support. SAMHSA funds the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Lifeline) through a cooperative agreement for Networking, Certifying and Training Suicide Prevention Hotlines that was awarded to Link2Health Solutions, Inc. SAMHSA is providing more than \$1 million in additional funding through a fiscal year (FY) 2009 supplement to this cooperative agreement.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/0908030709.aspx>

FDA Issues Final Rules to Help Patients Gain Access to Investigational Drugs

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published two rules that seek to clarify the methods available to seriously ill patients interested in gaining access to investigational drugs and biologics when they are not eligible to participate in a clinical trial and don't have other satisfactory treatment options. To support the effort to help these patients, the agency also is launching a new Web site where patients and their health care professionals can learn about options for investigational drugs. In general, these options include being treated with a drug that has been approved by FDA, being given an investigational drug as part of a clinical trial, or obtaining access to an investigational drug outside of a clinical trial.

Press Release: <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm176526.htm>

Resources: Publications, Toolkits, Other Resources

NIH News in Health: Questions Raised About "Depression Gene"

A story in the August 2009 issue *NIH News in Health* provides a summary regarding recent findings related to a depression risk gene. A "depression risk" gene identified more than 5 years ago may not be linked to the mental illness after all, a new study reports. Scientists believe that most mental disorders are caused by a complex interaction between genes and the environment. But it's difficult to detect their precise roles.

<http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2009/August/capsules.htm#cap01>

NCD: Effective Emergency Management: Making Improvements for Communities and People with Disabilities

The National Council on Disability (NCD) prepared this report as a compendium of knowledge about the challenges faced by people with disabilities in disaster situations. The report is divided into three segments: 1) The Life Cycle of Comprehensive Emergency Management: Seven chapters review and discuss findings for a variety of hazards and the four main phases of emergency management activity: preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. 2) Emergency Managers and Voluntary Organizations: The importance of connecting these two sets of resources is discussed, along with strategies to build capacities and leverage resources for people with disabilities in harm's way. 3) Promising Practices: A final section outlines the implications of the empirical research assessment for the practice of disaster management for people with disabilities, identifies promising initiatives, reveals trends in policy and practice, and provides a comprehensive set of interventions for the present Administration as well as federal agencies, state and local government, and individuals.

http://www.ncd.gov/newsroom/publications/2009/NCD_EmergencyManagement_HTML/EffectiveEmergencyManagement.html

New SAMHSA Resources

Incorporating Alcohol Pharmacotherapies into Medical Practice

This new Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) provides guidelines for the use of medications in the treatment of alcohol use disorders. Written for physicians and other health care providers, the TIP presents information on the four medications approved by the Food and Drug Administration to treat this disease: acamprosate, disulfiram, oral naltrexone, and extended-release injectable naltrexone. The TIP describes each medication's mechanisms of action, proper dosing, side effects and their management, indications and contraindications, and patient management.

<http://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/productDetails.aspx?ProductID=18117>

Treatment for Stimulant Use Disorder

This TIP details information on the general effects and medical aspects of stimulant use disorders. Stimulant users have unique treatment needs for which scientifically validated treatment strategies have been developed; these strategies, as well as recommendations for applying them, are described in the TIP. Also addressed are issues that may arise when treating special populations, such as gay men and individuals with coexisting disorders.

<http://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/productDetails.aspx?ProductID=18141>

Updated Directory of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Treatment Programs Now Available

A new, updated guide to finding local substance abuse treatment programs is now available. The directory provides information on thousands of alcohol and drug treatment programs located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and five U.S. territories.

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

New SAMHSA Office of Applied Studies Reports

Employment and Major Depressive Episode

Data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) show that the national rate of individuals who experience a past year major depressive episode (MDE) has declined from 68.8 percent in 2004 to 63.2 percent in 2006 and that rates of full-time employment continue to be lower among those with MDE than among those without MDE. Combined data from 2004 to 2007 indicate that the difference in the rate of any current employment between those with and without MDE was especially high for males, adults aged 26 or older, those who lived in non-metropolitan counties, and those who had received government assistance in the past year.

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/162/Employment.cfm>

Treatment for Substance Use and Depression among Adults, by Race/Ethnicity

Data combined from the 2004 to 2007 NSDUH indicate that 9.7 percent of adults aged 18 or older needed treatment for a substance use problem in the past year, and 10.5 percent of those needing substance use treatment received it in the past year in a specialty facility. Among those in need of substance use treatment, blacks had higher rates of receipt of treatment in a specialty facility than persons of two or more races, Hispanics, whites, and Asians. 1 in 12 adults (7.5 percent) had a major depressive episode in the past year, and two-thirds of them received treatment for depression in the past year. Whites were more likely to have received treatment than blacks, Hispanics, and Asians, and persons of two or more races were more likely to have received treatment than Hispanics and Asians.

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/163/SusUseRaceEthnicity.cfm>

Characteristics of Substance Abuse Treatment Facilities Offering Acupuncture

Acupuncture is one of the oldest healing practices in the world, and it has been used to treat a wide spectrum of medical conditions and diseases including substance abuse. According to the 2007 National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services most facilities that offer acupuncture also offer other services to support the needs of clients, such as substance abuse education, discharge planning, case management, and aftercare. Facilities that offer acupuncture were twice as likely as all substance abuse treatment facilities to offer special programs or groups for adolescents (64 vs. 31 percent) and persons with HIV/AIDS (20 vs. 10 percent).

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k9/205/205Acupuncture2k9.cfm>

Resources and Updates from the VA National Center for PTSD

The Center's Revised Website is Launched

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Center for PTSD website has been updated and reorganized into three separate sections: 1) Veterans and the General Public; 2) Providers and Researchers, and 3) About Us: the National Center for PTSD. The National Center's website also has a new web address.

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov>

Latest issue of PTSD Research Quarterly Newsletter Available: Military Sexual Trauma

The latest issue of the National Center's PTSD Research Quarterly newsletter focuses on military sexual trauma. Each newsletter issue contains a review article written by guest experts on a specific topic related to PTSD. The article has a selective bibliography with abstracts and a supplementary list of annotated citations

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/newsletters/ptsd-rq.asp>

Counseling Veteran Students

VA has started a training program for college and university staff to help them understand returning veteran students. This tool for university and college campus professionals provides information about unique challenges that veterans face in adjusting to college after deployment in war. Find out more about common mental health issues for veteran students and how to link them up with resources to help with coping and adjustment to the college experience.

<http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/College/index.asp>

AHRQ: Research Activities: Behavioral Health Carve-Outs Limit Access of Women with Breast Cancer to Psychotherapy and Related Medications

A tumult of emotions typically bombard women diagnosed with breast cancer, ranging from severe anxiety and depression to shock and disbelief. Although 22 to 40 percent of women with breast cancer suffer significant psychological distress, at most only 30 percent of them receive psychotherapy or medication. Women have less access to psychotherapy and psychotherapeutic medications if mental health services are provided by behavioral health carve-outs in their insurance program rather than as integrated services, concludes a new study supported by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ).

<http://www.ahrq.gov/research/aug09/0809RA10.htm>

Calendar of Events

Teleconference: Moving Towards Social Inclusion

August 25, 2009, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

SAMHSA's Resource Center to Promote Acceptance, Dignity and Social Inclusion Associated with Mental Health is sponsoring this free teleconference training to (1) provide a definition and framework for social inclusion; (2) provide feedback and findings from an April 2009 SAMHSA meeting on social inclusion; (3) provide information on the role of the ADS Center in providing technical assistance and resources; and (4) share effective strategies for promoting social inclusion.

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/teleconferences/>

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month (Recovery Month)

September 2009

The Recovery Month observance highlights the societal benefits of substance abuse treatment, lauds the contributions of treatment providers and promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse in all its forms is possible. The observance also encourages citizens to take action to help expand and improve the availability of effective substance abuse treatment for those in need.

<http://www.recoverymonth.gov>

Toolkit now available: <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/Recovery-Month-Kit.aspx>

AHRQ's 2009 Annual Conference: Research to Reform: Achieving Health System Change
September 13-16, 2009, Bethesda, Maryland

This free conference is designed to bring participants together with leading health care research and policy experts in sessions on issues including quality and safety, delivery of services and improving Americans' health status.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/about/annlconf09.htm>

2010 National GAINS Center Conference

Call for Presentations Deadline: September 15, 2009

March 17-19, 2010, Orlando, Florida

The CMHS National GAINS Center is now accepting proposals for presentations at the 2010 National GAINS Center Conference that promote the conference theme, *Including Justice-Involved People with Mental Illness in Health Care Reform*.

<http://gainscenter.samhsa.gov/html/conference/>

Moving Into the Future: New Dimensions and Strategies for Women's Health Research for the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

September 21–23, 2009, Providence, Rhode Island

The NIH Office of Research on Women's Health is convening the third in a series of public hearings and scientific workshops to update the Women's Health Research Agenda at the NIH for the coming decade. The ideas and recommendations emerging from this conference and other regional conferences will help inform future women's health research priorities at the NIH.

<http://www.orwhmeetings.com/movingintothefuture/BrownUniv/>

3rd Annual Julius Axelrod Lecture

October 18, 2009, 6:45–9:00 PM, Chicago, Illinois

NIDA, NIMH, and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) will co-sponsor a lecture celebrating the career of Dr. Julius Axelrod, one of the founders of modern neuropharmacology. An early career investigator poster session to honor the dedication of Dr. Axelrod to neuropharmacology research and to the mentoring of young investigators will follow the keynote presentation.

<http://dev.seiservices.com/nida/axelrod2009/Index.asp>

Calls for Public Input

Request for Information: Updating the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee Strategic Plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Research

On behalf of the Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee (IACC), NIMH is seeking comments to inform the annual update of the IACC Strategic Plan for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Research as required by the Combating Autism Act of 2006. The purpose of this RFI is to solicit input from ASD stakeholders to inform the next update of the Strategic Plan. In the RFI form, there will be an opportunity to provide input on each section of the IACC Strategic Plan. Please include suggestions regarding missing or underrepresented knowledge areas, new opportunities needed for advancing research and knowledge about ASD, and suggestions for prioritizing research objectives. Deadline for responses: August 21, 2009

For more information: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-MH-09-013.html>

Comment Period on Lifting Ban on HIV Visitors to the U.S. The Department of Health and Human Services has published a Notice of the Proposed Rulemaking to lift restrictions on nonimmigrant visas for people with HIV/AIDS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is proposing to revise the Part 34 regulation to remove “Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection” from the definition of “communicable disease of public health significance.” CDC is also proposing to remove references to “HIV” from the scope of examinations in its regulations. Aliens infected with a “communicable disease of public health significance” are inadmissible into the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Deadline for comments: August 17, 2007

For more information: http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getpage.cgi?position=all&page=31798&dbname=2009_register

National Summit on Disability Policy 2010: ADA 1990–2010 Retrospective and Future Policy Directions: A comprehensive dialogue to shape the national disability agenda

Hosted by the National Council on Disability (NCD), this Summit to be held in July 2010 commemorates the 20th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with a reception, an ADA retrospective and a series of working meetings. The results of the meetings will help shape disability policy and programs for the next decade. NCD is seeking people with disabilities, individuals representing grassroots organizations and others to help shape disability policies and programs for the next decade.

Deadline for submitting application to attend the summit is October 15, 2009.

<http://www.neweditions.net/ncd2010/eventinfo.html>

Funding Information

Grants.Gov Web Site Offers New Feature for Information on Applying for All ARRA Federal Grants; Upcoming Webinar Series

A new feature on Grants.gov is available to help users find and apply for The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant opportunities. Grants.gov contains information about finding and applying for all federal grant programs. The launch of this Recovery Act feature on the homepage of Grants.gov will direct users to Recovery Act opportunities, other Recovery Act resources, upcoming Webinars and links.

Working together across government to provide additional information to new grant applicants, the Department of Health and Human Services will host on behalf of Grants.gov a Webinar series in August, 2009 targeted towards potential grant applicants. The Webinar series topics include: Introduction to Grants.gov and the Recovery Act, Finding Recovery Act Opportunities, and Registration to Submit Recovery Act Opportunities. Each Webinar session will include time for questions and answers. All Webinars will be recorded and made available to view on Grants.gov after each series is completed. More details for registration can be found on Grants.gov in the new Recovery Act feature on the homepage.

Information about webinars: http://www.grants.gov/applicants/recovery_webinar.jsp

SAMHSA Provides New Information on How Grant Program Allotments are Calculated

SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies is issuing a new guide providing updated information on the procedures used by that office to calculate allocations for some of the key block and formula grants the agency administers. The grant programs addressed in this new guide entitled *Block Grants and Formula Grants: A Guide for Allotment Calculations* include:

- The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
- The Mental Health Services Block Grant
- Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Formula Grant
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness Formula Grant

The guide provides a non-technical overview of the new calculation procedures, detailed descriptions of the four sets of formulas, and the data used in the process. Flow charts and other background information are also provided to give a clearer overall understanding of the calculation procedures and how they affect these grant programs.

http://oas.samhsa.gov/BG_documentation_070809_final_psg.pdf.

AHRQ Announces Intent to Publish Grant and Contract Solicitations for Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) Projects with Funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

With this notice, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is announcing the Agency's intention to support new comparative effectiveness research (CER) projects, with funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The ARRA appropriated \$300 million to AHRQ for support of CER. ARRA funding will focus, initially, on 14 priority conditions established by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services under Section 1013 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003. These priority conditions were identified through a process involving discussion with, and extensive input from, the public as well as Federal agencies.

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HS-09-009.html>

Programmatic Funding

AHRQ: Transforming Primary Care Practice

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

CDC: Straight Talk on Preventing HIV Program

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=J32vKGNLPqvngFvJmDtGW4Gwry8GD0xrbJLpMD4yDd3rnpLfX8nk!-77834959?oppId=48861&mode=VIEW>

Office of Public Health and Science: FY09 Youth Empowerment Program

<https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=10539>

Research Funding Opportunities

Selected NIH Requests for Applications (RFAs)

[Full listing of NIH RFAs at

http://grants2.nih.gov/grants/guide/search_results.htm?year=active&scope=rfa]

The Role of Human-Animal Interaction in Child Health and Development

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-030.html> (R03)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HD-09-031.html> (R01)

Selected NIH Program Announcements

[Full listing of NIH PAs at

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/search_results.htm?year=active&scope=pa]

Genetic and Genomic Analysis of Xenopus

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-240.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-241.html> (R21)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-242.html> (R03)

NIMH Career Transition Award for Intramural Investigators

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-246.html>

Innovations in Biomedical Computational Science and Technology

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-218.html> (R01)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES National Institutes of Health

The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) with support from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and in cooperation with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to help close the gap between mental health research and clinical practice, inform the public about mental illnesses, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. For more information on the NIMH Outreach Program please visit <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partners>.

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

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