



UPDATE

February 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*

SLEEP MAY TRIM NEURAL CONNECTIONS TO RESTORE LEARNING ABILITY; MOUSE STUDIES SUPPORT HOMEOSTASIS THEORY

Why do we sleep? Companion studies in mice by National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) grantees add to evidence that sleep may be the price we pay for the ability to learn. The results suggest that sleep streamlines neural connections, or synapses, making them more efficient. It likely restores homeostatic balance to energy resources spent by learning during wakefulness, say the researchers. This is accomplished by the downsizing and weakening of unneeded connections – a selective forgetting, so to speak. A team at the University of Wisconsin found that 80 percent of cortex synapses sampled shrunk by nearly 20 percent during sleep. Another team at the Johns Hopkins University found that key cell surface receptor proteins in those synapses similarly plummet during sleep – and identified the underlying molecular mechanisms. All this makes room for new learning, according to the synaptic homeostasis hypothesis proposed by the researchers.

Science Update: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/sleep-may-trim-neural-connections-to-restore-learning-ability.shtml>

REVEALED: LSD DOCKED IN ITS HUMAN BRAIN TARGET; MOLECULAR STRUCTURE MAY HOLD CLUES TO DESIGN OF NEW THERAPEUTICS

LSD's chemical diagram has long been a counterculture icon, but exactly how that structure works in the brain to achieve the drug's potent mind-altering effects has remained a mystery. Now, an NIMH grantee has discovered the key pieces of the puzzle – unveiling the molecular structure of LSD interacting with its target protein in the human brain, a receptor for the chemical messenger serotonin. The findings are providing the first structure-informed insights into the molecular mechanisms of a hallucinogen.

Science Update: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/revealed-ldd-docked-in-its-human-brain-target.shtml>

OPIOIDS ARE DRIVING INCREASE IN COCAINE OVERDOSE DEATHS

An examination of national trend data shows that heroin and synthetic opioids are driving a recent increase in cocaine-related overdose deaths. The assessment was conducted by scientists at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Science Spotlight: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2017/02/opioids-are-driving-increase-in-cocaine-overdose-deaths>

STUDY FINDS ONE IN FOUR HIGH SCHOOL E-CIGARETTE USERS HAVE TRIED “DRIPPING”

A study of high school students found that one in four teens reported using e-cigarettes for “dripping,” a practice in which users produce and inhale vapors by placing drops of e-liquids directly onto heated atomizer coils. In a survey of 1,080 Connecticut high school students who used e-cigarettes, 26.1 percent of students reported this behavior. The survey found students engaged in dripping to produce thicker clouds of vapor, improve flavors, and produce a stronger throat hit. The research was funded by NIDA and the Food and Drug Administration Center for Tobacco Products.

Science Spotlight: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2017/02/study-finds-one-in-four-high-school-e-cigarette-users-have-tried-dripping>

MICHAEL PHELPS AND ALLISON SCHMITT NAMED HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS FOR SAMHSA’S NATIONAL CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2017

Olympic champions Michael Phelps, the world’s most decorated Olympian, and Allison Schmitt, an eight-time Olympic medalist, are partnering with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) over the next year to focus attention on the needs of children, youth, and young adults who experience behavioral health disorders, such as mental illnesses and addictions. Phelps and Schmitt will serve as Honorary Chairpersons of SAMHSA’s National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day (Awareness Day) 2017 national event: “Partnering for Help and Hope.” Teammates and personal friends, Phelps and Schmitt have spoken candidly about their respective struggles with behavioral health and how they have supported each other through difficult times. The duo will collaborate with SAMHSA to promote children’s behavioral health initiatives.

Press Release: <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201702141000>

NEW FROM NIMH

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: COMPUTATIONAL NEUROSCIENCE: DECIPHERING THE COMPLEX BRAIN

In his most recent Director's Message, NIMH Director Dr. Joshua Gordon explains how computational and theoretical neuroscience can advance research into mental disorders.

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/messages/2017/computational-neuroscience-deciphering-the-complex-brain.shtml>

INSIDE NIMH: WINTER 2017 ISSUE

Inside NIMH is published in conjunction with each meeting of the National Advisory Mental Health Council, which advises the HHS Secretary, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Director, and the NIMH Director on all policies and activities relating to the conduct and support of mental health research, research training, and other programs of the Institute. In this issue, Dr. Gordon discusses the priorities he has identified for the Institute. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/inside-nimh/2017-winter-inside-nimh.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

COOL VIDEOS: STARRING THE WIRING DIAGRAM OF THE HUMAN BRAIN

NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins describes how tractography is helping scientists get a better picture of the human brain. <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/02/13/cool-videos-starring-wiring-diagram-human-brain.html>

NIH BLOG POST: WHEN IS RESEARCH NEWS?

This NIH Clear Communication blog post provides suggestions to science communicators on the right time to cover a hot new study. <https://www.nih.gov/institutes-nih/nih-office-director/office-communications-public-liaison/clear-communication/science-health-public-trust/when-research-news>

VIDEOLECTURE: TOWARDS PSYCHOBOTICS: THE MICROBIOME AS A KEY REGULATOR OF BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR

The learning objectives of this lecture in the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health's online continuing education series include learning about the concept of a gut-brain axis and how it could be involved in modulating behavior and the brain; listing some factors that can modify the microbiome in early life; defining probiotics and addressing whether they have been proven to have benefits in people; and describing the concept of "psychobiotics" and some early evidence on use of this approach in the context of psychological symptoms and disorders. Participants can earn continuing medical education credits.

<https://nccih.nih.gov/training/videolectures/towards-psychobiotics>

ALCOHOL'S EFFECTS ON IMMUNITY: INCREASING THE RISKS FOR INFECTION AND INJURY

Because of alcohol's effects on the immune system, people who drink to excess are at increased risk of contracting infectious diseases, may have more complications after surgery, and often take longer to recover from illness compared with those who drink at lower levels. Disruptions in immune system function also contribute to organ damage associated with alcohol consumption. This fact sheet from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) reviews the normal workings of the immune system and explores how alcohol interferes with these functions.

<https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/AA89/AA89.htm>

IMPROVING HEALTH THROUGH TRANSLATIONAL ALCOHOL RESEARCH

This NIAAA fact sheet addresses a key area of translational research—the neurobiology of alcohol use disorder (AUD). Drawing on human and animal research, it offers a brief overview of the changes in the brain that underlie the development and progression of AUD—from moderate to excessive to compulsive drinking—and how our understanding of these changes is informing—or being translated into—the development of interventions to help people reduce or abstain from alcohol use altogether.

<https://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/AA90/AA90.htm>

NIDA: NEW ANALYSIS HIGHLIGHTS PATTERNS OF ADULT MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE

An analysis of medical marijuana use among adults in the U.S. indicates that more than 21 percent of medical marijuana users reside in states that have not legalized its use, suggesting that physicians might be recommending medical marijuana regardless of legalization in their respective states.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2016/12/new-analysis-highlights-patterns-adult-medical-marijuana-use>

NEW FROM AHRQ

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS RELATED TO SUICIDAL IDEATION, 2006-2013

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project has released a statistical brief on emergency department (ED) visits related to suicidal ideation based on national data from 2006 to 2013. It found that the rate of ED visits related to suicidal ideation among adults aged 18 and older increased by 12 percent on average annually between 2006 and 2013. <https://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/reports/statbriefs/sb220-Suicidal-Ideation-ED-Visits.pdf>

IMPROVEMENT IN PATIENT-PROVIDER COMMUNICATIONS

An AHRQ report shows the percentage of adults who reported poor communication with health providers decreased significantly for all ethnic groups between 2002 and 2013. Data in the *Chartbook on Person- and Family-Centered Care* indicate that Hispanic patients reported the largest improvement, while white patients and black patients reported more modest improvements. <https://www.ahrq.gov/news/qdr.html>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

BULLYING PREVENTION IN INDIAN COUNTRY

This fact sheet provides information and resources related to the specific bullying prevention needs for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Communities. It highlights effective school-based anti-bullying prevention strategies. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/Bullying-Prevention-in-Indian-Country/All-New-Products/SMA16-4996>

GATHERING OF NATIVE AMERICANS FACT SHEET

This fact sheet, developed for AI/AN audiences and organizations serving Indian Country, provides an overview of the *Gathering of Native Americans* curriculum. For Alaska Native villages, this curriculum is called a *Gathering of Alaska Natives*. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA16-4994>

IN BRIEF: CHRONIC SUBSTANCE USE AND COGNITIVE EFFECTS ON THE BRAIN: AN INTRODUCTION

This resource provides information for clinicians who may encounter clients with cognitive deficits related to chronic substance use disorder. It highlights ways in which chronic substance use may affect the brain. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA16-4973>

IN BRIEF: PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAMS: A GUIDE FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

This resource explains the emergence and purpose of prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) and describes how PDMP use can enhance clinical decision making. It discusses how PDMPs improve individual patient safety while also helping decrease prescription drug misuse and unintentional overdose deaths. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA16-4997>

EFFECTS OF SEVERE WEATHER ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: RESOURCES

When a severe storm is on the horizon, communities focus on safety and emergency response; however, communities must also prepare for and respond to the impact and aftermath of severe weather on behavioral health. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA) Disaster Technical Assistance Center offers resources to support communities that would help prepare for, respond to, and deliver effective mental health and substance use responses to disasters. <https://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2017/01/25/severe-weather-effects-on-mental-health/>

THE CASE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SCREENING IN HIV CARE SETTINGS

This resource lays out the clear need for HIV treatment providers to jointly address behavioral health concerns and HIV, starting with screening for mental health and substance use disorders. This report offers strategies for providers to implement screening practices, including tips for preparing staff, updating organizational culture, and enhancing organizational infrastructure. <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA16-4999>

PREPARING FOR NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION: RESOURCES FOR FIRST RESPONDERS AND OTHERS

This tool presents resources for preparing first responders to distribute and/or administer naloxone, including community-based programs; prescribers and pharmacists; and law enforcement, firefighters, and emergency medical services. <https://www.samhsa.gov/capt/sites/default/files/resources/resources-first-responders.pdf>

GRANTEE STORY: WASHINGTON D.C.'S COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS DEEPEN UNDERSTANDING OF NEIGHBORHOOD PREVENTION NEEDS

Learn how Washington, D.C. is addressing data gaps and identifying nascent issues using an innovative, "bottom up" data collection approach. The District of Columbia's Department of Behavioral Health collects qualitative data using a standard protocol called "Community Conversations." <https://www.samhsa.gov/capt/tools-learning-resources/washington-dcs-community-conversations>

COLLABORATION STORY: CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION KEY TO PRESCRIBER ALERT SUCCESS

In North Carolina, the Burke Substance Abuse Network's approach to creating and implementing a prescriber alert system offers a model for other communities looking to reduce overprescribing of opioids. <https://captcollaboration.edc.org/story/cross-sector-collaboration-key-prescriber-alert-success>

ARCHIVED WEBCAST: TRAUMA AND PEER ENGAGEMENT

This webcast in SAMHSA's Power of Language and Portrayals series explored the impact of trauma on individuals and those who witness traumatic experiences in various environments—such as home, school, and community—as it relates to substance use disorders. The webcast addressed the positive effect that various groups such as the faith community and peer-to-peer engagement play in helping individuals get the treatment and recovery services needed. <http://eicnetwork.tv/Events/SAMHSA-Trauma-and-Peer-Engagement-2017>

CDC: DATING MATTERS®: INTERACTIVE GUIDE ON INFORMING POLICY

This new interactive guide in CDC's Dating Matters toolkit will help communities to understand policy as a strategy for preventing teen dating violence, know what to keep in mind when informing policy, and access worksheets, tools, and resources to drive evaluation, partnerships, and policy. <https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/datingmatterspolicy/>

NEW FROM ACF

CHILD WITNESSES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

This factsheet from the Administration on Children and Families discusses laws that extend legal protection to children who may be harmed by witnessing acts of domestic violence in their homes. The issues examined include the circumstances that constitute "witnessing" domestic violence and the legal consequence to persons who commit the domestic violence act, such as enhanced penalties and fines.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/statutes/witnessdv/>

PARENTING A CHILD WHO HAS EXPERIENCED TRAUMA (SPANISH LANGUAGE)

This factsheet discusses the nature of trauma, especially abuse or neglect, the effects of trauma on children and youth, and ways to help a child who has experienced trauma. Parents or foster parents who do not understand the effects of trauma may misinterpret their child's behavior, and attempts to address troubling behavior may be ineffective or, in some cases, even harmful. By understanding trauma, parents and foster parents can help support a child's healing, the parent-child relationship, and their family as a whole. This publication is also available in English. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/experimentado-trauma/>

PARENTING A CHILD WHO HAS BEEN SEXUALLY ABUSED: A GUIDE FOR FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS (SPANISH LANGUAGE)

This factsheet discusses how foster and adoptive parents can help children and adolescents who have experienced sexual abuse. It provides basic information about sexual abuse and links to other information for parents to learn more about the topic. The factsheet suggests ways to establish guidelines for safety and privacy in the family, and it offers suggestions about when to seek professional help and where to find such help. This publication is also available in English. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/abuso-sexual/>

NEW FROM BJA

MENTAL HEALTH COURT CURRICULUM

With Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) support, the Council of State Governments Justice Center has launched *Developing a Mental Health Court: An Interdisciplinary Curriculum*, a free, online multimedia resource with the information needed to plan, implement, sustain, or simply learn about mental health courts based on research and best practices from the field.

<https://www.bja.gov/Publications/MHCcurriculum.pdf>

JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM FACT SHEET

The goal of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) is to improve responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental illnesses or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders who come into contact with the justice system. The program supports early intervention and diversion for multi-system-involved individuals; cross-training for justice and treatment professionals; and improved communication, collaboration, and coordination of support services between justice professionals and treatment and related service providers as well as government partners. For fiscal year (FY) 2017, BJA revised the goals of JMHCP to move away from facilitating small-scale programming (e.g., pilots) to providing support for system-wide improvements in policies and practices at the local and state levels. <https://www.bja.gov/Publications/JMHCP-General.pdf>

DCOE: YOU CAN PRACTICE MINDFULNESS MEDITATION - EVERY DAY

Meditation is a valuable tool for mental health, but working it into a busy schedule can seem challenging. This Defense Centers for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post recommends several short meditation practices that can fit into a daily routine: focusing attention, open monitoring, and compassion meditation. These meditation practices can be a good starting point for bringing mindfulness into everyday life. http://www.dcoe.mil/blog/17-02-07/You_Can_Practice_Mindfulness_Meditation_-_Every_Day.aspx

NATIONAL CENTER FOR PTSD: MANAGING STRESS REACTIONS AFTER TRAUMA

This e-newsletter issue links to resources from the National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to help manage stress after a trauma. <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVHA/bulletins/183da26>

NEW FROM REAL WARRIORS

STRATEGIES FOR COPING WITH FLASHBACKS

This article explains how flashbacks after a traumatic event can affect 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 PROPER MEDICATION USE HELPS YOU STAY MISSION READY

This article explains why taking medication correctly is important and gives tips to help properly follow one's prescription plan. <http://www.realwarriors.net/active/treatment/proper-medication-use.php>

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

FEBRUARY 2017

Communities can use Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month to raise awareness about teen dating violence and take action toward a solution – both at home and in the community.

<https://healthfinder.gov/NHO/FebruaryToolkit2.aspx>

WEBINAR: HOW TO HELP A CHILD WHO WORRIES TOO MUCH

FEBRUARY 16, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Worry is a normal part of a child's life. A child might feel anxious before taking a test or making an important decision. But for many children, anxiety involves more than temporary worry. These children experience excessive worry for months or years about a variety of everyday things. Some children find it difficult to control the worry, and the feelings interfere with daily activities such as school work and social activities. Join this NIMH webinar and learn to identify the signs and symptoms of generalized anxiety disorder and separation anxiety disorder, and specific evidence-based techniques that can help children learn different ways of thinking and reacting to anxiety provoking situations.

<https://howtohelpachildwhoworriestoomuch.eventbrite.com>

WEBINAR: IS IT REAL OR NOT REAL - DO I HAVE PSYCHOSIS?

FEBRUARY 21, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This SAMHSA-sponsored webinar can help guide individuals through what might be some confusing experiences. Participants will learn: what is psychosis, about tools to identify if someone is at risk of developing psychosis, how people are turning to the internet and technology to get help and information, and about personal experiences from someone who struggled with psychosis and found help. In addition, providers and advocates will gain knowledge on up-to-date training on identifying and supporting young people who are experiencing psychosis for the first time. https://events-na3.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/986655080/en/events/event/shared/1700946820/event_landing.html?sco-id=1880403416&_charset_=utf-8

WEBINAR: AMIDST THE OPIOID CRISIS: BEST PRACTICES FOR SMVF RESILIENCE, TREATMENT, AND RECOVERY

FEBRUARY 22, 2017, 2:00 PM ET

Compared with the general population, service members, veterans, and their families (SMVF) are at a greater risk of misusing opioids and unintentionally overdosing. Combat-related injuries resulting in chronic pain, sleep disorders, mental health problems, and co-occurring conditions all play a role in this trend. SAMHSA is working with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the U.S. Department of Defense, and other interagency partners to advance strategies to combat the opioid crisis among SMVF. This SAMHSA webinar will feature comprehensive evidence-based solutions, including MAT and recovery approaches. This webinar will also highlight the steps the VA has taken to address one of its greatest challenges – chronic pain and overprescribing. This webinar will not only review the nature and cause of the problem, but will also provide strategies designed to enhance statewide approaches and improve military and civilian behavioral health system responses to the opioid crisis. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1131690>

WEBINAR: TRANSFORMING ANGER: PROVENT STRATEGIES

FEBRUARY 23, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

This DCoE webinar will offer health care providers tools to recognize the dysfunctional cognitive processes that trigger anger behavior. Presenters will discuss proven strategies to transform the negative emotional, cognitive, and physiological aspects of anger into more constructive behaviors. The webinar will feature tips focused on maintaining physical health to reduce and ward off vulnerability to anger. Presenters will also discuss behavioral and cognitive strategies that teach service members healthy communication and collaborative problem solving skills and helpful methods to calm someone during an episode of anger. http://dcoe.mil/Training/Monthly_Webinars.aspx

WEBINAR: KEEPING A MILLION HEARTS BEATING: HOW INTEGRATED CARE CAN REDUCE HEART DISEASE

FEBRUARY 28, 2017, 1:00 PM ET

Heart disease continues to be the top cause of death among Americans, with one of every four Americans dying from heart-related problems, including heart attack and stroke. And, people with mental illness are nearly twice as likely to die from chronic health conditions, including heart disease, than the general population. The HHS *Million Hearts* initiative was created to prevent one million heart attacks and strokes by 2017. Join this SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration Center for Integrated Health Services webinar to learn what's next for *Million Hearts* and how health care providers, including integrated primary and behavioral health care providers, have used *Million Hearts'* blood pressure protocols to improve the health of the people they serve. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1134430>

WEBINAR: HOW TO GET MEDIA ATTENTION FOR YOUR YOUTH WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

FEBRUARY 28, 2017, 5:00-6:00 PM ET

This Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention webinar focuses on how one can get the attention of news agencies in one's community. Participants will learn how to write an effective news release and prepare youth for media interviews. Presenters also will discuss various techniques for garnering the media's attention for the positive things youth are doing. https://events-na8.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1110525827/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?sco-id=2052702540&_charset=utf-8

WEBINAR: TEENAGERS AND SOCIAL ANXIETY

MARCH 9, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Many people feel slightly self-conscious, nervous, or shy in front of other people; however, some children, particularly teenagers, experience an intense and chronic fear of social or performance situations in which they expect to feel embarrassed, judged, rejected, or fearful of offending others. These extreme feelings can significantly interfere with school, extracurricular activities, and making friends. Join this NIMH webinar and learn the signs and symptoms of social anxiety disorder and strategies to help teenagers learn different ways of thinking, behaving, and reacting to social worries and concerns.

<https://teenagersandsocialanxiety.eventbrite.com>

WEBINAR: HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR SOCIAL WORK PROVIDERS

MARCH 9, 2017, 1:00-4:00 PM ET

Many victims of human trafficking come into contact with health care and social service professionals and remain unidentified. Potential victims can present with a wide-range of physical and psychological health issues and social service needs. This *Stop. Observe. Ask. Respond to Human Trafficking*. (SOAR) Health and Wellness training aims to educate social work providers on how to identify, treat, and respond appropriately to potential victims of human trafficking. <https://www.research.net/r/32CM2V2>

WEBINAR: HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

MARCH 16, 2017, 1:00-4:00 PM ET

Many victims of human trafficking come into contact with health care and social service professionals and remain unidentified. Potential victims can present with a wide-range of physical and psychological health issues and social service needs. The SOAR to Health and Wellness training aims to educate health care providers on how to identify, treat, and respond appropriately to potential victims of human trafficking.

<https://www.research.net/r/32KXHC2>

WEBINAR: HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

MARCH 23, 2017, 1:00-4:00 PM ET

Many victims of human trafficking come into contact with health care and social service professionals and remain unidentified. Potential victims can present with a wide range of physical and psychological health issues and social service needs. The SOAR to Health and Wellness training aims to educate behavioral health professionals on how to identify, treat, and respond appropriately to potential victims of human trafficking.

<https://www.research.net/r/32YCN6B>

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

MARCH 23-24, 2017, BALTIMORE, MD

The HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) Resource Center University Vision, Design and Capacity (U-VDC) technical grant writing workshops provide university faculty and health professionals with strategies to make grant proposals more competitive. This hands-on workshop hosted by Morgan State University is for junior faculty, staff, and college/university health professionals from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) 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>

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>

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2017, CHICAGO, IL

The HHS OMH Resource Center U-VDC 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 HBCUs 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.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USOPHSOMH/bulletins/17ae2f2>

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>

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/>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

The AHRQ's Effective Health Care Program encourages the public to participate in the development of its research projects. The Program uses these comments to help focus its research and ensure that the final comparative effectiveness reviews answer the most important questions that clinicians, patients, consumers, and policymakers have about a given treatment, test, or procedure. The Program is currently seeking comments for:

ANXIETY IN CHILDREN (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH MARCH 8, 2017)

<https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-draft-reports/?pageaction=displaydraftcommentform&topicid=640&productid=2429&documenttype=draftReport>

TREATMENTS FOR ADULTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH MARCH 8, 2017)

<https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-draft-reports/?pageaction=displaydraftcommentform&topicid=641&productid=2427&documenttype=draftReport>

SAMHSA WANTS FEEDBACK ON AWARENESS DAY PLANNING

National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (Awareness Day) is on Thursday, May 4, 2017. SAMHSA wants to hear all about your 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

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION—LEARNING HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS

AHRQ has posted a Request for Information to gather feedback from health care organizations about current challenges and solutions to improve patient care by expanding and building on the use of evidence or becoming learning health care systems. As defined by the National Academy of Medicine, learning health care systems are "designed to generate and apply the best evidence for the collaborative health care choices of each patient and provider; drive the process of discovery as a natural outgrowth of patient care; and to ensure innovation, quality, safety, and value in health care." AHRQ will use the information in future initiatives such as developing research grant opportunities, investing in the creation of tools and training materials for health professionals and health care delivery organizations, developing quality improvement measures, and/or convening collaboratives focused on accelerating the development of learning health care systems. The deadline for submitting feedback is February 28. <https://www.ahrq.gov/news/notice.html>

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>

FUNDING INFORMATION

NIH CENTER FOR SCIENTIFIC REVIEW: NEW PEER REVIEW VIDEO BRIEFINGS

The NIH Center for Scientific Review posted recordings of their most recent webinar series on peer review.

8 WAYS TO SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE NIH PEER REVIEW AND GET AN R01 GRANT

This briefing covers the key things applicants need to know about the submission and review of their R01 applications. <https://youtu.be/cW6fzTGCTdw>

8 WAYS TO SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE NIH PEER REVIEW AND GET A FELLOWSHIP GRANT

This briefing covers the key things applicants need to know about the submission and review of their fellowship applications. https://youtu.be/_Gr-D68NawQ

SAMHSA BRINGING RECOVERY SUPPORTS TO SCALE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER STRATEGY INITIATIVE: CAPACITY BUILDING OPPORTUNITY FOR PEER-RUN ORGANIZATIONS, RECOVERY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BRSTACS_CapacityBldg

ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING: ENGAGEMENT AND OLDER ADULTS

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=291691>

BJA FY 2017 JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM

<https://www.bja.gov/Funding/JMHCP17.pdf>

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE: INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=291429>

NIH ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT PARTNERS

<https://www.nih.gov/research-training/all-of-us-research-program/funding/all-us-research-program-engagement-partners-ot2>

All of Us Funding webinar: <https://videocast.nih.gov/Summary.asp?File=21131&bhcp=1>



National Institute
of Mental Health

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.