



UPDATE

May 1, 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*

ESTROGEN ALTERS MEMORY CIRCUIT FUNCTION IN WOMEN WITH GENE VARIANT; HORMONE-GENE INTERACTION MAY UNDERLIE SEX/INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES IN MENTAL DISORDERS

Fluctuations in estrogen can trigger atypical functioning in a key brain memory circuit in women with a common version of a gene, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) scientists have discovered. Brain scans revealed altered circuit activity linked to changes in the sex hormone in women with the gene variant while they performed a working memory task. The findings may help to explain individual differences in menstrual cycle and reproductive-related mental disorders linked to fluctuations in the hormone. They may also shed light on mechanisms underlying sex-related differences in onset, severity, and course of mood and anxiety disorders and schizophrenia. The gene-by-hormone interaction's effect on circuit function was found only with one of two versions of the gene that occurs in about a fourth of white women.

Science Update: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/estrogen-alters-memory-circuit-function-in-women-with-gene-variant.shtml>

HUMAN FOREBRAIN CIRCUITS UNDER CONSTRUCTION – IN A DISH; AUTISM-RELATED ERRANT MIGRATION OF NEURONS CORRECTED IN PATIENT-DERIVED 3D “SPHEROIDS”

National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded neuroscientists have created a 3D window into the human brain's budding executive hub assembling itself during a critical period in prenatal development. What's more, they used it to discover and experimentally correct – in a petri dish – defective cell migration caused by an autism-related disorder. The study advances a fast-developing “disease-in-a-dish” technology, in which cultured neurons derived from an individual's readily-accessible skin cells connect with each other to form 3D brain organoids or “spheroids.” Although tiny, these replicate rudimentary circuitry can reveal that person's brain's unique secrets – even from when it was still under construction.

Press Release and Video: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/human-forebrain-circuits-under-construction-in-a-dish.shtml>

POTENTIAL SOURCE OF HIV PERSISTENCE CONFIRMED

Research with a unique animal model provides new evidence that a class of immune cells not thought to be a primary reservoir for HIV can harbor the virus even following antiretroviral treatment. While earlier work has reported persistence of HIV in these cells—macrophages—investigators in this work developed a mouse model with an immune system generated from human cells but lacking T cells, which are a primary target of and reservoir for HIV. The absence of T cells enabled the team to establish definitively the persistence of HIV in macrophages. The study was funded by NIMH and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Science Update: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/potential-source-of-hiv-persistence-confirmed.shtml>

ANTIDEPRESSANT MAY ENHANCE DRUG DELIVERY TO THE BRAIN; NIH RAT STUDY SUGGESTS AMITRIPTYLINE TEMPORARILY INHIBITS THE BLOOD-BRAIN BARRIER, ALLOWING DRUGS TO ENTER THE BRAIN

New NIH research found that pairing the antidepressant amitriptyline with drugs designed to treat central nervous system diseases, enhances drug delivery to the brain by inhibiting the blood-brain barrier in rats. The blood-brain barrier serves as a natural, protective boundary, preventing most drugs from entering the brain.

Press Release: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/antidepressant-may-enhance-drug-delivery-brain>

COLLEGE STUDENTS AT INCREASED RISK FOR SMOKING MARIJUANA

An analysis of national survey data indicates that students attending college are at a significantly higher risk of beginning to use marijuana than those not enrolled in college, underscoring the need for improved prevention efforts. The research, conducted by scientists at the University of Michigan, was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

News Release: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2017/04/college-students-increased-risk-smoking-marijuana>

IMPULSIVE PERSONALITY LINKED TO RISKY DRIVING AMONG CERTAIN YOUNG ADULTS, NIH STUDY FINDS

At-risk young adults who scored higher than their peers on a questionnaire that measures impulsive personality traits had a higher chance of engaging in reckless and impaired driving, according to a study by researchers at NIH and other institutions. If confirmed by other studies, these findings could serve as the basis for developing a screening test to identify impulsive young drivers who could benefit from prevention programs to reduce risky behaviors.

News Release: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/041917-risky-driving.aspx>

RESEARCHERS SEEK TO IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CHILD BRAIN DEVELOPMENT, NUTRITION, AND INFLAMMATION

International experts have identified research needed to better understand relationships between child brain development, nutrition, and inflammation, particularly for children living in poverty. Their work, the culmination of a workshop convened by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), was summarized in a supplement to the April 2017 edition of *Pediatrics*.

News Release: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/041717-children-poverty.aspx>

HHS AWARDS \$485 MILLION IN FUNDING TO ADDRESS OPIOID CRISIS

The United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) awarded \$485 million in grants to help states and territories combat opioid addiction. The funding, which is the first of two rounds provided for in the 21st Century Cures Act, will be provided through the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The funding will be issued to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, four U.S. territories, and the free associated states of Palau and Micronesia. Funding will support a comprehensive array of prevention, treatment, and recovery services depending on the needs of recipients. States and territories were awarded funds based on rates of overdose deaths and unmet need for opioid addiction treatment.

News release: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2017/04/19/trump-administration-awards-grants-states-combat-opioid-crisis.html>

MICHAEL PHELPS AND ALLISON SCHMITT JOIN SAMHSA'S NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY 2017

Decorated U.S. Olympians Michael Phelps and Allison Schmitt will serve as Honorary Chairpersons of SAMHSA's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (Awareness Day). The Awareness Day 2017 event takes place Thursday, May 4, at The George Washington University Jack Morton Auditorium in Washington, DC. Mr. Phelps and Ms. Schmitt will each receive a SAMHSA Special Recognition Award for speaking candidly about their experiences with mental health and working to support youth and young adults with similar experiences. Through the Michael Phelps Foundation, Phelps has worked on numerous initiatives to support the foundation's core mission of promoting active and healthy lifestyles for children. Schmitt is passionate about helping youth and young adults with mental health challenges and has spoken about her mental health journey at numerous speaking engagements at foundations and mental health organizations across the country.

Press Release: <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201704240600>

VA EXPLORES NEW VETERAN-CENTRIC TREATMENTS THROUGH CENTER FOR COMPASSIONATE INNOVATION

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the launch of the Center for Compassionate Innovation (CCI), which will explore emerging therapies that may enhance Veterans' physical and mental well-being. In addition, VA is accepting proposals to fulfill CCI's mission of finding innovative approaches to health care, which may support those Veterans who are unsuccessful with conventional treatment. CCI explores innovations in the health care industry as well as innovative practices currently being piloted on a small scale within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). CCI is primarily interested in innovations that address post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury, chronic pain, and suicidality; however, CCI will explore any safe and ethical innovation intended to improve Veterans' health and well-being.

Press Release: <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2890>

NEW FROM NIMH

NIMH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: TOWARDS INTERVENTIONS ACROSS THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

In the second of two special Director's Messages about autism spectrum disorder (ASD), NIMH Director, Dr. Joshua Gordon talks about NIMH funding of research aimed at developing interventions and services for people across the lifespan with ASD. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/messages/2017/towards-interventions-across-the-autism-spectrum.shtml>

MEETING SUMMARY: REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF SUICIDE IN INDIGENOUS GROUPS – STRENGTHS UNITED THROUGH NETWORKS (RISING SUN): WORKSHOP 3

On March 1-2, 2017, the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, with support from the Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, hosted the third of a series of collaborative workshops held under the 2015-2017 U.S. Chairmanship of the Arctic Council. This report summarizes the recent workshop which focused on ways to effectively prevent suicide among Indigenous peoples in the circumpolar region and brought together over 80 stakeholders from across the Arctic States, including researchers, policymakers, Indigenous organizations, youth, and community leaders.

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/scientific-meetings/2017/reducing-the-incidence-of-suicide-in-indigenous-groups-strengths-united-through-networks-rising-sun-workshop-3.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

SPANISH LANGUAGE NEWSLETTER: NIH INFORMACIÓN DE SALUD

NIH launched an e-newsletter, *NIH Información de Salud*, featuring highlights from the NIH Spanish Health Information Portal. Each month, the e-newsletter will introduce resources for Spanish-speaking audiences on featured topics such as heart health, wellness, and diabetes. <https://salud.nih.gov/>

NIDA BLOG POST: OPIOID USE DISORDERS AND SUICIDE: A HIDDEN TRAGEDY

After hearing the President of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Maria Oquendo, present data about the opioid overdose epidemic and the role suicide is playing in many of these deaths at a Congressional briefing on April 6, NIDA Director Nora Volkow invited her to write a blog on this important topic. More research needs to be done on this hidden aspect of the crisis, including whether there may be a link between pain and suicide. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2017/04/opioid-use-disorders-suicide-hidden-tragedy-guest-blog-by-dr-maria-oquendo>

NIDA DIRECTOR BLOG: ADDRESSING AMERICA'S FENTANYL CRISIS

NIDA Director Nora Volkow describes a public health strategy to address the opioid crisis and overdose epidemic. First, the country must improve pain management and minimize its reliance on existing opioid pain medications. Second, treatment centers and health care systems must make much wider use of available, effective medications for opioid addiction. Third, the opioid-overdose reversing drug naloxone needs to be made as widely available as possible, both to emergency first responders as well as to opioid users and other laypeople who may find themselves in a position to save a life.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2017/04/addressing-americas-fentanyl-crisis>

NIDA: HIGH MORTALITY AMONG OPIOID USE DISORDER PATIENTS IN A GENERAL HEALTH CARE SETTING

Recent health care reforms promote the expansion of substance use disorder treatment into primary care settings. Reducing mortality related to opioid use disorders is among the most urgent objectives of the reforms. A new report provides information that primary care physicians and health care systems can use as they develop responses to the reforms and measure their success. The findings provide a baseline estimate of the excess mortality suffered by patients with opioid use disorder who are treated in a general health care system and identify the main proximate causes of this mortality. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/high-mortality-among-opioid-use-disorder-patients-in-general-health-care-setting>

NIDA: NONMEDICAL OPIOID AND HEROIN USE AMONG HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

This article highlights findings from a study of nonmedical use of prescription opioids (NMO) and use of heroin among 68,000 high school seniors who participated in the NIDA-funded *Monitoring the Future Study* between 2009 and 2013. This research showed that NMO use was 10 times more common than heroin use, strong correlations exist between NMO and heroin use, and associations exist between NMO/heroin use and gender, race, and student income. The article presents data in chart form.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2017/04/nonmedical-opioid-heroin-use-among-high-school-seniors>

NIDA DRUGS AND HEALTH BLOG POST: EPIGENETICS EXPLAINED

This NIDA Drugs and Health blog post for teens defines and explains the importance of “epigenetics.” Scientists have discovered it’s the interaction of genes, experience, and environment that influences behavior and health. The study of how a person’s behavior—like using nicotine, alcohol, or other drugs—can cause changes in their genes is called epigenetics. “Epi-” means “above” or “in addition to.” Environmental exposures, and the choices a person makes, can actually “mark”—or remake—the structure of their DNA, which carries all of the person’s genetic information. As epigenetics research continues, it will reveal even more about why some people develop a drug problem and others don’t.

<https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/say-what-epigenetics>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

GRANTEES TAP FAITH COMMUNITIES TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE

This *SAMHSA News* article describes how Systems of Care grantees build on the "wraparound approach" by incorporating The Open Table model to tap into resources of faith communities.

<https://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2017/04/17/samhsa-grantees-tap-faith-communities-help-young-people/>

INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION TOOLBOX

SAMHSA's Center of Excellence for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation launched this new toolbox of resources for implementing and enhancing consultation for infant and early childhood mental health in states, tribes, and communities. <https://www.samhsa.gov/iecmhc/toolbox>

CREATING LINGUISTICALLY AND CULTURALLY COMPETENT SUICIDE PREVENTION MATERIALS

This guide from SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) is designed to help public health practitioners produce suicide prevention materials for specific cultural and linguistic communities. Developed in collaboration with the California Mental Health Services Authority, it's based on their work to adapt suicide prevention materials for a variety of cultural and linguistic populations in California. The guide contains key principles and steps as well as examples, tools, and resource lists. Although the guide is about adapting materials, much of it is also useful for creating new materials. The process described can be applied to many different formats, including print materials, television or radio public service announcements, and face-to-face presentations. <http://www.sprc.org/resources-programs/creating-linguistically-culturally-competent-suicide-prevention-materials>

SUICIDE PREVENTION SURVEILLANCE SUCCESS STORIES - TEXAS: DENTON AND TARRANT COUNTIES

SPRC released its latest Surveillance Success Story, which comes from the state of Texas. This story details how Denton and Tarrant Counties access and analyze data on suicide deaths and use that data to strengthen their prevention efforts. <http://www.sprc.org/resources-programs/surveillance-success-stories-texas-denton-tarrant-counties>

PRACTICING RECOVERY: EMPOWERMENT AND INDEPENDENCE FOR YOUTH IN TRANSITION

This issue of *Practicing Recovery* looks at how the behavioral health workforce can support transition-age youth as they plan for their futures and live meaningful, autonomous lives. The issue includes resources for both youth in transition and the providers who serve them.

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USSAMHSA/bulletins/192677b>

NEW RESOURCES ABOUT COMPLEX TRAUMA

SAMHSA's National Child Traumatic Stress Network Complex Trauma and Developmental Trauma Disorder Work Group has released four new fact sheets.

COMPLEX TRAUMA: FACTS FOR DIRECTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND STAFF IN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

Beginning with a case example, this fact sheet gives information for staff in Residential Treatment Centers on how to understand behavior through a trauma lens as well as specific recommendations on trauma-informed residential policies, staff training and self-care, and the developmental and educational needs of youth.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/complex_trauma_facts_residential_settings_1.pdf

COMPLEX TRAUMA: FACTS FOR TREATMENT STAFF IN RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

This fact sheet details the importance of a holistic, multidisciplinary, multi-level approach to addressing the needs of youth with complex trauma in residential treatment settings.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/complex_trauma_facts_residential_settings_2.pdf

COMPLEX TRAUMA: IN URBAN AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

This fact sheet discusses how families living in racially and economically segregated communities must also cope with the effects of historical trauma and intergenerational racism, and presents the specific barriers that African-Americans face in obtaining needed services. Finally, the fact sheet presents ideas for providers on building supportive relationships with African-American children and families who have experienced complex trauma.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/complex_trauma_facts_urban_african_american_children.pdf

COMPLEX TRAUMA: IN JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM-INVOLVED YOUTH

This fact sheet delineates the path from complex trauma exposure to involvement in the juvenile justice system and explores the many challenges these youth face in managing their emotions, physical responses, and impulses. The fact sheet presents recommendations for judges and juvenile justice program administrators, parents and family members, and adults who supervise youth.

http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/complex_trauma_facts_jj_youth.pdf

COMPLEX TRAUMA RESOURCE GUIDE FOR YOUTH AND THOSE WHO CARE ABOUT THEM

The National Child Traumatic Stress Network developed this guide for youth who have experienced, or know someone who has experienced, complex trauma. Older youth, adolescents, and young adults can explore the information in this guide on their own to help make sense of their experiences and understand themselves better. Clinicians, caregivers, and other adults can use this guide to have conversations with young people. http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/ct_guide_final.pdf

NEW FROM AHRQ

CASE STUDY: AHRQ TELEHEALTH PROJECT HELPS ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS AMONG RURAL ELDERLY IN NEW YORK STATE

This Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) case study describes telehealth sessions based on the AHRQ-funded Project ECHO® model to help New York State primary care clinicians provide mental health treatment to elderly patients in rural areas. The initiative reduced emergency department visits by 20 percent and cut costs by 24 percent since 2014. Project ECHO, which stands for Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes, is a telehealth distance-learning model that helps rural clinicians acquire new expertise and provide evidence-based health care to underserved patients by consulting with experts in major cities. <https://www.ahrq.gov/policymakers/case-studies/201703.html>

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION'S TOOL FOR OPIOID RISK MITIGATION TO IMPROVE OPIOID SAFETY AND PREVENT OVERDOSE AND SUICIDE

This resource describes how a VHA quality improvement team developed a predictive model, based on electronic health record data, to identify high-risk opioid users in order to provide targeted monitoring and intervention via a clinical decision support tool. The model included known risk factors for opioid-related harm such as type of medication, dose, and co-prescribed sedating medications as well as medical and mental health conditions. <https://psnet.ahrq.gov/resources/resource/30853>

FDA FACTS: ABUSE-DETERRENT OPIOID MEDICATIONS

This Food and Drug Administration (FDA) fact sheet describes how the agency is encouraging the development of opioid formulations with abuse-deterrent properties to help combat the opioid epidemic. <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/FactSheets/ucm514939.htm>

NEW FROM THE U.S. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE INTERSECTION OF THE OPIOID CRISIS AND HOMELESSNESS

This U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) document identifies strategies that communities, providers, and policymakers can use to address the intersection of homelessness and the opioid crisis, and highlights resources developed by federal and national partners to support such efforts. <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/strategies-to-address-intersection-of-opioid-crisis-and-homelessness>

SUCCESSFULLY CONNECTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY OPIOID USE TO HOUSING IN PORTLAND, OREGON

USICH is exploring how different agencies and organizations support successful housing outcomes and recovery for people who have experienced the effects of both opioid use disorders and homelessness. This article presents the perspectives and experience of Rachel Post, public policy director for the nonprofit Central City Concern (CCC) in Portland, Oregon. In her dialogue with USICH, Rachel describes how CCC provides people with the choice of a range of housing programs, including Recovery Housing options.

<https://www.usich.gov/news/successfully-connecting-people-affected-by-opioid-use-to-housing-central-city-concern-in-portland-oregon>

NEW FROM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SECOND CHANCE ACT OFFENDER REENTRY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS—LESSONS LEARNED: FACTORS THAT FACILITATE SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND POSITIVE CLIENT OUTCOMES

This report—one in a series from the Cross-Site Evaluation of the Bureau of Justice Assistance fiscal year 2011 Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects—summarizes grantees' perceptions of factors necessary to implement programs successfully and serve clients in the most effective manner, including meeting individuals' needs around housing, employment, and behavioral health.

<https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/250613.pdf>

HIDDEN CONSEQUENCES: THE IMPACT OF INCARCERATION ON DEPENDENT CHILDREN

Children of incarcerated parents face profound and complex threats to their emotional, physical, educational, and financial well-being. This National Institute of Justice article summarizes the range of risk factors facing children of incarcerated parents. <https://nij.gov/journals/278/Pages/impact-of-incarceration-on-dependent-children.aspx>

NEW FROM THE VA

PTSD RESEARCH QUARTERLY: MEDITATION-BASED APPROACHES FOR THE TREATMENT OF PTSD

This issue of the *PTSD Research Quarterly* provides a guide to recent clinical trials on meditation-based approaches for the treatment of PTSD. <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/newsletters/research-quarterly/V28N2.pdf>

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER AND PTSD: TWO DIAGNOSES, ONE UNDERLYING CAUSE

According to the VA National Center for PTSD, almost half of diagnosed Veterans also struggle with addiction. This VA blog post describes these two diagnoses, their treatments, and how they overlap.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/36958/substance-use-disorder-and-ptsd-two-diagnoses-one-underlying-cause/>

NATIONWIDE RECRUITMENT: DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF SEVERE IRRITABILITY

OUTPATIENT: 1-DAY EVALUATION, AND MAY INCLUDE FOLLOW-UP VISITS UNTIL AGE 25

This study describes, over time, the moods and behavior of children and the associated brain changes. Participants must be in treatment with a physician, medically healthy, and not currently hospitalized, psychotic, or suicidal. Symptoms include chronic anger, sadness, or irritability, along with hyperarousal (such as insomnia, distractibility, hyperactivity) and extreme responses to frustration (such as frequent, severe temper tantrums). The study procedures include research and computer tasks, neuropsychological testing and brain imaging. Recruiting ages 7-17. [02-M-0021] <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/childrens-studies/brain-function-children-mood-bpd.shtml>

SPANISH LANGUAGE MATERIALS AVAILABLE ON HHS “ABOUT RESEARCH PARTICIPATION” WEBSITE

The HHS Office for Human Research Protections announced the creation of Spanish language materials on its public outreach website, *About Research Participation*. The public outreach resources are intended to help potential volunteers better understand research and find the information they need to decide whether to participate in research. The new materials include Spanish versions of short videos about participating in research, and a printable list of questions that potential volunteers can ask researchers.

Informational Videos: <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/about-research-participation/videos-informativos/index.html>

Questions to Ask Researchers: <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/education-and-outreach/about-research-participation/preguntas-que-debe-hacer/index.html>

EVENTS

WEBINAR: TRANSITION AGE YOUTH: MOTIVATING OTHERS THROUGH VOICES OF EXPERIENCE

MAY 3, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

This final webinar in SAMHSA's Recovery to Practice series on Transition Age Youth provides information on youth-driven programs and education efforts for youth-inclusive behavioral health services from leaders at Youth MOVE National. This youth-led organization supports positive growth and development of young people who have experienced various child and adolescent service systems such as mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare programs. https://events-na2.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/916603251/en/events/event/shared/1042705389/event_landing.html?sco-id=1042740036&_charset_=utf-8

HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

MAY 4, 2017

Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and to show that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth. Awareness Day 2017's national focus is on the importance of integrating behavioral health and primary care for children, youth, and young adults with mental and/or substance use disorders. The 2017 national theme is "Partnering for Help and Hope." Communities, national collaborating organizations, and federal programs across the country are busy planning local Awareness Day 2017 activities and events.

<https://www.samhsa.gov/children/national-childrens-awareness-day-events/awareness-day-2017>

WEBINAR: EXPLORING SELF-DIRECTED VIOLENCE AMONG SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITY VETERANS

MAY 8, 2017, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

This VA webinar will cover epidemiologic information and theoretical frameworks about disparities in suicide risk among sexual and gender minority populations with specific attention to what is currently known among the U.S. Veteran population, and VA systems-level initiatives to assure health equity for sexual and gender minority Veterans. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6314490162760546050>

TRANSFORMATIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOLVING THE GRAND CHALLENGES IN GLOBAL MENTAL HEALTH

MAY 8-9, 2017, BETHESDA, MD

The NIMH Office for Research on Disparities and Global Mental Health and Grand Challenges Canada will co-convene this workshop at the NIH campus, located in Bethesda, MD. The workshop will bring together global mental health researchers, innovators, and other stakeholders to discuss exciting new research findings and strategic opportunities for addressing the six priority areas identified in the Grand Challenges in Global Mental Health initiative. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/scientific-meetings/2017/grand-challenges/index.shtml>

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 for 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>

PUBLIC MEETING: ENGAGING WITH FDA'S CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH

MAY 12, 2017, SILVER SPRING, MD

The FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research is hosting this public workshop to help the public learn how to successfully engage with this Center. Advocacy groups attending this workshop will enhance their understanding of how safe and effective drug therapies are approved so they can advocate for their patients most effectively. This workshop can help participants become familiar with the drug approval process and tips to ensure their voices are heard, discover how FDA emphasizes patient needs and goals while making decisions to advance and protect the public's health, and debunk myths about what the FDA can and cannot approve. The workshop will also be available via webcast. <https://www.fda.gov/Drugs/NewsEvents/ucm472604.htm>

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>

Prevention Week Calendar: <http://store.samhsa.gov/product/National-Prevention-Week-Resource-Calendar/All-New-Products/PEP17-NPWCALENDAR>

WEBINAR: EMPOWERMENT, VOICE AND CHOICE: PIERCE COUNTY RECOVERY RESPONSE CENTER

MAY 22, 2017, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

SAMHSA's National Center for Trauma-Informed Care and Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint is hosting the webinar series, "Trauma-Informed Innovations in Crisis Services," to highlight the innovative work of crisis service providers employing a trauma-informed approach, including prevention, engagement, and inclusion of lived experience and peer support. This webinar will share how the Pierce County Recovery Response Center, located in Washington state, creates opportunities and environments that empower people to recover in a time of crisis. Support staff consists of a team of psychiatrists, nurses, mental health professionals, individuals that specialize in resources management, and peer support specialists.

https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/programs_campaigns/nctic/nctic-crisis-webinar-series-announcement.pdf

WEBINAR: THE EMERGING FIELD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

MAY 24, 2017, 2:00-3:30 PM ET

This webinar presented by SAMHSA's Minority Fellowship Program Coordinating Center, discusses how changes in the behavioral health care field over the past several years, including the move to recovery-oriented systems of care, integrated systems of care, and trauma-informed care, will impact providers and practitioners. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6246750350837699843>

NIH WORKSHOP: INCLUSION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

JUNE 1-2, 2017, BETHESDA, MD

This NIH workshop seeks to examine the science of inclusion of various populations in clinical trials and studies. The workshop will place a particular focus on the pediatric and older populations, as these populations have very specific and unique health issues that must be examined as new interventions are being studied and ultimately inform health care. Plenary sessions will be webcast on both days of the workshop. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/about/events/2017/inclusion-across-lifespan>

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

JUNE 6-7, 2017, SACRAMENTO, CA

The HHS Office of Minority Health Resource Center's University Vision, Design, and Capacity technical grant writing workshop provides university faculty and health professionals with strategies to make grant proposals more competitive. This hands-on workshop hosted by California State 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>

WEBINAR: PEER SUPPORT: FREISE HOPE HOUSE

JUNE 26, 2017, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

In this SAMSHA webinar, learn about the Crestwood Behavioral Health's Freise HOPE (Helping Others through Peer Empowerment) House, a short-term, voluntary, mental health Crisis Residential Treatment Program in Bakersfield, CA that welcomes guests into a warm, homelike environment. In this program, guests are provided a short-term safe place to land during a psychiatric crisis. Guests are also engaged using a variety of recovery-based tools such as Dialectical Behavior Therapy, Wellness Recovery Action Plans, and trauma-informed approaches to help them manage their symptoms and develop skills to live effectively in the community. The treatment team is comprised entirely of people with lived experience, who are trained and certified peer providers.

https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/programs_campaigns/nctic/nctic-crisis-webinar-series-announcement.pdf

NCATS ADVOCACY DAY: PARTNERING WITH PATIENTS FOR SMARTER SCIENCE

JUNE 30, 2017, BETHESDA, MD

Save the date for the inaugural National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Advocacy Day. The purpose of the event is to inform patients and their advocates about NCATS and its programs, identify patient needs, and collectively discuss ways for improved patient inclusion in NCATS' translational science activities. The full day event features presentations, interactive activities, and a poster session. Designed for patients, families, caregivers, and patient advocacy groups, the event will foster an open dialogue among patients and their advocates to discuss common translational science roadblocks, brainstorm ideas for improvement, and apply that knowledge to strengthen patient and community engagement at NCATS. <https://ncats.nih.gov/events#advocacy>

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR AHRQ EFFECTIVE HEALTH CARE PROGRAM REPORT

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:

DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY OF SCREENING TESTS AND TREATMENT OF POST-ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME (ACS) DEPRESSION: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH MAY 24, 2017)

<https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/research-available-for-comment/comment-draft-reports/?pageaction=displaydraftcommentform&topicid=647&productid=2468&documenttype=draftReport>

ENHANCING PATIENT ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS ACROSS THE FDA

The FDA is soliciting input on ongoing efforts to enhance mechanisms for patient engagement at the Agency. In this tradition, FDA intends to enhance future patient engagement by providing a more transparent, accessible, and robust experience for patient communities. To achieve these goals, FDA is considering establishing a new Office of Patient Affairs. This concept was directly informed by the public feedback solicited through the prior public docket regarding FDA's stakeholder engagement responsibilities outlined by the FDA Safety and Innovation Act. The purpose of this notice is to outline FDA's proposal for the future of patient engagement at the Agency so that the perspectives of patient communities can be better captured. Comments on this proposal are accepted through June 12, 2017.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2017/03/14/2017-04982/enhancing-patient-engagement-efforts-across-the-food-and-drug-administration-establishment-of-a>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: INCLUSION IN CLINICAL RESEARCH ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

In response to scientific need and a congressional mandate in the 21st Century Cures Act (P.L. 114-255), the NIH is convening a workshop of experts on the appropriate inclusion of pediatric and older populations in research studies involving human subjects and is seeking input from the wider scientific community and the public concerning inclusion in research. The NIH is interested in hearing from the public on a number of topics, including best study designs that ensure the inclusion of participants from a broad range of ages, sex/gender, and race/ethnicity in clinical trials or clinical studies; potential ethical challenges when including those individuals under 18 years of age, or frail or cognitively impaired older adults in trials; strategies to expand current successful practices for inclusion of these populations; and potential barriers to and the opportunities for inclusion of pediatric and older populations in clinical studies. Responses will be accepted until June 30, 2017. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-17-059.html>

FUNDING INFORMATION

NATIVE YOUTH INITIATIVE FOR LEADERSHIP, EMPOWERMENT, AND DEVELOPMENT (I-LEAD)

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=290439>

ADMINISTRATION FOR COMMUNITY LIVING: ENGAGEMENT AND OLDER ADULTS

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

PSYCHENCODE: NON-CODING FUNCTIONAL ELEMENTS IN THE HUMAN BRAIN AND THEIR ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-257.html> (U01)

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-258.html> (Collaborative U01)

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-17-252.html> (Collaborative R01)

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-253.html> (R01)

COLLABORATIVE R01S FOR CLINICAL STUDIES OF MENTAL ILLNESS NOT INVOLVING CLINICAL TRIALS

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-256.html>

LASKER CLINICAL RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM SI2/R00

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-17-254.html>



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.