



## PEDIATRICS-BASED BRIEF THERAPY OUTDOES REFERRAL FOR YOUTHS WITH ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION; STRIKING BENEFIT SEEN FOR HISPANIC YOUTHS

A streamlined behavioral therapy delivered in a pediatrics practice offered much greater benefit to youth with anxiety and depression than a more standard referral to mental health care with follow-up in a clinical trial comparing the two approaches. The benefit of the former approach in comparison with referral was especially striking in Hispanic youth, a finding that may help inform efforts to address disparities in care. The study, supported by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), is reported in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry* online.

**Science Update:** <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/pediatrics-based-brief-therapy-outdoes-referral-for-youths-with-anxiety-and-depression.shtml>

## NIMH TO HOST MULTIMODAL BRAIN STIMULATION SPEAKER SERIES

On May 31, 2017, the NIMH launched a speaker series intended to bring together leaders in the field conducting research using non-invasive brain stimulation and functional imaging, including electroencephalogram (EEG), functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), and transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). All events will be broadcast via WebEx and archived for later viewing. Speakers are scheduled through November 2017.

**Science News:** <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/nimh-to-host-multimodal-brain-stimulation-speaker-series.shtml>

## NIMH GRANTEE WINS ONE OF SCIENCE'S MOST COVETED PRIZES; DEISSEROTH HONORED FOR OPTOGENETICS, CLARITY, DEPRESSION CIRCUITRY INSIGHTS

NIMH grantee Karl Deisseroth, M.D., Ph.D., of Stanford University, has been awarded one of science's most generous prizes. A German foundation presented the inventor of technologies that are transforming neuroscience with its four million euros Fresenius Prize on May 31, 2017. In bestowing the honor, the Else Kröner Fresenius Foundation cited his development of optogenetics, hydrogel-tissue techniques such as CLARITY, and "circuit-level insight into depression" – all made possible by NIMH grants to Deisseroth since 2004.

**Science Update:** <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/nimh-grantee-wins-one-of-sciences-most-coveted-prizes.shtml>

## **AHRQ RESEARCH REVEALS MASSAGE, SENSORY INTERVENTIONS IMPROVE AUTISM BEHAVIORS; LITTLE EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS, SPECIAL DIETS**

Sensory-focused interventions – such as massage, swinging and trampoline exercises, and exposure to different textures – reduced sensory and motor impairments in children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), according to an analysis funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), highlighted in the journal *Pediatrics*. Meanwhile, a separate article in *Pediatrics* concluded that little evidence currently exists to support the use of nutritional supplements or gluten-free/casein-free diets to improve autistic behaviors in children. Omega-3 fatty acid supplements, in particular, have not been shown to improve challenging behaviors and are associated with minor harms, such as infections and fever, skin changes, and gastrointestinal symptoms, researchers concluded.

**Press Release:** <https://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/press-releases/autism-behaviors.html>

## **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT-WIDE EFFORT UNDERWAY TO BETTER ADDRESS SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced the formation of a new federal interagency initiative to better address serious mental illness (SMI) across the nation. The Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) was created under the 21st Century Cures Act to foster coordination of all federal efforts related to SMI. SAMHSA is responsible for managing the ISMICC. The committee will be comprised of representatives from federal government agencies as well as members of the public. Ten federal agencies will participate in the ISMICC, including the Departments of Health and Human Services, Justice, Labor, Veteran Affairs, Defense, Housing and Urban Development, and Education, and the Social Security Administration. In addition, there will be at least 14 non-federal members, including mental health researchers, providers, patients, families, judges, law enforcement officers, and other professionals working with individuals living with SMI. SAMHSA also issued a notice calling for nominations for the non-federal members to be submitted by June 2, 2017.

**Press Release:** <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201705250200>

## **NIH SCIENTISTS IDENTIFY MOLECULE THAT MAY HELP CONTROL SLEEP AND WAKE CYCLES; MOLECULE MAY ACT WITH MELATONIN TO REGULATE BIOLOGICAL TIMING**

A molecule may work with the hormone melatonin to regulate 24-hour changes in metabolism, including sleep and wake cycles, according to researchers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other institutions. The researchers identified N-acetyltryptamine in the blood of humans and two animal species. They found that the molecule increases in the blood at night and decreases during the day, in parallel with levels of melatonin.

**Press Release:** <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/Pages/052417-melatonin.aspx>

## **BABY TEETH LINK AUTISM AND HEAVY METALS, NIH STUDY SUGGESTS**

Baby teeth from children with autism contain more toxic lead and less of the essential nutrients zinc and manganese, compared to teeth from children without autism, according to an innovative study funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, part of NIH. The researchers studied twins to control genetic influences and focus on possible environmental contributors to the disease. The findings suggest that differences in early-life exposure to metals, or more importantly how a child's body processes them, may affect the risk of autism.

**Press Release:** <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/baby-teeth-link-autism-heavy-metals-nih-study-suggests>

## **STUDY FINDS TENS OF MILLIONS OF AMERICANS DRINK ALCOHOL AT DANGEROUSLY HIGH LEVELS**

Nearly 32 million adults in the United States (U.S.) consumed more than twice the number of drinks considered binge drinking on at least one occasion, according to a 2013 survey that asked about past-year drinking. This higher level of drinking is associated with increased health and safety risks. A report of the findings is online in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. The study was conducted by researchers at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), part of NIH.

**Press Release:** <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/study-finds-tens-millions-americans-drink-alcohol-dangerously-high-levels>

## **NEW NIAAA STRATEGIC PLAN AIMS TO ADVANCE ALCOHOL RESEARCH ACROSS A BROAD SPECTRUM OF AREAS**

As scientific advances continue to expand the understanding of how alcohol affects human health and point to new ways to address alcohol-related harm, the NIAAA has released its 2017-2021 strategic plan for research. The new plan serves as a roadmap for optimizing the allocation of NIAAA's resources to areas of alcohol research most likely to benefit from additional support, translating scientific discoveries for the benefit of the public, and continuing to build on NIAAA's position as the nation's key source of evidence-based information on alcohol and health.

**Press Release:** <https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/new-niaaa-strategic-plan-aims-advance-alcohol-research-across-broad>

## **SAMHSA IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR UP TO \$39.5 MILLION IN GRANTS TO PREVENT SUICIDE**

SAMHSA is accepting applications for Cooperative Agreements to Implement Zero Suicide in Health Systems. The purpose of these cooperative agreements is to implement suicide prevention and intervention programs, for individuals who are 25 years of age or older, that are designed to raise awareness of suicide, establish referral processes, and improve care and outcomes for such individuals who are at risk for suicide. Grantees will implement the Zero Suicide model throughout their health systems. The Zero Suicide model is a comprehensive, multi-setting approach to suicide prevention in health systems.

**Press Release:** <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201705190200>

## **HHS ANNOUNCES OVER \$70 MILLION IN GRANTS TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the availability of over \$70 million over multiple years to help communities and healthcare providers prevent opioid overdose deaths and provide treatment for opioid use disorder, of which \$28 million will be dedicated for medication-assisted treatment. Administered through SAMHSA, these funds will be made available through the following three grants:

- Medication-Assisted Treatment and Prescription Drugs Opioid Addiction: Up to \$28 million to five grantees to increase access of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder. Medication-assisted treatment combines behavioral therapy and medication approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- First Responders: Up to \$41.7 million over four years available to approximately 30 grantees to train and provide resources for first responders and members of other key community sectors on carrying and administering an FDA approved product for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.
- Improving Access to Overdose Treatment: Up to \$1 million over five years to one grantee to expand availability to overdose reversal medications in healthcare settings and to establish protocols to connect patients who have experienced a drug overdose with appropriate treatment.

**Press Release:** <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2017/05/31/hhs-announces-over-70-million-in-grants-to-address-the-opioid-crisis.html>

## RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS, TOOLKITS, OTHER RESOURCES

### NEW FROM NIMH

#### INSIDE NIMH—UPDATE ON INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES

The latest issue of *Inside NIMH* provides an update on Institute activities and an overview of the fiscal year 2017 budget. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/research-priorities/inside-nimh/2017-spring-inside-nimh.shtml>

#### MEETING SUMMARY: PROFESSIONAL COALITION FOR RESEARCH PROGRESS CONVENED

NIMH convened the eighth meeting of the Professional Coalition for Research Progress on March 30, 2017. The Coalition comprises a group of senior leaders and representatives from national professional organizations with an interest in NIMH research. Attendees learned about current NIMH research directions and strategies, shared the concerns and challenges of members of the organizations they represented, networked with their colleagues, and interacted directly with the NIMH Director and other senior NIMH staff. The meeting included presentations and break-out sessions on the NIMH experimental therapeutics approach to interventions, the Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) initiative, and balancing the NIMH research portfolio. <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/coalition/index.shtml>

### NEW FROM NIH

#### NIH RESEARCH MATTERS: NEW ROLE DISCOVERED FOR THE THALAMUS

The thalamus, a brain region long assumed to be merely an information relay, also sustains the ability to distinguish types of information and hold thoughts in mind. The results suggest that the region may play a pivotal role in the brain's thinking circuitry and might be a therapeutic target for certain psychiatric disorders. <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/new-role-discovered-thalamus>

#### LONG-TERM ANABOLIC STEROID USE LINKED TO DAMAGE TO HEART AND ARTERIES

New research funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse found that long-term exposure to anabolic-androgenic steroids may be associated with substantial impairment of the heart, including a reduction in pumping performance and damage to the arteries. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/news-releases/2017/05/long-term-anabolic-steroid-use-linked-to-damage-to-heart-arteries>

#### INFOGRAPHIC: FORGETFULNESS: NORMAL OR NOT?

Although forgetfulness can be a typical part of aging, it is important to know the difference between normal forgetfulness and more serious memory problems such as Alzheimer's disease. Check out this infographic from the National Institute on Aging (NIA), which shows the difference between normal aging issues and Alzheimer's. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/forgetfulness-normal-or-not>

## NEW FROM SAMHSA

### LINKING OLDER ADULTS WITH MEDICATION, ALCOHOL, AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

This resource helps service providers for the aging learn more about alcohol and medication misuse and mental health problems in older adults to address these issues more effectively. It provides tools such as a program coordinator's guide, suggested curricula, and handouts.

<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Linking-Older-Adults-With-Medication-Alcohol-and-Mental-Health-Resources/All-New-Products/SMA03-3824>

### ADVANCING BEST PRACTICES IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOR ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER BOYS AND MEN

This report describes selected best practices in behavioral health for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander boys and young men. <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/SMA17-5032>

### BLOG POST: LIVES IN THE BALANCE: ADDRESSING “DEATHS OF DESPAIR” AMONG PEOPLE WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

The U.S. had seen decades of continually declining mortality rates, as advances in healthcare and safety have allowed us to live longer. This century, however, mortality rates among certain demographic and socioeconomic groups have increased. SAMHSA Center for Mental Health Services Director Paolo del Vecchio describes the findings of a recent study attributing this uptick to what the authors call “deaths of despair,” which are drug and alcohol overdoses, liver disease associated with chronic alcohol use, and suicide. <https://blog.samhsa.gov/2017/05/15/lives-in-the-balance-addressing-deaths-of-despair-among-people-with-serious-mental-illness/>

### SAMHSA NEWS: SELF-CARE FOR PROVIDERS DURING CHANGE AND STRESS

Healthcare workers may neglect their own wellness while helping others. This article lists five tips to help mood, physical health, and patient care quality through self-care.

<https://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2017/05/03/self-care-for-providers>

### SPOTLIGHTS ON SIX TRAUMA-INFORMED RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

This series highlights efforts underway to stimulate collaborations that address trauma.

<https://newsletter.samhsa.gov/2017/05/16/trauma-informed-communities>

### A DAY IN THE LIFE OF OLDER ADULTS: SUBSTANCE USE FACTS

This report presents information about substance use in older adults from several data sources, including information on use of substances, admissions to treatment, and emergency department visits for substance use on a typical or average day.

[https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/report\\_2792/ShortReport-2792.html](https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/report_2792/ShortReport-2792.html)

---

## MENTAL HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT 2014

This report presents results from the *Mental Health Client-Level Data and Mental Health Treatment Episode Set* for individuals receiving mental health treatment services in 2014 as well as selected data collection trends for such individuals from 2011 to 2014.

[https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/2014\\_Mental\\_Health\\_Client\\_Level\\_Data\\_Report.pdf](https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/2014_Mental_Health_Client_Level_Data_Report.pdf)

---

## TRAUMA: WHAT CHILD WELFARE ATTORNEYS SHOULD KNOW

This guide, developed by SAMHSA's National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) and the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law, provides child welfare attorneys with knowledge about trauma, practice tips for incorporating trauma-informed practices into legal representation, and resources to assist in the representation of clients with histories of trauma.

<http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/attorneyresourceguide.pdf>

---

## FAMILY RESILIENCE AND TRAUMATIC STRESS: A FACT SHEET FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

Developed for mental health providers working with families who have experienced trauma, this fact sheet describes family resilience, defines the types of traumatic stress that can effect family functioning, shows how family resilience is related to individual resilience, delineates characteristics that contribute to family resilience, and recommends ways providers can support family resilience.

[http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/family\\_resilience\\_and\\_taumatic\\_stress.pdf](http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/family_resilience_and_taumatic_stress.pdf)

---

## BLOG POST: THE PROMISING IMPACT OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAMS

Prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) are state-run electronic databases used to track the prescribing and dispensing of controlled prescription drugs such as opioids and benzodiazepines to patients. This SAMHSA blog post describes a recent study that found PDMPs are effective in preventing patients from seeking multiple doctors to prescribe them opioids. <https://blog.samhsa.gov/2017/05/18/the-promising-impact-of-prescription-drug-monitoring-programs>

---

## NATIONAL JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER SURVEY

This NCTSN survey found that juvenile probation officers have widespread interest in understanding the impact of trauma on the youth they supervise.

[http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/po\\_survey.pdf](http://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/assets/pdfs/po_survey.pdf)

---

## HHS BLOG POST: FINDING COMMUNITY IN MAINE AND NEW HAMPSHIRE'S OPIOID EPIDEMIC

This blog post describes HHS Secretary Price's recent visit to Maine and New Hampshire to hear directly from those addressing the opioid crisis. <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/05/16/finding-community-in-maine-and-new-hampshires-opioid-epidemic.html>

## NEW FROM CDC

### PREVENTING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE ACROSS THE LIFESPAN: A TECHNICAL PACKAGE OF PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND PRACTICES

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) prepared this new technical package to help states and communities prioritize efforts to prevent intimate partner violence (IPV). The package highlights six strategies to prevent IPV: teach safe and healthy relationship skills, engage influential adults and peers, disrupt developmental pathways toward partner violence, create protective environments, strengthen economic supports for families, and support survivors to increase safety and lessen harms.

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/ipv-technicalpackages.pdf>

### DEATHS FROM ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE — U.S., 1999-2014

This CDC report found that age-adjusted rates of Alzheimer's mortality significantly increased in 41 states and the District of Columbia from 1999 to 2014. Significant increases in Alzheimer's deaths coupled with an increase in the number of persons with Alzheimer's dying at home suggest that the burden on caregivers has increased even more than the increase in the number of deaths. Caregivers might benefit from interventions such as education, respite care, and case management that can lessen the potential burden of caregiving and can improve the care received by persons with Alzheimer's.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/66/wr/mm6620a1.htm>

### UPDATED WEBPAGE: FEATURE ON MATERNAL DEPRESSION

This online feature focuses on depression among women before, during, and after pregnancy. It includes symptoms of depression and how to seek treatment. <https://www.cdc.gov/features/maternal-depression/index.html>

## FDA ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE TO STUDY OPIOID EPIDEMIC

In a recent blog post, FDA Director Scott Gottlieb announced the launch of an Opioid Policy Steering Committee made up of senior agency officials to address the opioid addiction crisis. Gottlieb wrote that the committee will address whether the FDA should mandate training for prescribers and work with providers to ensure the opioid dosage prescribed matches the condition for which a patient is being treated. The committee will also decide whether the FDA's drug review process for opioids adequately considers risk and the potential for abuse. <https://blogs.fda.gov/fdavoice/index.php/2017/05/fda-commissioner-asks-staff-for-more-forceful-steps-to-stem-the-opioid-crisis/>

## NEW FROM AHRQ

### ONLINE FAST STATS TOOL PROVIDES UPDATED DATA ON OPIOID-RELATED HOSPITALIZATIONS

AHRQ's *Fast Stats* database now provides updated statistics on opioid-related hospitalizations for researchers, policymakers, clinicians, and others who are tackling the opioid epidemic. The opioid-related updates include 2015 inpatient data for 28 states, 2015 emergency department data for 19 states, and 2016 quarterly inpatient data for 14 states. The database can be used to rank states. For example, in 2014, data show that the three states with the highest opioid-related hospitalization rates were Maryland, Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia. The three states with the lowest rates were Iowa, Nebraska, and Wyoming. <https://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/faststats/OpioidUseServlet>

### SPANISH-LANGUAGE CONSUMER SUMMARY: TREATMENT OF DEPRESSION

AHRQ has released a new Spanish-language translation of its consumer summary about nonpharmacological versus pharmacological treatments for adult patients with major depressive disorder.  
<https://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/search-for-guides-reviews-and-reports/?pageaction=displayproduct&productID=2473>

### DISABILITY RESOURCES: BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE WORKFORCE

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy recently updated its *Building an Inclusive Workforce* desktop "flip guide." Available via mail order free of charge and online for download, this guide provides information and resources to assist in increasing disability inclusion, framed around the following categories: business strategies that work, creating an inclusive culture, recruitment and hiring, and retention and advancement. <https://www.dol.gov/odep/BusinessSense/2017/bsense0517.htm>

### NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE: FAMILY CONTEXT'S ROLE IN TEEN DATING VIOLENCE

Findings from two National Institute of Justice-funded studies that focused on high-risk youth highlight the importance of family context in the development of aggression and teen dating violence. These studies summarize the implications of family context for intervention and prevention. Specifically, positive parenting and self-regulation were shown to be crucial protective influences that have effects extending to late adolescence. Furthermore, family-based interventions may be most effective for targeting aggression and teen dating violence in adolescents, particularly for those at higher risk due to parental psychopathology. In particular, programs that focus on improving parents' mental health, marital conflict, and parenting skills may prove to be particularly beneficial.

<https://nij.gov/topics/crime/intimate-partner-violence/teen-dating-violence/Pages/family-context-in-development-of-teen-dating-violence.aspx>

## NEW FROM THE VA

### COMMUNITY PROVIDER TOOLKIT

This toolkit supports the behavioral health and wellness of Veterans receiving services outside the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) healthcare system. Resources available in this toolkit include information on screening for military service, handouts, trainings to increase knowledge about military culture, and mini-clinics focused on relevant aspects of behavioral health and wellness.

<https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders/index.asp>

### RECOVERY UPDATE: INCREASING THE ROLE OF PEER SPECIALISTS IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS

The latest issue of the VA *Recovery Update* newsletter highlights the perspectives of peer specialists in primary care settings.

[https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders/docs/RECOVERY\\_UPDATE\\_5.pdf](https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/communityproviders/docs/RECOVERY_UPDATE_5.pdf)

### MINDFULNESS MEDITATION: A PROMISING TOOL TO HELP REDUCE CHRONIC PAIN AND OPIOID USE

This VA blog post describes the evidence base for using mindfulness meditation to reduce chronic pain.

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/37903/mindfulness-meditation-promising-tool-help-reduce-chronic-pain-opioid-use/>

### THREE WAYS TO START THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

Bringing up mental health with a Veteran loved one can be challenging. There's no one-size-fits-all answer. Every situation is unique, whether a Veteran returned home years ago or is transitioning from service now. The VA *Make the Connection* website offers resources that can help start the conversation about mental health treatment. <https://maketheconnection.net/whats-new/three-ways-to-start-the-conversation-about-mental-health-treatment>

### NEW E-LEARNING TRAINING FOR VA AND COMMUNITY PROVIDERS

The War-Related Illness and Injury Study Center offers a series of e-learning training modules in collaboration with the Employee Education System, as part of a new curriculum in Post-Deployment Health. The training is available to VA healthcare providers nationwide and at no cost to community providers.

<https://www.warrelatedillness.va.gov/docs/modflyer.asp>

## DCOE BLOG POSTS

### 10 MENTAL HEALTH BLOGS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

The Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) strives to provide the most up-to-date information and resources on research, tools, and services available for the military community. DCoE, including its centers and campaigns, produces blog posts to help make the information available to everyone, and easier to understand. Take a look at 10 recent posts related to mental health. <http://dcoe.mil/blog/17-05-15/10-mental-health-blogs-you-don-t-want-miss>

### HOW TO SUPPORT WOMEN WHO SERVE, THEIR MENTAL HEALTH: TIPS FOR PROVIDERS

Women represent about 16 percent of the active-duty military force. As they continue to serve, it's critical that clinicians are equipped to treat their psychological health concerns. Deputy Director Dr. Kate McGraw of the Deployment Health Clinical Center has spent more than three decades working for the military, dedicating her work to the psychological differences and needs of women in the military. This post highlights her perspective on the challenges military females face.

<http://dcoe.mil/blog/17-05-16/how-support-women-who-serve-their-mental-health-tips-providers>

### ACTIONS NEEDED TO ENSURE POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AND TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ARE CONSIDERED IN MISCONDUCT SEPARATIONS

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI) can affect the behavior of service members in the Armed forces and may lead to separations for misconduct. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined misconduct separations and found that service members diagnosed with PTSD, TBI, or certain other conditions can receive an "other than honorable" discharge—making them potentially ineligible for VA health benefits. However, not all of the military services have consistent policies in place to address the impact of these disorders on misconduct separations. The GAO recommended that Department of Defense direct the military services to address inconsistencies in their separation policies.

<http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-17-260>

## CLINICAL RESEARCH PARTICIPATION NEWS

### NATIONAL RECRUITMENT: JOIN NIH DEPRESSION RESEARCH STUDIES

Does depression impede your daily life? Are you currently feeling sad and hopeless, experiencing worthlessness and guilt, and have a lack of interest in everyday activities you once enjoyed?

NIH studies are investigating the brain and experimental medications (such as ketamine) to rapidly reduce depressive symptoms. Research includes: depressed adults ages 18 to 70, outpatient visits or inpatient stays of up to 12 weeks at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD. Call 1-877-MIND-NIH, TTY: 1-866-411-1010, Email: moodresearch@mail.nih.gov.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/adult-studies/depression-evaluations-for-medication-and-brain-imaging-studies.shtml>

### TWITTER MESSAGE

Join an NIMH Study. Depression research evaluates adults 18-70, the brain and novel medications to rapidly reduce symptoms. <http://goo.gl/Se1io5>

### INFOGRAPHIC: IS CLINICAL RESEARCH RIGHT FOR ME?

Share this NIA infographic and help spread the word about the benefits of participating in clinical trials and studies. <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/infographics/clinical-research-right-me>

## EVENTS

### HEALTH OBSERVANCE: PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

#### JUNE 2017

June has been designated as PTSD Awareness Month by the VA's National Center for PTSD. Join VA efforts to spread the word about PTSD and effective treatments during PTSD Awareness Month. VA materials are available, which describe PTSD Awareness Month and offer suggestions to raise awareness in communities across the country. <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/>

## HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL MEN'S MONTH

JUNE 2017

---

During Men's Health Month in June, the HHS encourages men and boys to take steps toward a healthier lifestyle. It is an opportunity to raise awareness about the impact of preventable illnesses such as heart disease and highlight ways to stay healthy, such as exercise and getting regular medical check-ups.

<https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/content.aspx?ID=10238&lvl=2&lvlid=12>

## WEBINAR: INTEGRATED PRACTICE: RECOVERY-ORIENTED APPROACHES TO SCREENING, INTAKE, AND MONITORING

JUNE 7, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

---

This SAMHSA Recovery to Practice webinar draws on the presenters' practical, first-hand experience with recovery-oriented screening, intake, and monitoring processes and how they benefit both the person using services and the recovery support services team. This webinar will present tools that can be used to identify behavioral and whole health needs, and how to design intentional and welcoming programs that incorporate recovery-oriented perspectives. [https://events-na2.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/916603251/en/events/event/shared/1047157422/event\\_landing.html?sco-id=1047113443&\\_charset\\_=utf-8](https://events-na2.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/916603251/en/events/event/shared/1047157422/event_landing.html?sco-id=1047113443&_charset_=utf-8)

## WEBINAR: HUMAN TRAFFICKING: IDENTIFYING AND RESPONDING TO VICTIMS IN THE HEALTHCARE SETTING

JUNE 7, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

---

This webinar presented by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's National Training and Technical Assistance Center, will present strategies to equip healthcare professionals to identify and appropriately assist trafficked persons with victim-centered services. Presenters will examine a 2017 survey report from the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, which found that over half of labor and sex trafficking survivors surveyed had accessed healthcare at least once while being trafficked.

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1110174863686&ca=3f24955e-ea05-424a-a515-f025db0dfb76>

## **NIMH LECTURE: NIH MULTIMODAL BRAIN STIMULATION: BUILDING TMS TOOLS FOR SELECTIVE NEURAL ENGAGEMENT FROM THE GROUND UP**

JUNE 7, 2017, 2:30-3:30 PM ET

---

This lecture in the NIMH Multimodal TMS Speaker Series, which brings together the leaders in the field conducting research using non-invasive brain stimulation and functional imaging, will describe novel TMS device development, MRI-informed modeling, and concurrent TMS and intracerebral recordings intended to build, from the ground up, better tools for selective neural engagement. The event will be broadcast via WebEx and archived for later viewing. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nih-multimodal-brain-stimulation-angel-peterchev-tickets-34047139912>

## **NIMH LECTURE: MULTIMODAL SPEAKER SERIES**

JUNE 9, 2017, 1:30-3:30 PM ET

---

This lecture in the NIMH Multimodal TMS Speaker Series, which brings together the leaders in the field conducting research using non-invasive brain stimulation and functional imaging, features Christian Windischberger, Associate Professor of Medical Physics and Deputy Head of MR Physics at the Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering at the Medical University of Vienna, and Faranak Farzan, an independent scientist in the Temerty Centre for Therapeutic Brain Stimulation at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. The event will be broadcast via WebEx and archived for later viewing.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nih-tms-christian-windischberger-130-pm-faranak-farzan-230-pm-tickets-34047992462>

## **WEBINAR: COGNITIVE BEHAVIOR THERAPY FOR SUICIDE IN VETERANS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

JUNE 12, 2017, 3:00-4:00 PM ET

---

Veterans with substance use disorders (SUDs) are at clear elevated risk for suicide. This VA research group is in the process of testing the efficacy of an evidence-based intervention to reduce suicide risk with Veterans in SUD treatment. This VA seminar will review the literature on the link between substance use and suicide as well as the cognitive behavioral model for suicidal thoughts and behaviors. The presenters will provide descriptions of techniques and strategies to specifically target suicidal thoughts and behaviors among those with SUDs. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2370649706664400898>

## **WEBINAR: SUCCESSFUL MODELS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT OPIOID ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT**

JUNE 13, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

---

This Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Workforce Grand Rounds webinar will examine current health workforce resources and models for combating the opioid abuse epidemic. Presenters will provide details about their current training curriculum, community partnerships, policy, innovative approaches, and recruitment strategies. [https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1114521017/en/events/event/shared/default\\_template\\_simple/event\\_registration.html?scid=1641362472&\\_charset\\_=utf-8](https://events-na11.adobeconnect.com/content/connect/c1/1114521017/en/events/event/shared/default_template_simple/event_registration.html?scid=1641362472&_charset_=utf-8)

## **WEBINAR: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS IN ADDRESSING ORAL HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

JUNE 13, 2017, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

---

Join this SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Services webinar to hear from dental experts about the importance of addressing oral health in integrated health settings and identify simple strategies that can be implemented to make oral health part of the conversation in behavioral health and primary care settings. Learn how a behavioral health organization established an innovative partnership with a local university to provide an onsite dental clinic and how an initiative in Utah meets the oral health needs of people with SUDs. Presenters will share tools that can help providers looking to expand their efforts to address oral health. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1148308>

## **WEBINAR: HOW TO EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT TELEBEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN PRIMARY CARE – A DIALOGUE WITH EXPERTS**

JUNE 15, 2017, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

---

Join this interactive SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions webinar to ask subject matter experts about the key elements of successful telebehavioral health implementation and learn about practical tools for how to build capacity for telebehavioral health in integrated primary and behavioral healthcare settings. <https://goto.webcasts.com/starthere.jsp?ei=1145882>

## **WEBINAR: BRAIN INJURY AND PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH FOLLOWING COMBAT DEPLOYMENT: IMPLICATIONS FOR LONG-TERM OUTCOME**

JUNE 20, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

---

This VA webinar will cover findings from a prospective, observational, longitudinal research study that has been following service members from the point of injury in combat out to one-year and now five-year outcomes. Results from both the advanced neuroimaging and extensive battery of neurological, neuropsychological, and psychiatric outcomes collected in these patients will be presented.

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3489453365309234947>

## **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](https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/programs_campaigns/nctic/nctic-crisis-webinar-series-announcement.pdf)

## **HEALTH OBSERVANCE: NATIONAL PTSD AWARENESS DAY**

JUNE 27, 2017

---

To bring greater awareness to the issue of PTSD, the U.S. Senate designated June 27th as National PTSD Awareness Day. Learn about NCTSN resources to help educate individuals, families, professionals, policy makers, and communities about the significant impact that PTSD has on men, women, and children.

<http://www.nctsn.org/resources/public-awareness/national-ptsd-awareness-day>

## NCATS ADVOCACY DAY: PARTNERING WITH PATIENTS FOR SMARTER SCIENCE

JUNE 30, 2017, BETHESDA, MD

The inaugural National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) Advocacy Day will 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>

### CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

## AHRQ SEEKS NOMINATIONS: NEW MEMBERS TO THE U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE

AHRQ welcomes nominations for new members to the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force. The Task Force works to improve the health of all Americans by making evidence-based recommendations about clinical preventive services such as screenings, counseling services, and preventive medications.

Each year, AHRQ's Director appoints new members to serve four-year terms and replace those who are completing their service. AHRQ is actively seeking the nomination of individuals from the areas of pediatrics, nursing, behavioral health, obstetrics and gynecology, and preventive medicine. In addition, AHRQ seeks diverse candidates who have experience in public health; the reduction of health disparities; the application of science to health policy; and the communication of findings to healthcare professionals, policymakers, and the general public. Qualified candidates must demonstrate expertise and national leadership in clinical prevention, the critical evaluation of research, and the implementation of evidence-based recommendations in clinical practice. Nominations must be received by June 15, 2017 to be considered for appointment with an anticipated start date of January 2018.

<https://www.ahrq.gov/news/newsroom/nominations-uspstf.html>

## 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, 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

ADDRESSING SUICIDE RESEARCH GAPS: AGGREGATING AND MINING EXISTING DATA SETS FOR SECONDARY ANALYSES

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-MH-18-400.html>

BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS FOR PREVENTION OF OPIOID USE DISORDER OR ADJUNCT TO MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT-SAMHSA OPIOID STR GRANTS

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-AT-18-001.html>

SECOND CHANCE ACT: IMPLEMENTING COUNTY AND STATEWIDE PLANS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM

<https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=430>

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS REFORM PROMISING PRACTICES

<https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=437>

NATIONAL INTERTRIBAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

<https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=431>

YOUTH WITH SEXUAL BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS PROGRAM

<https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=435>



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.