



UPDATE

November 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*

NIH BRAIN INITIATIVE BUILDS ON EARLY ADVANCES; NIH ANNOUNCES NEW ROUND OF AWARDS FOR VISUALIZING THE BRAIN IN ACTION

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has announced funding for 110 new awards totaling \$169 million for the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiative, bringing the total 2017 funding investment for the program to \$260 million. Maps of whole brains in action, the ability to identify thousands of brain cells at a time, and innovative brain scanners are just a few of the advances funded by the groundbreaking effort. In the past three years, research under the initiative has advanced so rapidly that this year many of the previously funded individual projects will receive expanded support to achieve the ambitious goals of the BRAIN Initiative.

Press Release: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/nih-brain-initiative-builds-on-early-advances.shtml>

NIH BRAIN INITIATIVE LAUNCHES CELL CENSUS; \$250 MILLION EFFORT WILL CATALOG “PARTS LIST” OF OUR MOST COMPLEX ORGAN

NIH launched a major effort to discover and catalog the brain’s “parts list.” The NIH BRAIN Initiative Cell Census Network aims to provide researchers with a comprehensive reference of the diverse cell types in human, monkey, and mouse brains. A network of integrated centers, collaborating laboratories, and data resources will be funded by 11 grants projected to total about \$50 million annually over five years. All data will be shared with the research community.

Press Release: <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2017/nih-brain-initiative-launches-cell-census.shtml>

NIH ANNOUNCES AWARDS FOR BRAIN INITIATIVE NEUROETHICS RESEARCH; GRANTS AIM TO ADDRESS NEUROETHICAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH HUMAN BRAIN RESEARCH

As scientists develop powerful neurotechnologies to monitor and regulate brain activity, ethical questions arise about how these new tools should be incorporated into medical research and clinical practice. To inform this discussion, the NIH has awarded grants to five teams of experts who will study the neuroethical issues surrounding the use of deep brain stimulation in neuropsychiatric and movement disorders, and appropriate consent for brain research. The grants are part of the BRAIN Initiative.

Press Release: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-announces-awards-brain-initiative-neuroethics-research>

NCCIH INTRODUCES “KNOW THE SCIENCE” INITIATIVE; SCIENCE LITERACY EFFORTS INCLUDE INTERACTIVE MODULES AND VIDEOS TO EQUIP CONSUMERS TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS

The National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health has launched *Know the Science*, an initiative aiming to clarify and explain scientific topics related to health research. This effort features a variety of materials, including interactive modules, quizzes, and videos to provide engaging, straightforward content for consumers to explore science topics. While complementary approaches are occasionally highlighted in examples, the materials cover topics common to all areas of health research.

Press Release: <https://nccih.nih.gov/news/press/Know-the-science-initiative>

SAMHSA REAFFIRMS EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF THE OPIOID CRISIS

President Trump’s declaration of the opioid crisis as a public health emergency reaffirms the role of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) as leaders in solving one of America’s most pressing public health issues. HHS is implementing five specific strategies that are guiding SAMHSA’s response.

Press Release: <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201710260100>

HHS, SAMHSA TO MAINTAIN FUNDING FORMULA FOR \$1 BILLION OPIOID GRANT PROGRAM

HHS and SAMHSA will maintain the Opioid State Targeted Response grant funding allocation formula for the second year of the program. This program is a significant component of the Trump Administration’s efforts to combat the nation’s opioid crisis, and is critical for achieving the President’s goals of supporting a comprehensive array of evidence-based prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

Press Release: <https://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/press-announcements/201710300530>

CDC REPORTS RISING RATES OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS IN RURAL AREAS, RATES THAT ARE HIGHER THAN IN URBAN AREAS

Rates of drug overdose deaths are rising in non-metropolitan (rural) areas, surpassing rates in metropolitan (urban) areas, according to a new report in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Drug overdoses are the leading cause of injury death in the U.S., resulting in approximately 52,000 deaths in 2015. This report highlights trends in illicit drug use and disorders from 2003-2014 and drug overdose deaths from 1999-2015 in urban and rural areas. In 1999, drug overdose death rates for urban areas were higher than in rural areas. The rates converged in 2004 and in 2006 the rural rate began trending higher than the urban rate. In 2015, the most recent year in this analysis, the rural rate of 17.0 per 100,000 remained slightly higher than the urban rate of 16.2 per 100,000.

Press Release: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p1019-rural-overdose-deaths.html>

NIMH DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: SOPHOMORE YEAR

In his most recent Director's Message, National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Director Dr. Joshua Gordon reflects on his first year at the Institute and outlines the scientific priorities going forward.

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/messages/2017/sophomore-year.shtml>

NEW FROM NIH

NIH DIRECTOR'S BLOG: STUDIES OF DOGS, MICE, AND PEOPLE PROVIDE CLUES TO OCD

While it is known that obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) tends to run in families, it has been difficult to identify specific genes that influence OCD risk. NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins blogs about an international research team, partly funded by NIH, that has made progress thanks to an innovative genomic approach involving dogs, mice, and people. The strategy allowed them to uncover four genes involved in OCD that turn out to play a role in synapses, where nerve impulses are transmitted between neurons in the brain. While more research is needed to confirm the findings and better understand the molecular mechanisms of OCD, these findings offer important new leads that could point the way to more effective treatments.

<https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2017/10/24/studies-of-dogs-mice-and-people-provide-clues-to-ocd/>

COPING WITH GRIEF: LIFE AFTER LOSS

This NIH *News in Health* article offers strategies for coping with a loss, and describes how scientists have been studying the grieving process and learning more about healthy ways to cope with loss.

<https://newsinhealth.nih.gov/2017/10/coping-grief>

NIDA DIRECTOR'S BLOG: ADDRESSING THE OPIOID CRISIS MEANS CONFRONTING SOCIOECONOMIC DISPARITIES

The opioid crisis has particularly affected some of the poorest regions of the country such as Appalachia. People living in poverty are especially at risk for addiction and its consequences like overdose or spread of HIV. National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) Director Dr. Nora Volkow examines how factors such as health care access, and environmental and social stresses contribute to addiction.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2017/10/addressing-opioid-crisis-means-confronting-socioeconomic-disparities>

NIDA NOTES: SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH MAJOR MEDICAL ILLNESSES AND MORTALITY RISK IN A LARGE INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

This NIDA-funded study showed strong associations between substance use disorder diagnoses and 19 major medical illnesses among patients in a large, integrated health care system. In addition, it indicates that these associations may persist even in health care systems that provide specialized treatment for substance use disorders, and have capacity to integrate behavioral and medical care.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/2017/10/substance-use-disorders-are-associated-major-medical-illnesses-mortality-risk-in-large-integrated>

NIDA SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT: MENTHOL BOOSTS NICOTINE'S EFFECTS

Mentholated cigarettes account for about one-quarter of the U.S. smoking tobacco market, and appeal particularly to adolescents. Menthol give cigarettes a minty taste and masks the burning sensation of smoking by stimulating cool receptors in the nose and mouth. A NIDA-supported study bolsters evidence that it may also make cigarettes more addictive. <https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/menthol-boosts-nicotines-effects>

SCIENCE HIGHLIGHT: NIDA SCIENTISTS REVIEW IMPACT OF SMOKING AMONG ADOLESCENTS WITH ADHD

Scientists in two separate studies funded by NIDA looked at how adolescent smoking and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) symptoms might interact to affect long-term health and behaviors.

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/news-events/latest-science/nida-scientists-review-impact-smoking-among-adolescents-adhd>

NIDA DRUGS AND HEALTH BLOG: BULLYING HURTS. YOU CAN HELP.

This NIDA Drugs and Health blog post discusses the connection between substance use and bullying. It also features a poster developed by NIDA, CDC, and Scholastic, which offers steps to reduce the harm caused by bullying. <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/bullying-hurts-you-can-help>

NIDA DRUGS AND HEALTH BLOG: THE SCIENCE OF RISKY TEEN BEHAVIOR

This NIDA Drugs and Health blog post describes a study examining teen brain development and risk-taking behavior. <https://teens.drugabuse.gov/blog/post/science-risky-teen-behavior>

ALL OF US RESEARCH PROGRAM: SHARING YOUR ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD

In this video blog, Eric Dishman, Director of the NIH *All of Us* Research Program, explains what is in an electronic health record and why the data is so valuable for researchers. <https://allofus.nih.gov/news-events-and-media/videos/dish-sharing-your-electronic-health-record-ehr>

NEW FROM SAMHSA

VIRTUAL LEARNING LAB: STATE SUICIDE PREVENTION

SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center launched this new interactive online tool, which helps state and community leaders build strategic partnerships and improve their suicide prevention efforts. The *Virtual Learning Lab* explains how strategic partnerships and relationship building are essential to effective state and community suicide prevention efforts, and offers strategies to overcome common challenges. It also contains in-depth activities, worksheets, and examples. <http://www.sprc.org/virtualllearninglab/state-virtual-learning-lab>

EXPOSURE TO SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION MESSAGES AMONG ADOLESCENTS

This report examines adolescents' exposure to substance use prevention messages using data from the 2002-2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. In 2015, about three out of four adolescents aged 12 to 17 were exposed to substance use prevention messages in the media or at school, and about one out of two adolescents talked with their parents about substance use.

https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/report_3380/ShortReport-3380.html

REPORT FOCUSES ON SINGLE STATE AGENCIES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES AND STATE MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES

This report highlights the structure, responsibilities, policies, services, and financing of single state agencies and state mental health agencies. The report includes discussion of efforts to integrate physical and behavioral health, and efforts by state agencies to address opioid abuse and misuse.

<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Funding-and-Characteristics-of-Single-State-Agencies-for-Substance-Abuse-Services-and-State-Mental-Health-Agencies-2015/SMA17-5029>

NEW FROM CDC

NEW APP HELPS PARENTS TRACK CHILD'S DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

The *Milestone Tracker* app, available in iOS and Android mobile phones, was developed by CDC's *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* program to help parents, early care and education providers, and health care providers track developmental milestones in young children. Through this app and its many other parent-friendly tools, the program aims to improve the early identification of children with developmental delays and disabilities, including autism, so children and families can get the support and services they need as early as possible. <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p1024-app-development-milestones.html>

BEHAVIOR THERAPY FOR ADHD

This CDC webpage describes a behavior therapy for ADHD recommended for preschool and elementary school-aged children. Parents are trained by a therapist over the course of eight to 16 sessions to learn approaches that encourage positive behavior, address negative behavior, improve communication, and strengthen their relationship with their child. <https://www.cdc.gov/features/adhd-behavior-therapy/index.html>

HHS: OPIOID EPIDEMIC PRACTICAL TOOLKIT: HELPING FAITH AND COMMUNITY LEADERS BRING HOPE AND HEALING TO OUR COMMUNITIES

This toolkit, developed by the HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships, contains practical steps community organization can take to bring hope and healing to those suffering the consequences of opioid abuse disorder. <https://www.hhs.gov/about/agencies/iea/partnerships/opioid-toolkit/index.html>

ACF BLOG POSTS

WHAT ARE THE RED FLAGS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is one person in a relationship using tactics of coercive control to exert power over the other. This blog post from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) lists signs of domestic violence and where to find help for teens or young people experiencing dating abuse.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2017/10/what-are-the-red-flags-of-domestic-violence>

HOW CAN FIRST RESPONDERS HELP VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING DISASTERS?

This blog post highlights why it's important that first responders like paramedics, firefighters, and law enforcement are aware of the unique issues domestic violence victims face during disasters so they can respond accordingly. It describes resources developed for first responders, including a disaster response curriculum and a fact sheet about support during disasters for pregnant survivors of abuse or rape.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2017/10/without-home-and-without-shelter-how-can-first-responders-help-victims-of-domestic-violence-during-disasters>

NEW FROM AHRQ

TREATMENT FOR ADULTS WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

This systematic review from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) provides evidence on pharmacological and psychosocial treatments for schizophrenia.

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/topics/schizophrenia-adult/research-2017/>

IMPLEMENTING MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT FOR OPIOID USE

This new report examines factors that may limit access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder in rural primary care settings, and describes three innovative models of care, which may help overcome a number of the challenges faced when implementing MAT services in rural primary care.

<https://www.ahrq.gov/news/implementing-mat-opioid-use.html>

CHARACTERISTICS OF HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS USING ED SERVICES

This statistical brief presents patient characteristics, insurance coverage, and a clinical profile of emergency department visits among homeless individuals during 2014 in eight states. Homeless individuals' demographic information, expected primary payer, and prevalence of a mental or substance use disorder, are summarized for Black, Hispanic, and White individuals by hospital teaching status.

<https://www.ahrq.gov/news/homeless-individuals-emergency-department-services.html>

NEW FROM THE VA

PTSD AND DEATH FROM SUICIDE

Suicide among Veterans, military personnel, and civilians is a major concern. This issue of the *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Research Quarterly* from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Center for PTSD provides a guide to the current literature on the association between PTSD and death by suicide. <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/newsletters/research-quarterly/V28N4.pdf>

PODCASTS ABOUT ZERO SUICIDE EFFORTS

The VA Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center for Suicide Prevention presents this series of podcasts on Zero Suicide efforts. The podcasts include a conversation about the importance of caring messages in preventing suicide, a discussion with SAMHSA's Chief of the Suicide Prevention Branch, and an interview with the Director of Colorado's Office of Suicide Prevention.

https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/media/podcasts/10_18_2017.asp

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW: INTERVENTIONS TO SUPPORT CAREGIVERS OR FAMILIES OF PATIENTS WITH TBI, PTSD, OR POLYTRAUMA

This systematic review describes the volume of published literature evaluating the effects of family caregiving support programs for individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI), PTSD, or polytrauma, and assesses the effect of these programs on caregiver, patient, and household outcomes.

https://www.hsrp.research.va.gov/publications/management_briefs/default.cfm?ManagementBriefsMenu=eBrief-no132

NEW FROM NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

RISKS IN ADOLESCENCE THAT LEAD TO INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IN YOUNG ADULTHOOD

This study funded by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) examined the developmental and familial pathways to intimate partner violence involvement in young adulthood.

<https://nij.gov/topics/crime/intimate-partner-violence/Pages/risks-in-adolescence-that-lead-to-intimate-partner-violence-in-young-adulthood.aspx>

PATHWAYS BETWEEN CHILD MALTREATMENT AND ADULT CRIMINAL INVOLVEMENT

Child abuse and neglect have been shown to increase the risk of later forms of antisocial behavior, including violence perpetration and crime in adulthood; however, the processes through which child abuse leads to subsequent antisocial and criminal behavior are not well understood. New findings from NIJ-funded research help to address this gap in knowledge by identifying factors that explain the link between child maltreatment and adulthood criminal behavior.

<https://nij.gov/topics/crime/children-exposed-to-violence/Pages/pathways-between-child-maltreatment-and-adult-criminal-involvement.aspx>

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH

NOVEMBER 2017

The goal of National Adoption Month, an initiative of ACF's Children's Bureau, is to increase national awareness and bring attention to the need for permanent families for children and youth in the U.S. foster care system. Each year, the initiative focuses its outreach and awareness-raising efforts around a new adoption-related theme. The 2017 theme, "Teens Need Families, No Matter What," highlights the importance of identifying well-prepared and committed families for the thousands of teenagers in foster care. Many of these young people are less likely to be adopted, often because of their age, and will too often age out of the system without a stable support system. Securing lifelong connections for these teens, legally and emotionally, is an urgent need and critical component of their future achievement and overall well-being. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/adoption/nam/>

WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH CONDITIONS RESULTING FROM TBI

NOVEMBER 9, 2017, 1:00-2:30 PM ET

Individuals with TBI also may experience psychological health concerns, including PTSD, depression, and anxiety. Because symptoms of TBI and psychological health problems can be similar, knowing when to refer an individual to another provider is important for effective treatment. The goal of this Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and TBI webinar is to highlight psychological health conditions associated with TBI and the roles of other health care providers. The presenter will share diverse case studies to explain psychiatric assessment, treatment, and prognosis with relevance to military medicine.

<http://dcoe.mil/training/webinars/2017/understanding-psychological-health-conditions-resulting-tbi>

FRONTIERS IN ADDICTION RESEARCH: THE SCIENCES OF ASTROCYTES, STRESS RESPONSE, AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH

NOVEMBER 10, 2017, WASHINGTON, DC

During this mini-convention convened by NIDA and the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, three scientific sessions will explore techniques and approaches for studying astrocytes in neurological disorders and behavior; stress reactivity and immune function in brain development, addiction, and depression; and approaches towards treatment of substance abuse disorders and mental illness.

<https://apps1.seiservices.com/nida-niaaa/frontiers2017/Default.aspx>

WEBINAR: THE 2017 REVISED CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE FOR PTSD: WHY IT MATTERS FOR PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS AND WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE

NOVEMBER 15, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

The VA PTSD Consultation Program Monthly Lecture Series will offer three one-hour lectures this fall about the new Clinical Practice Guideline for PTSD. The third webinar in the series will address clinical practice resources for primary care providers. <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/consult/lecture-series.asp>

WEBINAR: CLINICAL BEST PRACTICES IN ORAL HEALTH FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

NOVEMBER 16, 2017, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This webinar will identify ways that oral health and behavioral health professionals, and safety net health care systems can integrate oral health into the care of patients with substance use disorders. The webinar is hosted by SAMHSA and the Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Health Workforce and Bureau of Primary Health Care. https://hrsa.connectsolutions.com/bhw_samhsa_bphc_11-16-17/

OFFICE OF MINORITY HEALTH RESOURCE CENTER GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 16-17, 2017, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL

Learn to write winning grants and build sustainable partnerships to improve minority health. This HHS Office of Minority Health grant writing workshop to be held at Nova Southeastern University is intended for university and college junior faculty, staff, and health professionals.

<https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=100>

OPIOID SYMPOSIUM AND CODE-A-THON

DECEMBER 6-7, 2017, WASHINGTON, DC

The HHS Office of the Chief Technology Officer will host an opioid symposium and Code-a-Thon to promote and employ innovative ways to leverage technology and data to address the nationwide opioid epidemic. The symposium will showcase promising practices in data and technology that have improved outcomes in communities across the country that state and local leaders can bring back to their communities. The symposium is taking place the morning of December 6 at HHS headquarters in Washington, DC. Individuals may register to join in-person, or view the event via a live video stream. The Code-a-Thon, an in-person event only, is taking place from 1:00 p.m. December 6 through 6:00 p.m. December 7 at HHS headquarters in Washington, DC. The purpose of the Code-a-Thon is to develop data-driven solutions to the opioid epidemic using federal, state, and local datasets. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hhs-opioid-symposium-code-a-thon-registration-39040222356>

WEBINAR: EVIDENCE-BASED SYNTHESIS: INTERVENTIONS TO SUPPORT CAREGIVERS OR FAMILIES OF PATIENTS WITH TBI, PTSD, OR POLYTRAUMA

DECEMBER 13, 2017, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Family members perform a significant service caring for Veterans with severe physical, mental, and cognitive impairments. Depending on the injuries and health conditions, for some families the need for intensive family caregiving support can last for decades. Further, caregiving can have negative implications for the caregiver's physical and mental health, employment, and financial security. There is a need to better understand the impact of interventions that support caregivers or families of individuals with disabling conditions common among Veterans. This VA webinar will review findings from a synthesis of literature evaluating the effects of family caregiving support programs for individuals with TBI, PTSD, or polytrauma. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1773034354200879361>

DEPRESSION, REPEATED DOSES OF KETAMINE, AND NEUROIMAGING

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the rapid and sustained antidepressant effects of repeat doses of ketamine in the brain. NIMH scientists want to learn how ketamine affects areas of the brain important in regulating mood and if there are unique signatures that could help predict who may respond to the drug. They also want to see if repeated doses of ketamine are safe and effective in treating the symptoms of depression.

NIMH is enrolling eligible adults, ages 18 to 65 with major depressive disorder. This in-patient study lasts 14-20 weeks and procedures include a medication taper and drug-free period, taking repeated doses of the research drug, taking placebo, multiple brain imaging scans, transcranial magnetic stimulation, and psychological testing. After completing the study, participants can receive short-term care at the NIH while transitioning back to a provider.

The study is conducted at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, MD. There is no cost to participate and compensation is provided. This study enrolls eligible participants from across the US. Travel arrangements are provided and costs are covered by NIMH (arrangements vary by distance). After completing the study, participants receive short-term follow-up care at the NIH while transitioning back to a provider.

The first steps to participate include calling NIMH, learning study details, asking about your eligibility, and consenting to participate.

To find out if you qualify, email NIMH at moodresearch@mail.nih.gov, or call 1-877-646-3644 (1-877-MIND-NIH) [TTY: 1-866-411-1010].

Protocol Number: 17-M-0060

Principal Investigator: Carlos Zarate, Jr., M.D.

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/labs-at-nimh/join-a-study/trials/adult-studies/depression-repeated-doses-of-ketamine-and-neuroimaging.shtml>

TRANS-NIH STRATEGIC PLAN FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH

The NIH Office of Research on Women's Health seeks feedback on three cross-cutting themes and goals under consideration for the next trans-NIH strategic plan for women's health research. These themes will stimulate new research areas, priorities, and approaches to help put science to work for the health of women. Specifically, NIH seeks public comments on the following questions:

- What are some ways that the scope of each theme might be expanded or more narrowly focused to address the most important areas in research on women's health?
- What topics would you recommend adding to the list of cross-cutting themes for research on women's health?
- What big idea or audacious goal to improve women's health should be pursued by the NIH?

Responses accepted through November 10, 2017. <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-17-108.html>

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:

TREATMENT FOR BIPOLAR DISORDER IN ADULTS: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW (COMMENTS ACCEPTED THROUGH NOVEMBER 22, 2017)

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/get-involved/draft-comments/draft/15089/>

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: ENHANCING UTILIZATION OF THE NIH CLINICAL CENTER

NIH is seeking input from the community about areas of scientific opportunity that would benefit from the unique research resources of the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. In particular, input is being sought to identify areas where the need for in-patient research beds exceeds availability. The NIH plans to use the input to consider new partnerships for enhancing utilization of the Clinical Center to address research questions that can be most effectively and efficiently answered by interventions or procedures that require hospitalization in a unique, research-focused setting. Responses accepted until November 24, 2017.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-18-007.html>

FUNDING INFORMATION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION ENHANCEMENT AND LEADERSHIP THROUGH ALLIANCES
IMPACT

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?opId=297628>

FISCAL YEAR 2018 OPIOID STATE TARGETED RESPONSE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-004>



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.