

EMHD fosters accessible mental health services and supports that are culturally and linguistically competent to meet the needs of diverse populations with regard to race, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, religion, socio-economic status, geography, language, immigration status, and family.

SUMMER 2010

Addressing Disparities Across SAMHSA's Strategic Initiatives



Gary Blau, Ph.D. and King Davis, Ph.D.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) Child, Adolescent, and Family Branch sponsored the third face-to-face meeting of the External Workgroup on April 6-7, 2010, at the offices of SAMHSA in Rockville, MD. This meeting offered an opportunity to recognize accomplishments, review strategies, plan next steps, incorporate new knowledge, and renew the External Workgroup members' commitment to continue their work as leaders in the Eliminating Mental Health Disparities (EMHD) initiative. Read the meeting highlights and view presentations from speakers including A. Kathryn Power, M.Ed., Director, CMHS; King Davis, Ph.D., Professor, The University of Texas at

Austin; Larke Huang, Ph.D., Senior Advisor on Children at the Office of the Administrator; Gary Blau, Ph.D., Chief Child Adolescent and Family Branch and several others on our website: <http://endmentalhealthdisparities.net/>

Addressing Behavioral Health Service Disparities: Current and Potential Strategies within Washington State and the National Context – March 2010

Washington State's Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Health and Recovery Services Administration (HRSA) contracted with TriWest Group, LLC to review recent trends related to addressing health disparities at the national and state levels. This review's focus is on documentation and assessment of the range of current and potential strategies to reduce disparities in the access to and quality of mental health services in Washington State, with a specific sub-focus on current issues surrounding the role of Mental Health (MH) Specialists in Washington State. The report is a component of Washington State's broader initiatives related to its June 2009 participation in the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Policy Summit on the Elimination of Disparities in Mental Health Care. Read more at: <http://www.nambha.org/pilot/htm>



Partner Highlight:

Joe Powell, LCDC, CAS,
Executive Director, Association of Persons
Affected by Addiction (APAA)
Board President, National Leadership
Council on African American Behavioral
Health

Faces & Voices of Recovery and Hazelden Center for Public Advocacy Announced 2010 America Honors Recovery Recipients

Carol McDaid, board chair of Faces & Voices saluted the members and leadership of The Association of Persons Affected by Addiction (APAA) in Dallas, Texas. Ms. McDaid announced the winner of the Joel

continued on next page

Faces & Voices of Recovery

continued from page 1

Hernandez Award stating: “APAA has been a pioneering force in the recovery advocacy movement for close to 15 years; they provide a first-rate model of the passion and dedication we see in every recovery community organization across the country.”

In recognizing Joe Powell as a Vernon Johnson award recipient, William Moyers, Vice President of Foundation Relations at Hazelden remarked: “We are proud to continue carrying the message of hope and honor the legacy of the Johnson Institute’s founder, Vernon Johnson, by co-hosting America Honors Recovery with Faces & Voices of Recovery.”

On July 28, 2010 the award recipients will be honored along with Congressman Patrick Kennedy (D-RI).

Read more at: www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org.

Raising Awareness



National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day put the spotlight on the importance of promoting positive social and emotional development in children and the need for early identification of mental health challenges.

Nationwide, more than 1,000 community-based mental health service and support providers, community programs, schools, and collaborating organization affiliates joined the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and more than 80 public and private collaborating organizations and federal programs and agencies in celebrating National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day. The day was marked by community events, youth rallies, social media campaigns, and art activities with children to raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health and their families. Read more at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/children/index.aspx>.

Position Statement on Behavioral Health in National Health Care Reform:

16 Foundations Nationwide Urge Focus on Behavioral Health Services

For decades, local, regional and national foundations have provided funding and technical assistance to improve behavioral health services (mental health and substance use services) across the United States. As policymakers wrestle with the details of national health care reform, many foundations urge decision-makers to consider the crucial role of behavioral health as they reform our current health care system. Read more at: <http://www.hogg.utexas.edu/statement.html>

Health Care Reform:

Read about the new health care law known as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and how it is expected to reduce disparities: <http://www.healthcare.gov/law/about/groups/disparities/index.html>

Did You Know?

Building Bridges is a national initiative striving to advance partnerships among residential and community-based service providers, youth and families to improve lives.

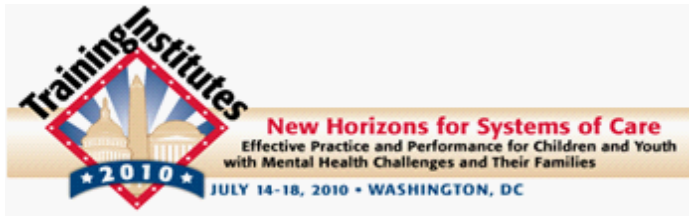


EMHD project director attended the Building Bridges Initiative’s third summit held in Omaha Nebraska June 7-10, 2010 to learn more about the practices that are positively impacting the lives of children, youth and families receiving residential and community based mental health care, and to hopefully influence the tools and products to be developed by sharing knowledge from the Eliminating Mental Health Disparities initiative.

Have You Signed on to the Joint Resolution?

Find the Joint Resolution to Advance a Statement of Shared Core Principles along with many other products on the Web: <http://www.buildingbridges4youth.org>

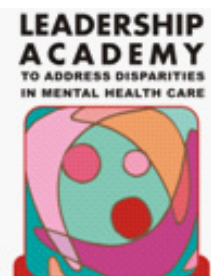
Upcoming Events



On the evening of July 16th the EMHD Team will present a poster entitled: “Toward Eliminating Mental Health Disparities: The Role of Consumers and Families.” This session will be at the Georgetown University Training Institutes held at the National Harbor Gaylord Hotel in Maryland.

The EMHD poster will address the role of youth, young and older adult consumers, and family networks in the elimination of mental health disparities. Key points learned from consumers, providers, family and community members’ experiences will be highlighted using the approach “Disparities in mental health care are reduced when...” to draw participants’ attention to the basic concepts of what works.

Recognizing that the Training Institutes present a unique opportunity to reach the over 2000 attendees from across the Nation who come together to learn and network, the EMHD team is working diligently on the poster design and the handouts that will supplement it.
<http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/training/88504.html>



The EMHD team is planning the second Leadership Academy to Address Disparities in Mental Health Care. (A collaborative effort between SAMHSA, AFYA Inc. and Georgetown University).

The effort focusing on family, youth and consumer leadership, exemplifies the Center for Mental Health Services’ recognition of the value that effective leadership brings to furthering the personal, system and community transformation that reduces disparities. This year more than half of the applicants are consumers or family members who are willing to commit to extensive pre-work that will lead up to the Academy taking place August 30, 2010 – September 3, 2010.

Rural Behavioral Health Symposium
September 21-23, 2010, Glendale, AZ

Practical Strategies to Address the Behavioral Health Needs of Children and Families in Rural America

This symposium will focus on practical strategies that build upon the innovations and strengths of rural communities and address the behavioral health needs of their children and families. Visit: http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/Activities/Rural_BH_Symposium_2010.html

The National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health in partnership with several national organizations is offering a two-part series celebrating Minority Mental Health Awareness Month (July 2010).

* Part I, focusing on Latino and American Indian communities will take place on July 7th. Visit:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/805450163>

* Part II, focusing on Asian American and African American communities will take place on July 28th.

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/801788651>

Alternatives 2010 Annual Conference:
“Promoting Wellness Through Social Justice”

The national mental health conference organized by and for mental health consumers and survivors will be held Wednesday, September 29 – Sunday, October 3, 2010 at the Hyatt Anaheim, California. Each Alternatives conference offers in-depth technical assistance on peer-delivered services and self-help/recovery methods. Beyond the exchange of knowledge and networking, Alternatives offers a rich social, artistic, and healing environment. <http://power2u.org/alternatives2010/index.html>

Learning Opportunities

Cultural & Linguistic Competence Pre-Institute: Getting It Done! Implementing Cultural and Linguistic Competence in Your Organization, System, or Community, July 13-14, 2010 at the National Harbor, Maryland.
For information contact: vhj@georgetown.edu.

Applause!

A big THANK YOU!! To members of the EMHD External Workgroup and other friends and colleagues who graciously volunteered their time to review the applications received for the Leadership Academy.

Extra!

The EMHD team is proud to announce the publication of a new book: **The LEADERSHIP EQUATION**, Co-edited by Drs. Gary M. Blau and Phyllis R. Magrab. This book offering strategies for individuals who are champions for children, youth and families, is an excellent resource for Leadership Academy participants.