



NRI NEWSLETTER

The NRI Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication that brings together news and events relevant to our stakeholders of the public behavioral health system.

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SPOTLIGHT

Report Backs Early Intervention for Serious Mental Illness

Members of the Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC), tasked with improving mental healthcare across the country [released a report](#) that presents the current status of federal activities and a summary of advances in the care and treatment of people with serious mental illnesses (SMI) and serious emotional disturbances (SED).

Committee chair, Dr. McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use at SAMHSA, says, “[the solution] is a national system of crisis intervention services.” This speaks directly to NRI’s recent report [Trends in Psychiatric Inpatient Capacity, United States and Each State, 1970 to 2014](#), which addresses the changing trends in the use of psychiatric inpatient services.

STATE NEWS

Request for Information Released to Aid in Coordinating Physical and Behavioral Health Services in Michigan

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is preparing to launch pilot projects to integrate Medicaid behavioral and physical health services. [Learn more.](#)

Texas Takes Early Steps to Repair or Replace Its Aged Mental Hospitals

Texas leaders are taking the first steps to make long-awaited fixes to state hospitals built in the 19th and 20th centuries that serve Texans who need mental health services. [Read more.](#)

RESEARCH

Escalating Symptoms of Anxiety May Point to Older Patients at Greatest Risk of Alzheimer’s

Older adults experiencing worsening anxiety may have higher levels of a protein fragment implicated in Alzheimer's disease, according to a study published today in AJP in Advance. [Read more.](#)

Social Skills Training May Reduce Negative Symptoms in Patients With Schizophrenia

Social skills training (SST) is effective for treating negative symptoms in schizophrenia, according to a meta-analysis in Schizophrenia Bulletin comparing SST and other interventions on a number of outcomes. [Read more.](#)

Study Finds Upward Trend in Suicidal Behaviors Among U.S. Young Adults

A study published in this month's Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry notes that the most significant upward trend is in suicidal ideation among non-Hispanic whites and those with major depressive episodes (MDE) diagnosis, among overall young adults with suicide plans, and in suicide attempts among those without MDE. [Read more.](#)

23% Of Hospital Admissions For Schizophrenia and Other Psychotic Disorders Resulted In Readmission Within 30 Days

Schizophrenia is the leading cause of hospital readmissions to community hospitals in the United States, according to a new government brief. [Read more.](#)

FREE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

JANUARY 24: Adolescent Suicide Prevention: Recognizing Teens at Risk & Responding Effectively

This live-streamed workshop about adolescent suicide prevention will include techniques for early detection and management of young people at risk. [Learn more.](#)

JANUARY 24: Bolstering the Role of Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils in the Development of Local Behavioral Health Service Continuums

This webinar will present three members of Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs), who will talk about how they've leveraged their membership on their CJCC to increase the development of behavioral health services and interventions. [Register now.](#)

JANUARY 30: Improving Care for Homeless Patients at Risk for Suicide

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to (1) identify commonly experienced challenges in providing suicide care to homeless patients, (2) describe unique suicide screening, risk assessment, and safety planning considerations for this population, and (3) demonstrate how HBH organizations can establish meaningful partnerships with community organizations to augment safer suicide care practices for patients experiencing homelessness. [Register now.](#)

FUNDING & AWARDS

SAMHSA Announces New 2018 Garrett Lee Smith Funding Opportunity for Colleges

SAMHSA released new funding opportunity under the 2018 Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention grant program. [Read more.](#)

HELPFUL RESOURCES & LINKS OF INTEREST

[SAMHSA finalizes changes to clarify health privacy rules for people who seek substance use disorder treatment](#)

[Oversimplifying beliefs about causes of mental illness may hinder social acceptance](#)

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