

“Education and awareness about mental illnesses to reduce stigma and promote recovery.”



WUMH News and Information ■ February 6, 2008


**MENTAL HEALTH
PARITY NOW!**

February 20, 2008 at the Capitol!!!! Be there!!!

--If your organization employs a **lobbyist**, we encourage you to register for [Senate Bill 375](#) on the **Wisconsin Ethics Board**. A list of the current lobby positions can be found here: <http://ethics.state.wi.us/scripts/2007Session/LegProps.asp>

--If you have not done so already - **sign up** to attend Mental Health Parity Action Day. Please do so at http://ltgov.wisconsin.gov/issues_view.asp?issueid=6&locid=126. Updates are regularly available on our website at http://ltgov.wisconsin.gov/issues_view.asp?issueid=6&locid=126. The day's agenda, frequently asked questions, directions to the Majestic Theatre, and parking directions can be found there.

--If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please contact [Cecely Castillo](#) or [Ben Harguth](#) in the Office of the Lieutenant Governor at (608)-266-3516.

Children's Mental Health—Webinar: register now!

On Wednesday, **February 6th from 11:00pm to 3:00 pm** Central Time, the National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health will host a 2 part dialogue on the topic of a Public Health Approach to Mental Health. This is an exciting opportunity to help guide the development of a monograph for informal and formal leaders who have a role in influencing the health of the public. The goal is to develop common definitions and language, to link the array of environment supports, services and interventions, and to offer examples of promising and effective public health models, strategies and policies that leaders and policy makers can use and implement.

Please join us in an exchange of ideas with colleagues. **Register Now.** You are welcome to join either or both parts of the dialogue.

Part I: Reflections on a public health approach to mental health

Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Time: 11:00 - 1:00 pm

Part II: Application of a public health approach to mental health

Date: Wednesday, February 6, 2008

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm ET

Weblink <<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/735357791>> : Click this link to register for the Webinar:

For additional information, please contact Neal Horen at 202-687-5443 or at horenn@georgetown.edu.

Attitudes Toward Children with Mental Health Disorders

These two studies examine the cultural context and public attitudes regarding children with mental health conditions and available treatments. *Title:* Public Attitudes towards Children with Mental Health Conditions <<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/pgDataTrends.shtml>>

House Passes Bill to Aid Offenders with Mental Illnesses

On January 23, the House voted to reauthorize and the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004 (MIOTCRA). The bill, H.R.3992, sponsored by Rep. Robert Scott (D-VA), is intended to improve services to offenders with mental illness. Authorized funding would increase from \$50 million to \$75 million annually, dedicated toward identifying and treating mentally ill inmates, coordinating services after release, and training law enforcement officers in the needs of the mentally ill.

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) nearly 16 percent of inmates nationwide suffer from serious mental illness. H.R. 3992 would also require the Justice Department to report on the frequency of mental illness in jails and prisons and of persons on parole. Senator Pete Domenici (R-NM) is sponsor of the companion bill in the Senate, [S. 2304](#). The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to hold a hearing on the bill soon.

Opportunities to Serve on Mental Health Councils--State and NAMI

The Wisconsin Council on Mental Health seeks individuals for vacancies. These volunteer positions include: Consumers who are individuals with serious mental illness; Parents of (minor) children with serious emotional disturbance; Family members, Providers and Advocates for persons with mental illness across the lifespan. The Council strives to have broad statewide geographic representation, and representatives from a wide variety of stakeholder groups.

Meetings of the Council are generally held in Madison on the third Wednesday of every other month starting in January. Council members are reimbursed for travel, meals and lodging as necessary to attend Council and Committee meetings. Appointees will be requested to serve on one of the Council Committees. The Council's permanent committees include: Children and Youth Mental Health; Mental Health Criminal Justice; Legislative and Policy; Access and Training; Nominating; and Executive Committee. Certain Committees meet via conference call. If you wish to be considered for membership on the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health, **please contact** Melanie Foxcroft, Wisconsin Council on Mental Health, 608-267-3948 or foxcrma@dhfs.state.wi.us

The NAMI Consumer Council currently has vacancies. This is a volunteer position on the council which speaks for the consumer membership of NAMI at the NAMI Wisconsin State Board of Directors. We meet several times a year to create an authentic voice for consumers within NAMI. We are an active, working council and have several projects going on in conjunction with NAMI Wisconsin.

Please consider applying for a position. It is crucial that NAMI has a strong, inclusive voice to guide policy making and implementation. We need your input to create a fair and truly representative Consumer Council. **To apply:** Send resume of your experience including consumer leadership activities along with a short letter of interest and intention to:

NAMI WI Consumer Council Attn: Joann Stephens, Chair

W7897 Eagle Avenue

Westfield, WI 53964

mjstephens@maqs.net

CANVAS is Now Available on DVD

Actor Joe Pantoliano recently was featured on the NBC Nightly News (<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/21134540/vp/22422615#22422615>) speaking about mental illness and the movie CANVAS (<http://www.canvasthefilm.com>). The film was released on DVD and can be ordered directly from ScreenMedia (<http://shop.screenmediafilms.net/product/show/11028>) or through Amazon.com and other outlets. Organizations interested in holding public screenings should contact Alison Howard at ScreenMedia: Alison@screenmedia.net (<mailto:Alison@screenmedia.net>). A public screening fee of \$700 includes 100 copies of the DVD that can be donated to **local libraries to help provide public education** about mental illness or used for fundraising activities.

Recovery: Positive Outcomes for Mental Health

Conference in Eagle River, WI, on April 25. Contact Lacey Bruyette at 715-369-1337 for more information.

Police Plan Seminars after Six Suicides

After six suicides in less than three years, the Milwaukee Police Department has planned mandatory suicide prevention sessions for all officers and administrators. "We're coming out of the closet. It's time to talk about this openly," said Dave Arndt, Milwaukee coordinator for the Police Officer Support Team. The most recent suicide in the department was the January 4 death of Officer Denise Schulz, 37, This was the third suicide since September (*from an AP wire service report.*)

Please Mark Your Calendars

Joint WUMH Steering Committee and Advisory Board 2008 Meeting Dates:

- March 14, 2008
- June 13, 2008
- September 12, 2008
- December 12, 2008

Time: 10:00-12:00 am at the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation in Madison (WISLine available) Agendas to come.

Please contact me for any further information. Visit our website www.wimentalhealth.org for news and calendar events! Thank you!

Marilyn Duguid, RN

Project Coordinator, WUMH
Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation
2503 Todd Dr.
Madison, WI 53713
mduguid@wwhf.org
P 608-251-1675
F 608-251-4136
www.wwhf.org

WUMH Purpose: A coalition to implement the Healthiest Wisconsin 2010 objective to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illnesses. Mental illnesses are real, common and treatable.

DISCLAIMER: The WUMH Listserv is intended to share information about mental health, stigma, and recovery. This information does not necessarily express the views of WUMH or the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation. If you wish to be deleted from this list, please reply with "Unsubscribe" in the subject or text. Thank You.