



**COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS
FOR ADDRESSING MENTAL
HEALTH POLICY ISSUES:**

**Building Partnerships Between State Mental
Health Authorities, NIMH and SAMHSA**

**NASMHPD 18th Annual Research Conference
February 12, 2008
Renata J. Henry**



Importance For States

- Decision Making
- Cross Systems Impact
- Gaps exist between research and policy, research and practice, resulting in decisions that are uninformed by science and evidence.



Strategy

- Collaborative link between SMHA, research and funding entities.
 - Partners help identify key questions
 - Dissemination of relevant research
 - Interpret and use data to inform decisions



Value To The States

- Learn from each other
- Faster uptake of what works
- Understand data across systems and silos
- Improved management of information
- Quality assurance and improvement



Conclusion

- Reciprocal, Egalitarian Partnerships Between the Research, Service, and Policy Environment Provides a Mechanism to Improve the Effectiveness of All Partners.

David Shern