### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- State News
- Research
- Free Educational Opportunities
- Funding & Awards
- Helpful Resources & Links of Interest
- NRI Leadership

### SPOTLIGHT

**What Every Judge Needs to Know About Trauma**

Most treatment court participants are survivors of trauma. Many treatment court judges have found that understanding and acknowledging trauma helps to engage participants in services, treatment, and judicial interventions, whether or not they have a trauma-related or other mental health diagnosis.

**Essential Components of Trauma-Informed Judicial Practice** was prepared for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), and provides information, specific strategies, and resources that many treatment court judges have found beneficial.

### STATE NEWS

**Alaska Looks to Move Medicaid Behavioral Health Services to Managed Care**

Alaska is seeking a federal waiver to contract with an administrative services organization to manage mental health and substance abuse disorder services for Medicaid beneficiaries. [Read more.](#)

**New Jersey Announces Approval Of 811 New Acute Care Psychiatric Beds**

New Jersey has approved the addition of 811 adult acute care psychiatric beds at 26 facilities over the next two years, a 40% increase in the number of adult acute psychiatric beds in the state. The beds are approved for 19 existing general hospitals, three existing psychiatric hospitals, and four psychiatric hospitals to be developed. [Read more.](#)

**North Carolina To Implement Tailored Medicaid Managed Care Plans For People With I/DD Or Behavioral Health Disorders**

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services released a concept paper outlining plans for a managed care vertical carve-out in which tailored plans would provide integrated physical, enhanced specialty behavioral health, pharmacy, and Medicaid waiver services for people with severe behavioral health
disorders, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), and people with traumatic brain injury. Read more.

**Fairfield County (OH) Juvenile Court Program Seeing Success in Diversion, Recidivism Rates** Since the establishment of the county's juvenile diversion program in 2015, it has maintained a 93.5 percent success rate. The program, according to Fairfield County Juvenile Court Judge Terre Vandervoort, is one of many established in the past few years in response to new evidence on recidivism prevention. Read more.

**Opioid Use Among South Carolina Medicaid Recipients Drops** A new report shows that South Carolina’s drug monitoring program is reducing the number of opioid prescriptions written for Medicaid recipients in the state. Read more.

**States See Medicaid Savings After Addressing Social Determinants of Health, Study Says** A report out by the National Governors Association found some states are seeing significant savings in Medicaid costs among their sickest members by addressing social determinants of health such as housing, hunger, drug abuse, and depression. Read more.

**RESEARCH**

**NIH Study of WWII Evacuees Suggests Mental Illness May be Passed to Offspring** Mental illness associated with early childhood adversity may be passed from generation to generation, according to a study of adults whose parents evacuated Finland as children during World War II. Read more.

**Separating Side Effects Could Hold Key for Safer Opioids** NIH-funded scientists may have revealed brain functions in pre-clinical research that widen the safety margin for opioid pain relief without overdose. Read more.

**Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities Among Rural Adults — United States, 2012–2015** This report provides an overview of racial/ethnic health disparities for selected indicators in rural areas of the United States. Read more.

**Substance Use-Induced Psychosis Highly Correlated With Later Schizophrenia, Bipolar Disorder** As many as a third of all patients with substance use-induced psychosis may go on to develop schizophrenia or bipolar disorder within five years, according to a report published in *AJP in Advance*. Read more.

**FREE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**DECEMBER 18: Integration Improves the Odds: Lessons Learned** Join representatives from the National Council, Johnson & Johnson, the Center for Health Care Services, Thresholds, and Zufall Health Center to discuss strategies used to navigate the challenges they faced on the path towards integrated care. Register now.

**FUNDING & AWARDS**

**U.S. Department of Justice Announces FY2017 Second Chance Act Awards to Support Reentry Initiatives for Adults and Youth** The U.S. Department of Justice recently announced $36 million in FY2017 Second Chance Act grants that were awarded to 68 jurisdictions across the country. Learn more.

**FDA Grants Marketing Authorization of the First Device for Use in Helping to Reduce the Symptoms of Opioid Withdrawal** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted a new indication for an electric stimulation device for use in helping to reduce the symptoms of opioid withdrawal. Learn more.
SAMHSA Funding Opportunity Announcement: Grants to Expand Substance Abuse Treatment Capacity in Family Treatment Drug Court
The purpose of this program is to expand substance use disorder treatment services in existing family treatment drug courts, which use the family treatment drug court model in order to provide alcohol and drug treatment to parents with a SUD and/or co-occurring SUD and mental disorders who have had a dependency petition filed against them or are at risk of such filing. Learn more.

Pre-arrest Impact and Innovation Grants Available
Open Society Foundations has issued a request for proposals for Impact and Innovation grants to help establish pre-arrest diversion programs to purchase technical assistance from top diversion and harm-reduction experts in order to demonstrate and measure their impact, and improve the quality of their interventions. Learn more.

HELPFUL RESOURCES & LINKS OF INTEREST


New Geriatric Cognition Chart May Improve Dementia Monitoring

Virtual Humans Can Identify Post-Traumatic Stress in Soldiers

Computerized Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Can Be Effective in Mood and Anxiety Disorders

Chartbook on Rural Health Care: Quality of Care Improved in Rural Areas

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