

Tobacco Free
for
Recovery

NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PARTNERSHIP FOR WELLNESS & SMOKING CESSATION

July 11, 2008

ISSUE 7



History in the making! Staff at SAMHSA, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, had their first opportunity to learn about tobacco dependence treatment and behavioral health at an in-service training session on Monday, July 7, co-sponsored by the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center (SCLC). Other than its existing Synar program that holds states accountable for preventing sales of tobacco products to minors, SAMHSA does not currently have specific smoking prevention or cessation programs in place. But thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. Terry Cline, SAMHSA administrator, the agency now sees this as a crucial issue in

focusing on the overall health and wellness for people with mental and substance use disorders, including co-occurring disorders, and thus inherent in recovery.

“Smoking is a major factor in the 25-year life expectancy gap for the people SAMHSA serves; therefore, SAMHSA staff and grantees need to be equipped to do something about it,” announced Dr. Cline. SAMHSA teamed with the SCLC to provide a terrific educational program with world-class experts on tobacco addiction and cessation and their relationship to behavioral health. Panelists included SCLC Director Dr. Steven Schroeder; Consumer Tobacco Peer Advocate Eric Arauz; Jill Williams, M.D., associate professor of psychiatry at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School; and Chad Morris, Ph. D., associate professor at the University of Colorado at Denver Department of Psychiatry. This historic event helped educate SAMHSA staff from across the agency regarding the high prevalence and serious consequences of smoking in people with behavioral health disorders, as well as underlying issues and effective treatments and interventions.

While not direct service providers themselves, as funders, policymakers and technical assistance providers, SAMHSA staff have a great deal of influence, and fostering their interest and commitment to smoking cessation is an important step forward. SCLC is very enthusiastic about continuing its partnership with SAMHSA. The speakers’ presentations, along with a one page resource given to all participants, can be found on the SCLC website at:


<http://smokingcessationleadership.ucsf.edu>.

Please continue to **send in your updates** (i.e. newsletter articles, provider trainings, presentations, etc.). We will collect all the information, send out regular updates, and continue to update and post information on our website. Thank you!



Questions or comments? Email us at csaucedo@medicine.ucsf.edu.

SAMHSA and the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center are pleased to present:



Smoking Cessation for People with Mental and Substance Use Disorders

Guest Speakers

Dr. Steven Schroeder
Director, Smoking Cessation Leadership Center, University of California, San Francisco
Former President, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Mr. Eric Arauz
Motivational Speaker and Advocate for Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Consumer Helping Others Improve Their Condition by Ending Smoking (CHOICES) Program

Dr. Jill Williams
Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Division of Addictive Psychiatry,
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Dr. Chad Morris
Director of the Administration and Consumer Professional Fellowship, Department of
Psychiatry, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center

Did You Know?
People with mental illness smoke 64% of all cigarettes?
Approximately 50% of alcohol, tobacco, and mental illness report nicotine dependence?
People with SMI die, on average, 25 years earlier than other Americans?

When: Monday, July 7, 2008
From: 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Where: Seneca/Sugarloaf/Rock Creek Conference Rooms

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration