

# **NADD HEALTH DISPARITIES TASK FORCE MEETING SUMMARY**

Tuesday, April 2, 2012  
3:15 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.  
Caribbean Salon IV  
Harbor Beach Marriott Resort & Spa  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Meeting Facilitators:

Laura Lein and James Herbert Williams, Co-chairs. Eddie Uehara, Co-chair (absent).

## **1. Updates and Announcements**

- Welcome, Introductions (moderated by Laura Lein and James Herbert Williams) and Announcements
- Salome Raheim Dean, the University of Connecticut announced that her university will soon establish Health Disparities Institute as a result from the health care reform. State legislation has allocated \$3 Million for this project.

## **2. Update and Discussion:**

### **Developing Advanced Competencies and Practice Behaviors for Behavioral Health Disparities**

(James Herbert Williams & Larry Ortiz)

James Herbert Williams and Larry Ortiz informed the membership of the next steps in developing Advanced Practice Behaviors for Behavioral Health Disparities. The process will consist of assembling 25-30 scholars and practitioners in Denver late summer or early fall for a two-day meeting. The meeting will use a similar format to those used by CSWE to develop Advanced Practice Behaviors in other substantive areas. We will seek nominations for expertise in Behavioral Health and Health Disparities to develop a set of competencies and practice behaviors. This meeting will be a CSWE-collaborated meeting with members of COEP in attendance. There will be a subsequent publication is to be determined by NADD and CSWE. Funds for this project will come from the OMH grant.

Wendy Naus announced the upcoming Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grant funding opportunity becoming available from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The 2-years grant program is aimed at capacity building, recruitment and retention in behavioral health with focus on underrepresented groups. The funding will be provided to institutions of higher education with accredited health professions training programs in social work and psychology.

### **Update: Health in America Conference (Alberto Godenzi and Gail Steketee)**

Alberto Godenzi reminded everyone that Gail announced in Atlanta, GA, that Boston University would host a national conference on health. Boston University, Boston College, University of Michigan, and University of Washington are planning to move forward with planning to host this conference in May 2013. The working title is: "Health in America." Alberto also pointed out that Boston University has better conference space for such a conference. Gail Steketee informed all that an event coordinator had been hired and the contract has been signed. Gail also outlined the following:

- The title of the conference is still pending.
- The conference will be interdisciplinary.
- Big name people to present.
- There will be a series of campus-based events and venues held in Boston.
- Housing.

Gail will identify top experts and asked for input from members of the task force and other colleagues for ideas. The budget will be roughly \$400,000 for such a top-notch conference.

Members of the task force suggested having it as a solution-focused event with broader perspective and range of practices with its niche and focus in 3 days.

### **3. New Business:**

#### **Possibility of developing joint proposal with Mental Health Task Force (Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grant Program)**

James Herbert Williams informed task force members that the Health Disparities Task Force will be partnering with the Behavioral Health Task Force to develop Mental and Behavioral Health curriculum.

### **4. Guest Presentation and Q & A on the HD Curriculum Infusion Project**

James Herbert Williams introduced Lorraine Salas from Arizona State University, who is Project Director for the Behavioral Health Disparities Curriculum Infusion Project (OMH/NADD Project). Dr. Salas said that she joined the project one year ago as Project Director and gave a brief overview of the activities, including September 2011 Panel of Experts and Practitioners. Dr. Salas gave a 40-minute PowerPoint Presentation on the Health Disparities Curriculum Infusion Project and answered several questions from the audience. In conclusion, Dr. Salas stressed that the competencies should be drawn from the research and should also be based on the interdisciplinary approach.

(Dr. Salas' Presentation on the HD Curriculum Infusion Project is available on the NADD website: [www.naddssw.org](http://www.naddssw.org) under Events - > Past Events).

**5. Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.**