



A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE: AT-A-GLANCE

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A PUBLICATION OF IDPH
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

DIVISION QUICK FACTS

SAMHSA Announces New Dialogue Blog: SAMHSA -- the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services -- recently announced the launch of their new Dialogue Blog. The goal of the blog is to provide an environment in which SAMHSA's diverse constituency can engage and discuss **SAMHSA's Eight Strategic Initiatives:**

1. Prevention of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness
2. Trauma and Justice
3. Military Families
4. Recovery Support
5. Health Reform
6. Health Information Technology
7. Data, Outcomes and Quality, and
8. Public Awareness and Support

The SAMHSA Dialogue Blog has up-to-date information such as articles from SAMHSA staff, announcements of new programs, links to reports, grant opportunities, and ways to connect to other resources. The SAMHSA blog also offers opportunities to give real-time feedback and have your voice be heard. To locate the blog, go to <http://blog.samhsa.gov/>.

Substance Abuse Prevention Data Usage Survey: In August 2012, SAMHSA awarded IDPH a one-year Strategic Prevention Enhancement (SPE) grant. Among other activities, IDPH must assess how programs currently use data for planning and evaluation purposes. As part of that assessment, local substance abuse prevention agencies are invited to participate in a survey developed with the input of 20 substance abuse prevention and health promotion experts. The survey is online and can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

Based on the assessment results, IDPH will better understand both existing efforts and improvement opportunities for 1) providing prevention and health promotion staff with the information and skills needed to do their job most effectively and 2) minimizing duplication of data collection plans and programs within the state.

Assessment survey results will be shared with participants and with many others across the state and will help agencies learn more about Iowa substance abuse prevention and health promotion resources.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Substance Abuse Prevention Ethics May 7.
Midwest Counterdrug Training Center.
To register, to go www.counterdrugtraining.com.

Many Faces of Mental Illness May 10.
Sioux City Convention Center.
For more information, contact Kim Fischer-Culver at 712-202-0173.

Problem Gambling Webinar: Designing a Successful Problem Gambling Prevention Program May 21.
The webinar will be from 12:00pm -1:30pm Central Time.
For more information, go to www.trainingresources.org.

Process Addiction in Women June 1.
Sioux City - Peter Waitt Education Center.
For more information, contact Andrea Rohlena at 712-234-2390.

SAVE THE DATE - Cultural Competency Training
June 14-15. Des Moines Botanical Center.
Watch for more details at www.trainingresources.org.

Problem Gambling Webinar: Youth Gambling - From Research to Practice June 15.
The webinar will be from 12:00pm -1:30pm Central Time.
For more information, go to www.trainingresources.org.

SAVE THE DATE - 2012 Mental Health Conference
October 9-10. Ames - Scheman Conference Center.
Watch for more details at www.trainingresources.org.

SAVE THE DATE - 2012 Drug Endangered Children Conference October 23-25. Marriott Des Moines.
Watch for more details at www.nationaldec-conference.org

Training Without Travel Check out the new online training courses available at www.trainingresources.org.

For more information about the Division of Behavioral Health, visit www.idph.state.ia.us/bh

For questions related to "A Matter of Substance," contact the editors:
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