

***SAMHSA Working to Improve
Behavioral Health Epidemiology
Capacity in States and Communities***

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SAMHSA's New Direction

What's ahead?

**How will
SAMHSA lead?**



How can we help?



SAMHSA Key Messages

- Behavioral health is essential to health
 - Improves health status
 - Lowers costs for families, businesses, and governments
- Prevention works
- Treatment is effective
- People recover



SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives

1. Prevention of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness
2. Trauma and Justice
3. Military Families—Active, Guard, Reserve, and Veteran
4. Health Reform
5. Housing and Homelessness
6. Jobs and Economy
7. Health Information Technology for Behavioral Health Providers
8. Behavioral Health Workforce—In Primary and Specialty Care Settings
9. **Data, Quality, and Outcomes**
10. Public Awareness and Support



1. Prevention of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness

SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives

→ Prevention

- SA/MI Prevention Through Prevention Prepared Communities
- Suicide
- Underage Drinking/Alcohol Policies
- Tobacco Use Among Persons with SA/MI
- Prescription Drug Abuse



Achieving this vision for prevention

- Integrating prevention of substance abuse and mental illness within a broader public health framework
- Strengthening State prevention leadership as a critical bridge of support between national initiatives and community-driven prevention
- Building a skilled prevention workforce to match knowledge and skills with the energy and dedication found in every community
- Strengthening partnerships at the Federal, State, and local levels.



9. Data, Outcomes, and Quality

SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives

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→ Data, Outcomes, and Quality

- Single SAMHSA Data Platform
- Common Data Requirements for States
- Common Evaluation and Service System Research Framework
- Quality of Services (Including EBPs)
- Prevention Billing Codes
- Recovery Measures



9. Data, Outcomes, and Quality

SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives

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Goal – To realize an integrated data strategy that

- informs policy,
- measures program impacts, and
- results in improved quality of services and outcomes for individuals, families and communities



9. Data, Outcomes, and Quality

SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives

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- Create greater balance in the collection, analysis, and dissemination of SA and MH Prevention and Treatment data
- Create common access points for data and other information to meet stakeholder needs
- Enhance capacity to provide real time data to staff and constituents regarding program investments
- Moving to the next generation of Outcome Measures consistent with health care reform and SAMHSA's strategic initiatives
- Improve the quality of evaluation and service-related information to the field
- Make performance data easily available to staff, managers, and other stakeholders



Linking Systems and Services

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- SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework
 - To a broader multidisciplinary arena. [Many Federal efforts are using this framework—CDC/tobacco and obesity and ONDCP/Prevention Prepared Communities, as examples.]
- Substance abuse often is rooted in mental health issues
 - Early childhood, traumatic experiences, age-related changes, effects of stressful conditions and child maltreatment, and adult children of alcoholics. Young adult, veteran, and older adult populations present difficult combinations of substance use and mental health issues.



Leadership at the State Level

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- Collaboration and cooperation at the local, State, and national level.
- Supports States, Tribal entities, and communities.
- Serve as the bridge across which policies and priorities pass from the national level and from the prevention field as a whole.
- Help programs take root at the State, Tribal, and community level.
- Foster connections across State systems—prevention, mental health, and treatment.
- Implementing evidence-



Behavioral Health as a Unifying Concept

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We have begun to see an increased emphasis on behavioral health nationally and at SAMHSA, which reflects a greater recognition of:

- The close ties between substance abuse and mental health problems (i.e., depression, anxiety, and suicide).
- Prevention's connection to physical health (for example, obesity, diabetes, heart disease).
- Prevention supports recovery.





State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroups

- Bring expertise and focus on prevention of substance abuse and promotion of mental health
- Determine data needs to establish magnitude/distribution of substance abuse and mental illness across life-span
- Collect, analyze and provide data to states/communities for planning, monitoring and evaluation purposes
- Assist states in determining data guided prevention prioritization and planning
- Develop/enhance monitoring and evaluation systems



SEDS

- Identify key substance abuse consequences, consumption, and behavioral health patterns
- For each behavioral pattern, identify one or more indicators
- For each indicator, identify one or more sources of data which meet a set of minimum standards



Conclusion

- Federal strategies are giving prevention new priority and prominence.
- Together we will develop new partnerships to address the prevention of substance abuse and mental illness across the lifespan.
- Collaboration is the key.


