

## SAMHSA/CMHS Consumer Affairs E-News March 14, 2012

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### SAMHSA VOICE Awards: Call for Nominations Now Being Accepted



Join the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in recognizing consumer/peer leaders in recovery from mental health and/or or substance use

disorders, as well as TV and film professionals, for their efforts to educate the public about the real experiences of people with behavioral health problems. Through their work, both groups of leaders demonstrate that people can and do recover from these conditions and lead full and meaningful lives in their communities.

Each year, the Voice Awards features a theme that supports SAMHSA's key strategic initiatives and is integrated throughout all facets of the year's program. In 2012, the awards program will spotlight the strength and perseverance of athletes who face unique challenges in managing mental health and/or substance use disorders while continuing to train, compete, and remain in the public eye. Consideration is being given to consumer/peer leader nominees who educate the public about the behavioral health challenges of athletes and help empower them to begin the journey of recovery. Additional consideration is being given to nominated TV and film productions that accurately and respectfully portray the behavioral health struggles of athletes, their resilience, and their paths to recovery.

The Voice Awards honor consumer/peer leaders who have played a vital role in raising awareness and understanding of behavioral health problems. The awards also recognize TV and film writers and producers who have given a voice to people with behavioral health problems by incorporating dignified, respectful, and accurate portrayals of these individuals into their scripts, programs, and productions.

If you know a consumer/peer leader who has led efforts to promote the social inclusion of people with behavioral health problems; personally demonstrated that recovery is real and possible; and made a positive impact on his/her community, workplace, or school, please [nominate him/her for a 2012 Voice Award](#).

Similarly, if you know of a TV or film production released after **April 15, 2011**, that contains a positive behavioral health storyline, please [nominate it for a 2012 Voice Award](#).

**CONSUMER/PEER LEADER NOMINATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2012.**

**ENTERTAINMENT NOMINATIONS ARE DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2012.**

Nominations are open to anyone and are free. There is no limit to the number of nominations an individual can submit and self-nominations are welcome.

The 2012 Voice Awards ceremony will take place on Wednesday, August 22, at Paramount Studios in Hollywood, CA. Please consult the [Voice Awards Web site](#) for more information about the program, event updates, and instructions on how to submit a nomination(s).

CHAMPIONING LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH [www.voiceawards.samhsa.gov](http://www.voiceawards.samhsa.gov)

## **Policies Give States More Flexibility to Establish Affordable Insurance Exchanges**

### **[Policies give States more flexibility to establish Affordable Insurance Exchanges](#)**

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius today announced policies to assist States in building Affordable Insurance Exchanges. Starting in 2014, these one-stop marketplaces will allow consumers and small businesses to choose a private health insurance plan and offer the public the same kinds of insurance choices as members of Congress.

## Recovery To Practice Webinar: Understanding and Building on Culture and Spirituality in Recovery-Oriented Practice



**Wednesday, April 4, 2012**

**3:00 to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time**

**Understanding and Building on Culture and Spirituality in Recovery-Oriented Practice**

### FEATURING

Rev. Laura Mancuso, M.S., CRC/CPRP  
Interfaith Chaplain, Chaplaincy Institute for Arts and Interfaith Ministries

Dee Bigfoot, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Gladys Christian  
President, National Association of Peer Specialists

### MODERATED BY

Larry Davidson, Ph.D.  
Recovery to Practice Project Director, Development Services Group, Inc.

### DESCRIPTION

This session will describe three components of culture and spirituality in recovery-oriented care: cultural and spiritual assessments, culturally appropriate interventions, and ways in which spirituality and culture can shape an individual's recovery journey. Our presenters will introduce a range of strategies that ensure care is responsive to a person's cultural identity and discuss approaches for fostering cultural strengths and spirituality in care planning and recovery practices. An important facet of culture and spirituality in recovery-oriented care addresses the aging process—how can practitioners be cognizant of person- and family-centered culturally specific needs? Three multidisciplinary specialists will share their perspectives. Reverend Laura Mancuso, M.S., CRC/CPRP, will describe practical tools for making assessment culturally and spiritually oriented. Dee Bigfoot, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, will discuss recovery-oriented interventions that have spiritual and cultural components. Finally, National Association of Peer Specialists President Gladys Christian will address how spirituality and culture have affected her recovery journey.

As with all RTP Webinars, participants are welcome to call in or submit their questions and comments for presenters to address at the end of the session.

### TO REGISTER

<https://www.livemeeting.com/lrs/8000963084/Registration.aspx?pageName=7mf1dd6wqv671fzs>

FORWARD THIS ANNOUNCEMENT!

Please share this announcement with friends and colleagues who may be interested in learning more about recovery-oriented practice in behavioral health services. For more information on SAMHSA's RTP project, please contact the RTP Technical Assistance Center at [recoverytopractice@dsgonline.com](mailto:recoverytopractice@dsgonline.com) or call 877.584.8535.

*Sponsored by the Office of the Associate Director for Consumer Affairs in the Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*

## SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Data Users Conference: August 8-10, 2012

Behavioral Health is Essential To Health • Prevention Works • Treatment is Effective • People Recover

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration  
Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality*

# SAMHSA'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DATA USERS CONFERENCE

**August 8–10, 2012  
Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel**

SAMHSA's Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality is pleased to announce its first Behavioral Health Data Users Conference. The conference will offer a series of plenary, discussion, and hands-on training sessions on how to use SAMHSA's survey data collections, including—

- } Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN)
- } National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)
- } National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS)
- } Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS)

Those interested in learning more about SAMHSA's mental health and substance use data should attend. Potential participants include State and local mental health and substance abuse officials, Federal Government staff, mental health/substance abuse service providers, mental health/substance abuse researchers, and representatives of advocacy and consumer organizations.

On August 8<sup>th</sup> the National Center for Health Statistics' 2012 Conference on Health Statistics and SAMHSA's Data Users Conference will be holding joint sessions, fostering synergy and networking opportunities for both groups of data users.

**Registration information to follow.**

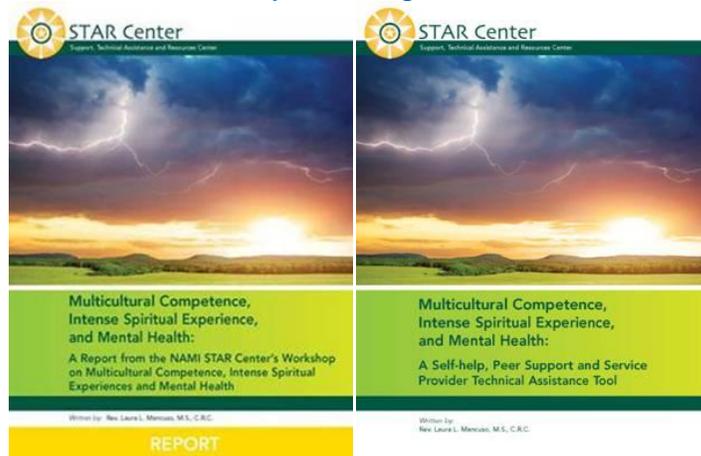
If you have additional questions for SAMHSA, please contact Tarah Griep at [tarah.griep@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:tarah.griep@samhsa.hhs.gov).



# STAR Center Teleconference Series

Multicultural Awareness, Recovery, Wellness, and Community

**Multicultural Competence, Intense Spiritual Experience, and Mental Health:  
An Introductory Session on the STAR Center TOOL and REPORT**  
**March 21, 2012**  
**at 2pm EST/ 1pm CT/ 12pm MT/ 11am PT**  
(Teleconference Summary and Registration Instructions Below)



## **Multicultural Competence, Intense Spiritual Experience, and Mental Health: An Introductory Session on The STAR Center TOOL and REPORT**

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 21, 2012

**TIME:** Eastern: 2pm-3pm  
Central: 1pm-2pm  
Mountain: 12pm-1pm  
Pacific: 11am-12pm

**ONLINE REGISTRATION:** [Click Here](#)

### **REGISTRATION BY PHONE:**

1. Call (703) 328-0699
2. Leave a clear message with your name, phone number, and the name of the webinar you are registering for
3. You will receive a return call the week of the event with teleconference number and webinar link

### **DESCRIPTION OF SESSION:**

Based on a STAR Center resource, *Multicultural Competence, Intense Spiritual Experience, and Mental Health Tool & Full Length Report*, this teleconference is an introductory session to a series of trainings for individuals/peers/consumers and providers on effectively integrating multicultural competence, intense spiritual experiences and recovery principles and practices with self-help care, peer support activities, and provider program and services. The tool and full length report can be downloaded for FREE at [www.consumerstar.org](http://www.consumerstar.org).

PRESENTERS:

Rev. Laura L. Mancuso, MS, CRC/CPRP, Interfaith Chaplain, Tool and Report Author

STAR Center Director, Stephen Kiosk, M.Div., LPC

**PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOW-UP IN-DEPTH SESSIONS WITH DIVERSE PEER/CONSUMER PARTICIPANTS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE CONTENT FOR THE STAR CENTER TOOL AND REPORT!**



*The STAR Center is funded by SAMHSA/CMHS.*

*Please visit SAMHSA/CMHS for helpful information and resources on mental health and recovery.*



## STAR Center Teleconference Series

Multicultural Awareness, Recovery, Wellness, and Community



**Trang Eleanor Mac**



**Marissa Minna Lee**

### **BEYOND MODEL MINORITY: ASIAN AMERICANS AND MENTAL HEALTH**

The STAR Center invites you to join us for an upcoming Asian American recovery teleconference and webinar titled *Beyond Model Minority: Asian Americans and Mental Health*. This webinar will feature

consumer advocates and STAR Center friends *Ms. Trang Eleanor Mac* and *Ms. Marissa Minna Lee*. Their impressive biographies can be found at the end of this message.

The purpose of the webinar is to expand cultural competency and social inclusion of Asian American consumers in peer support and mental health services. This presentation will provide a brief overview of Asian American history in mental health models, representations, experiences - both shared and personal, and the power of *hope* in recovery. The webinar will also explore how in-group and out-of-group Asian American stereotypes, attitudes, and stigmas can impact self-identity and mental health. Beyond model minority and cultural stereotypes, what other barriers deter Asian Americans from seeking help? What can we do to empower Asian American consumers as they deal with their own recovery challenges? Please join us to explore these questions and more with Ms. Mac and Ms. Lee. Registration details are listed below.

**DATE: Thursday, March 29, 2012**

**TIME: 2pm EST/ 1pm CT/ 12pm MT/ 11am PT**

**REGISTRATION: [Click Here](#)**

**REGISTRATION BY PHONE: Call (703) 328-0699**

- 1. Leave a clear message with your name, phone number, and the name of the webinar you are registering for**
- 2. You will receive a return call the week of the event with teleconference number and webinar link.**

### **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

#### **Trang Eleanor Mac**

Trang Eleanor Mac was born in war-torn Saigon, Vietnam and is the older of two siblings. As a result of the political and economic instability in post-Vietnam/American War, Ms. Mac had to start working as a street vendor at the age of nine and was forced to fight with other kids for customers. She never had the opportunity to enjoy her childhood or go to school for that matter. However, things changed for her when she came to the United States twenty years ago.

Ms. Mac is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Social Work (M.S.W) at the University of Southern California. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in psychology from California State University Northridge. Ms. Mac has also worked for the Los Angeles Department of Mental Health, Harbor UCLA Wellness Center as a Peer Advocate. In addition, Miss Mac is also a Speaker for Promo HOPE for the Mental Health Community and has presented at many mental health conferences and events including Alternatives 2012 and Asian Hope and Recovery Conference in 2010 in Los Angeles.

While working, Ms. Mac was honored with a \$5,000 Smoking Cessation Award in 2011 as well as an award for HOPE, WELLNESS, and RECOVERY in 2011. Recently, Miss Mac won a scholarship with the Trauma Research Institute, a Global Organization and pioneer in helping people with trauma.

Ms. Mac is an energetic, compassionate, and goal-oriented young lady. She likes to do art and craft and knitting in her spare time. Her mantra is "Never Give Up."

#### **Marissa Minna Lee**

Marissa Minna Lee is a Taiwanese American and mental health consumer. She has been involved in public health advocacy for the past six years and is currently a M.S.W. graduate student at the University of

California, Los Angeles. Marissa serves on the California Mental Health Planning Council, including on the Council's Cultural Competence Committee. She has presented on Asian Americans and mental health at the California Mental Health Advocacy Conference, the Los Angeles County Asian and Pacific Islander Hope and Recovery conference, and the Asian and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities of California Conference.

*The STAR Center is funded by a SAMHSA/CMHS. Please visit SAMHSA/CMHS for helpful information and resources on mental health and recovery.*

## HHS and LOC and the Veterans History Project (VHP)

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in partnership with the Library of Congress (LOC), is proud to present the Veterans History Project (VHP). This LOC Project was created by the United States Congress to give veterans the opportunity to share their experiences.

American war veterans' personal stories will be collected, preserved, and made accessible to the public so that present and future generations will have the opportunity to hear directly from veterans to better understand the realities of war. HHS encourages all veterans to participate in the VHP so that their personal stories can be shared.

The Library of Congress created a VHP Field Kit to assist veterans with telling their story. The Field Kit is available on the Library of Congress website (<http://www.loc.gov/vets/pdf/fieldkit-2007.pdf>) and the HHS Veterans website (<http://intranet.hhs.gov/hr/employrecruit/events.html>). The HHS Veterans Employment Program Office (VEPO) staff will email the VHP field kit upon request.

HHS encourages all HHS Veterans nationwide to use the Field Kit instructions to submit their story. Additionally, HHS is providing an opportunity for veterans to participate in an individual video recording at the Hubert H. Humphrey Building broadcast studio (see below for address). If you have questions or if you would like to schedule an individual video session, please contact either Kelly Williams, HHS Veterans Employment Program Manager (VEPM), at 202-205-9315 or Sonya Keeve (VEPM) at 202-690-2001. The Veterans Team began recording veterans' stories on February 15, 2012 and will continue through May 2012.

### **1. For Veterans choosing to provide audio and/or written stories, please:**

- A. Access a Field Kit from one of the websites above or contact the Veterans Employment Program Office (VEPO) staff;
- B. Follow the Field Kit instructions; and
- C. Mail the completed Field Kit package to the following address:

Attention: Kelly Williams (VEPM)  
Hubert H. Humphrey Building  
Office of Human Resources – Room 801  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20201

### **2. For Veterans choosing to attend and participate in an individual video recording session, please :**

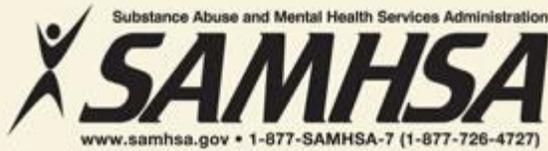
- A. Access a Field Kit from one of the websites above or contact one of the VEPO staff to request a kit;
- B. The Member is asked to gather all photographs prior to the interview;
- C. The Member must fill out and complete pages 5, 6, 7, and 11 of the Field Kit;
- D. The VEPO staff will provide the questions to help guide the video recording interview to the

participant in advance; and

E. The VEPO staff will schedule a 30-minute window to conduct the interview at the HHS studio.

We hope that HHS veterans will take advantage of this special opportunity to tell their personal stories. This project is brought to you by the Diversity, Outreach, Opportunities and Recruitment (DOOR) Division, Strategic Programs, Office of Human Resources.

## New Child Welfare Resource on Collaborative Practice



*Behavioral Health is Essential to Health  
Prevention Works  
Treatment is Effective  
People Recover*



### New Resource on Collaborative Practice!

#### Bringing Families Together: Models of Hope and Recovery



Discover how communities are strengthening linkages among child welfare, mental health services, substance use treatment, and the court systems to improve outcomes for children and families.

This video features the 10-Element Framework: Elements of System Linkages, developed by the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW) to help states and tribal and local communities overcome barriers and identify strategies to facilitate effective partnerships between mental health services, substance use treatment, child

welfare, and family courts.

[View or Download](#)

#### Check Out Some of Our Most Downloaded Materials and Resources!

##### [Substance-Exposed Infants: State Responses to the Problem](#)

This study assessed state policy from the broadest perspective: prevention, intervention, identification, and treatment of prenatal substance exposure, including immediate and ongoing services for the infant, the mother, and the family.

##### [Screening and Assessment for Family Engagement, Retention, and Recovery](#)

#### Find Treatment

Locate substance abuse and mental health treatment facilities across the United States.

[Search Now](#)

#### Mark Your Calendar

##### **Family Drug Courts: A National Symposium To Improve Family Recovery, Safety, and Stability**

**September 5–7, 2012**, at the Anaheim Marriot in Anaheim, CA

The purpose of the symposium is to engage a wide range of family drug court (FDC) professionals in discussion of FDC practices, research, and policy.

[LEARN MORE](#)

#### Free Online Tutorials

The free tutorials focus on the subjects of substance abuse and

[\(SAFERR\)](#)

This guidebook presents the Screening and Assessment for Family Engagement, Retention, and Recovery (SAFERR) model for helping staff of public and private agencies respond to families affected by substance use disorders.

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[Substance Abuse Specialists in Child Welfare Agencies and Dependency Courts: Considerations for Program Designers and Evaluators](#)

The purpose of co-locating substance abuse specialists is to ensure that parents are assessed as quickly as possible, to improve parent engagement and retention in treatment, to streamline entry into treatment, and to provide consultation to child welfare and dependency court workers.

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NCSACW is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and jointly funded by SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families, Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect.

child welfare; they support and facilitate collaboration between the child welfare system, the substance abuse treatment system, and the courts. Continuing Education Units are available upon successful completion of a tutorial.

**Three tutorials available:**

Understanding Child Welfare and the Dependency Court: A Guide for Substance Abuse Treatment Professionals

Understanding Substance Use Disorders, Treatment, and Family Recovery: A Guide for Child Welfare Professionals

Understanding Substance Use Disorders, Treatment, and Family Recovery: A Guide for Legal Professionals

[LEARN MORE](#)



**Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration**  
1 Choke Cherry Road | Rockville, MD 20857 | 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727)  
<http://www.samhsa.gov>

SAMHSA is a public health agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Its mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.