

## Transforming Children's Mental Health in America

Ah yes, the lazy days of summer... well, not if you are trying to coordinate schedules for children who are no longer in school, or you are a provider trying to offer family-driven, youth-guided services or attempting to respond to RFP's, or you are in government and trying to deal with the end of the fiscal year, or you are a fed and have to manage procurements, process grants, contracts and agreements.

Hopefully, amidst all of this there will be time for family and friends, and time for you. We also hope there will be time to join us in New Orleans for our Grantee Meeting! We have an exciting agenda, including the involvement of Dr. Terry Cline, SAMHSA Administrator. And, don't forget to regularly check our website for updates and information.

All the best,

Gary Blau and  
Diane Sondheimer

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## CAFB Branch Update Summer 2007

<http://www.systemsofcare.samhsa.gov>



## 2007 Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Highlights

The National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day Educational Briefing held on Capitol Hill was attended by over 280 people.

- Congressional sponsors included: Senator Susan M. Collins (R-ME), Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-CT), Senator Pete V. Domenici (R-NM), Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), and Senator Gordon H. Smith (R-OR).
- Surprise guest, Representative Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA), addressed the audience and we were also paid a visit by Senator Pete V. Domenici (R-NM).

### Extensive Media Coverage

- Howie Mandel, Honorary Consumer Spokesperson, promoted Awareness Day on a number of major television shows including Oprah, Larry King Live, Martha Stewart and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.
- Radio interviews with Dr. Gary Blau and Howie Mandel were heard on over 400 radio stations across the country including all top 10 markets. These interviews potentially reached 13,155,330 listeners!

**An impressive 80+ percent of all system of care funded sites  
held events!**

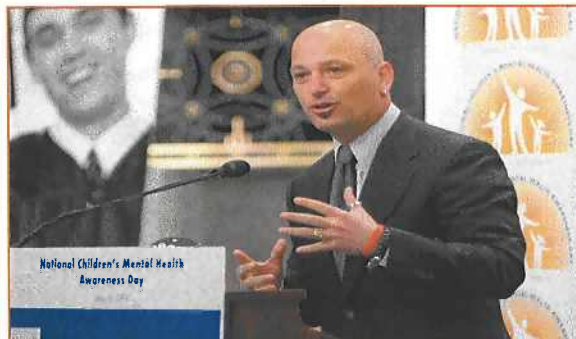
Examples of local activities include a state-wide "listening tour" in which the First Lady, Arkansas, raised awareness about children's mental health, youth summits, press conferences, and proclamations signed by Governors. How exciting!

### What Can You Do?

**Start planning for next year's Awareness Day, May 8, 2008, now!**

For more information visit our updated website:

<http://systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/nationalawareness/materials.aspx>



**Howie Mandel advocating  
for children's mental  
health on  
May 8th, 2007,  
National Children's Mental  
Health Awareness Day**

## Annual Report to Congress 2002-2003 Now Available!!

The Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program Evaluation Findings: Annual Report to Congress 2002-2003 combined report represents the eighth and ninth annual reports, which covers evaluation activities of the children's mental health services grant program through FY 2002 and 2003. The report is based upon the National Evaluation of the Children's Mental Health Initiative. Data collected through the national evaluation are reported for 45 grant communities that were funded in 1997 (9 sites), 1998 (14), 1999 (20), and 2000 (2).

This Annual Report to Congress is a useful product in informing Congressional audiences about systems of care and provides valuable information that document program successes. Your participation in the national evaluation currently and in the future will allow us to continue producing valuable data to demonstrate the effectiveness of systems of care to decisions-makers and SOC constituencies. The Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program Evaluation Findings: Annual Report to Congress 2002-2003 is available on the Systems of Care website

<http://systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/newinformation/report2congress.aspx>

## New Policy Brief on Transitioning Youth Now Available

On the Move: Helping Young Adults with Serious Emotional Mental Health Needs Transition into Adulthood is a new policy brief about helping adolescents successfully transition to independence. The brief provides snapshots of programs, projects, and efforts made by the five states (Maine, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Utah, and Washington) that were awarded grants as part of the Partnerships for Youth Transition (PYT) initiative funded by Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) and the Department of Education, Office on Special Education Programs. The brief also provides principles for developing a Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Model and Next Steps at both the Federal and State policy levels.

The On the Move: Helping Young Adults with Serious Emotional Mental Health Needs Transition into Adulthood policy brief can be downloaded in its entirety from the Systems of Care website

<http://systemsofcare.samhsa.gov/ResourceDir/PYThome.aspx>

## SUMMER 2007 SYSTEM OF CARE MEETING



The System of Care Summer Meeting "Enhancing Resiliency and Healing: Trauma Informed Services and Supports" will be held

August 1-3 in New Orleans.

For more information please visit <http://www.meetinglink.org/Aug07/default.asp>