



**National Institute for Health Care Management Foundation  
Women's and Children's Health Update  
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**NIHCM  
FOUNDATION**

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**NIHCM Foundation Addresses Adolescent & Young Adult Health In Upcoming Conference**

NIHCM Foundation is holding a conference, "**Closing the Gaps in Health Care for Adolescents and Young Adults**," on January 10, 2006 in Washington, D.C., as part of its grant with **HRSA's Maternal and Child Health Bureau**. Adolescents are an often forgotten, yet critically important, age group. Patterns developed during this time can have long-term implications for health practices throughout their lives. This forum will bring together representatives from the public and private sectors to discuss current policy and programs focused on this age group, with a special emphasis on transition to adult care systems which poses unique problems for health care access and delivery. Please visit the **NIHCM Foundation** website to view the invitation, the agenda and to download a registration form to sign up for the conference. Click here to view the website: [http://www.nihcm.org/finalweb/pg\\_mch\\_conferences.htm](http://www.nihcm.org/finalweb/pg_mch_conferences.htm).

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**Resources on Issues Surrounding Adolescent and Young Adult Health**

**The Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative (CAHMI)**, a national initiative based out of **Oregon Health & Science University in the Department of Pediatrics**, has established a **Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health**. The **Data Resource Center** offers interactive data search tools, personalized technical help by email or phone and information and examples to help use the data more effectively. Included on the site are data from national, state and regional surveys, and the tools to search and compare survey results

for a particular state, the nation, or subgroups of children. To access the Data Resource Center click here:

<http://www.childhealthdata.org/DesktopDefault.aspx>.

**The National Adolescent Health Information Center at the University of California, San Francisco** has released a brief, *"A Health Profile of Adolescent and Young Adult Males,"* highlighting priority health issues for adolescent and young adult males. The brief includes demographic and social context information on these populations, and reviews data on mortality, unintentional injury, violence, substance use, mental health, reproductive health, overweight and health access/utilization. It also identifies key gender and racial/ethnic disparities. The brief is available for download here:

[http://nahic.ucsf.edu/index.php/nahic/article/a\\_health\\_profile\\_of\\_adolescent\\_and\\_young\\_adult\\_males\\_2005/](http://nahic.ucsf.edu/index.php/nahic/article/a_health_profile_of_adolescent_and_young_adult_males_2005/).

**The Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law** published a collection of fact sheets on the federal programs that address the wide range of needs of youth with serious mental health conditions who are transitioning into adulthood. A total of 57 programs, run by 20 or more different agencies in nine departments of the federal government were identified and a detailed assessment of each are available in *"Moving On: Analysis of Federal Programs Funding Services for Transition - Age Youth with Serious Mental Health Conditions."* Each fact sheet offers information about the program's purpose, services and funded activities, the administering federal agency, grantee and beneficiary eligibility and a brief assessment of the program's impact. The fact sheets are available at: <http://www.bazelon.org/publications/movingon/>.

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### **ASTHO Publishes Evidence-Based Public Health, Mental Health and Oral Health Tools**

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**The Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO)** has launched a new version of its website to highlight initiatives and research focused on increasing the evidence base supporting public health interventions. The section, *Evidence-Based Public Health* provides fact sheets summarizing recommendations of the **Task Force on Community Preventive Services**, including topics such as diabetes, oral health, physical activity and violence. Additional resources will continue to be added to the website. The goal of the website is to offer policymakers the best current evidence to assist them in making informed decisions about public health programs and interventions. The website is available at:

[http://www.astho.org/?template=evidence\\_based\\_ph\\_practice.html](http://www.astho.org/?template=evidence_based_ph_practice.html).

**ASTHO** has also published the *"Fact Sheet and Resource Guide: Mental Health Integration into Primary Care Settings,"* which presents an overview of mental health care, focusing on services in the primary care setting, and provides resources to support the delivery of mental health services in the primary care setting. It includes information about data, screening tools and tool kits that are

currently used by primary care professionals, community health centers and others to encourage the integration of mental health services in primary care settings. The document can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.astho.org/pubs/MentalHealthIntegration.pdf>.

**ASTHO** recently released *“Integrating MCH and Oral Health Programs to Improve Health,”* an issue brief illustrating ways that state public health agencies can improve the oral health of women and children by linking oral health and MCH programs. The brief highlights state public health agencies’ efforts in improved surveillance, prenatal care, early childhood health, access to care and injury prevention. The brief is available here:  
<http://www.astho.org/pubs/MCHOralHealthIntegration.pdf>.

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**NASHP Provides Access to Early Childhood Health and Development Information for Policymakers**  
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The **National Academy for State Health Policy's (NASHP) Assuring Better Child Health and Development (ABCD) Program** has produced a reading room designed to provide state health policymakers with easy access to research and resources related to early childhood health and development. The topics covered include: preventive health care guidelines and new directions; measurement and quality improvement in early childhood services; and early childhood services costs and financing strategies. The reading room can be viewed here:  
[http://www.nashp.org/catdisp\\_page.cfm?LID=59D44F85-32B5-11D6-BCEA00A0CC558925](http://www.nashp.org/catdisp_page.cfm?LID=59D44F85-32B5-11D6-BCEA00A0CC558925).

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**SAMSHA Announces Child Mental Health Resources, Training and Results from New Survey**  
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The **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** announced an award of \$17.5 million over five years to **Georgetown University** to manage the **National Training Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health**. The Center will provide resources and training to state and local child-serving agencies, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, and Pacific Island jurisdictions working to develop coordinated systems of care for children and adolescents with emotional disturbances and their families. For more information on the Center click here:  
[http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/programs/ta\\_center/index.html](http://gucchd.georgetown.edu/programs/ta_center/index.html).

**SAMHSA** released a new national survey citing that one-fifth of students receive some type of school-supported mental health services during the school year. The report, *“School Mental Health Services in the United States: 2002-2003,”* provides the first national survey of mental health services in a representative sample of the approximately 83,000 public elementary, middle and high schools and their associated school districts in the United States. Additional findings of

the survey are available from **SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center** at the following site:  
<http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov/publications/allpubs/sma05-4068/>.

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**New Materials Focused on Disparities in Health Care Delivery**  
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**The National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality (NICHQ)** has released a publication, *"Expanding Perspectives: Improving Cultural Competency in Children's Health Care,"* offering practical strategies health care organizations—primary care practices in particular—can use to become better at caring for diverse populations. The publication includes measures for use by healthcare delivery organizations to track progress towards the goal of culturally competent care. The publication can be downloaded here:  
[http://www.nichq.org/NR/rdonlyres/5B534B7B-0C38-4ACD-8996-EBB0C4CB2245/0/NICHQ\\_CulturalCompetencyFINAL.pdf](http://www.nichq.org/NR/rdonlyres/5B534B7B-0C38-4ACD-8996-EBB0C4CB2245/0/NICHQ_CulturalCompetencyFINAL.pdf).

The **MCH Library** has produced a new edition of **Knowledge Path: Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health** offering a selection of current resources to help health professionals, policymakers, researchers and families identify and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health. The Knowledge Path includes information and links to websites, electronic and print publications, webcasts and databases. The MCH Library is available:  
[http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp\\_race.html](http://www.mchlibrary.info/KnowledgePaths/kp_race.html).

The **National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)** released an issue brief, *"Health Disparities in the Gulf Coast Before and After Katrina: The Public Health Response,"* on the social and economic conditions that produced health disparities in the Gulf Coast. **NACCHO's** Health and Social Justice Advisory Committee initiated this statement to indicate national support for eliminating the health inequities that Hurricane Katrina revealed. The brief can be downloaded here: <http://www.naccho.org/press/releases/documents/StatementonKatrinaandSocialJustice.pdf>.

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**About NIHCM Foundation**  
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**NIHCM Foundation** is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to improving the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of America's health care system. The Foundation conducts research, policy analysis and educational activities on a range of health care issues. It fosters dialogue between the private health care industry and the public sector to find workable solutions to health system problems. Detailed information about the Foundation's projects and publications is available on our newly redesigned web site at [www.nihcm.org](http://www.nihcm.org).

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