HIV, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY, MENTAL ILLNESS AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY

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Healthy People, Healthy Families:
Connecting Marriage Research to Practice Conference

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PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

• Explore the disparities in access to health care and prevention services for HIV, chemical dependency and mental illness.

• Explore the impact of these disparities on the African American Community, and

• Engage you, the participants, in the Discussion.
THE ESTEEM PANEL MEMBERS

- Hazel D. Dean, Sc.D, M.P.H.
  Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA
- Terrence D. Walton
  DC Pretrial Services Agency (PSA), Washington, DC
- Jan Quiram, M.ED
  Substance Abuse Services Bureau, Boston, MA
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), focuses attention on:

- Programs and funding on improving the lives of people with or at risk for mental or substance abuse disorders.
- The Agency is achieving that vision through an action-oriented, measurable mission of building resilience and facilitating recovery for people with or at risk for substance abuse or mental illness.
HIV/AIDS IS AMONG SAMHSA’S CORE PRIORITY PROGRAMS

- SAMHSA is working to integrate HIV/AIDS, mental health and substance abuse services through collaboration with the States, national and local community-based and faith-based organizations, and public and private sector providers.

- SAMHSA’s vision is to ensure that people with or at risk for HIV/AIDS, mental and/or addictive disorders have the opportunity for a fulfilling life.
Individuals with HIV infection frequency have co-occurring mental illness and/or substance abuse problems

- Integration of Services, Treatment and Care are needed in the African American Community
WHY IS THERE SUCH A NEED?
HERE ARE SOME FACTS

- Racial and ethnic populations have been disproportionately affected by both the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the United States.
- Although African-American and Hispanic persons represent about one-quarter of the country’s population, more than half of new AIDS cases reported to CDC are among these populations.
- Among children, the disparities are even more dramatic, with African-American and Hispanic children representing more than 80 percent of pediatric AIDS cases in 2000.
- Approximately 78 percent of HIV-infected women are minorities and most become infected through heterosexual transmission.
- HIV infection acquired through injection drug use has been a major factor affecting minority communities.
After the Presentations, Ask Yourself if there are other RESEARCH CONCERNS?

• Is there a need to encourage drug abuse and mental health research on HIV/AIDS among African Americans.
• Do you think Drug abuse research should be encouraged on:
  – 1) the relationship between drug abuse and the incidence and prevalence of HIV/AIDS and AIDS-related morbidity and mortality among African Americans;
  – 2) effective HIV prevention, intervention and treatment programs and services for African Americans;
OTHER RESEARCH THOUGHTS

- Mental health research is encouraged on: 1) co-occurring psychosocial health problems or psychological cofactors and HIV risk; 2) mental illness risk for HIV infection; (3) mental health correlates to substance abuse in HIV infection; 4) impact of severe mental illness and other neuropsychiatric comorbidities in the context of HIV; 5) best practices for prevention, behavioral intervention and treatment of HIV/AIDS based on research evidence; 6) effective service delivery for mental health and for HIV disease.
MEETING FORMAT

- Each presenter will speak for approximately 15-20 minutes
- After the first two presenters, we hope to allow for two questions, *(IF TIME IS ALLOTTED)*
- The Session is designed for ACTIVE participation
- Time will be Allotted at the end of the Presentations for further Questions/Answers.
LET'S GET STARTED

THANK YOU