

# **HIV, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY, MENTAL ILLNESS AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY**

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**MODERATOR**

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(SAMHSA)**

**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

# SAMHSA

- **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;
  - 3) the nexus of criminal justice involvement, drug abuse, and HIV/AIDS among 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**