



NOVEMBER 2017 / ISSUE #70

Fellowship Training Highlights

The 2016 fellows met again for the first training of their second program year of the fellowship. Fellows participated in the Community Building for Prevention, Public Policy and Substance Abuse Prevention, and the Engaging Diverse Communities for Substance Abuse Prevention trainings.

In the Community Building for Prevention training, participants learned the process by which people come together to identify common problems or goals, mobilize resources, and develop and implement strategies for reaching the objectives they want to accomplish. The Public Policy and Substance Abuse Prevention training focused on defining public policy and public health policy, learning how policy is made at the state and local levels including the change process, and the components of writing a substance abuse policy brief. The final training, Engaging Diverse Communities for Substance Abuse Prevention, focused on creating awareness of the importance of incorporating diversity and cultural competence into the design and delivery of substance abuse prevention programs.

Maxine Fuller facilitated the 2-day fellowship training. Ms. Fuller is an experienced professional



Pictured left to right, front row: Chino Amah-Mbah (WI), Camille Richoux (AR), Khaela Dorman (GA), Ashley Hudson-Stabin (AL), Audrey Benavente (GU), Meisje Scales (DE); Back row: Sean Hardrick (OK), Allen Ramelb (HI), Dane Minnick (NY).

with 25 years of an extensive background in organizational development, project management, instructional design, training, and facilitation. She is currently an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Public Policy and Management at the Andrew Young School of Public Policy at Georgia State University in Atlanta, GA.

UPCOMING FELLOW TRAINING

NOVEMBER 20–DECEMBER 1, 2017

Applying Health Communications and Social Marketing online training



New Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Leadership

In August 2017, Elinore F. McCance-Katz, M.D., Ph.D., was appointed Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use. The new position and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use were established by a directive under the 21st Century Cures Act that was passed by Congress in 2016.

Her experience in federal and state agencies and as a medical professional, academic, and government official provides the perspective and leadership that will promote behavioral health and address key challenges at the federal level and the many communities supported by SAMHSA.

Click [here](#) to learn more about Dr. McCance-Katz.

2016–2018 FELLOWS

- Ashley Hudson-Stabin (AL)
- Camille Richoux (AR)
- Meisje Scales (DE)
- Khaela Dorman (GA)
- Audrey Benavente (GU)
- Allen Ramelb (HI)
- Sean Hardrick (OK)
- Dane Minnick (NY)
- Chino Amah-Mbah (WI)

NOVEMBER AWARENESS

November Is Lung Cancer Awareness Month



Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death and second most common cancer among men and women in the United States. Recent breakthroughs in early detection and improved treatments are significantly impacting survivorship and quality of life—giving real hope to the hundreds of thousands of people facing this disease. Lung cancer is an extremely complex and complicated disease requiring treatment that is targeted and individualized for each patient. A lot has been achieved, but a lot more needs to be done! It is time to join hands and work toward making lung cancer a chronically manageable disease. Click [here](#) to learn more about lung cancer.

The Great American Smokeout—November 16, 2017

The American Cancer Society’s annual Great American Smokeout encourages smokers to go the distance and give up smoking. Take this opportunity to talk with your patients about their addiction and care options. Nearly 40 million Americans still smoke cigarettes. While cigarette smoking rates have dropped, there is a rise in cigar, pipe, and hookah smoking, which are equally as dangerous and addictive. Tobacco use remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States. Click [here](#) to learn the steps you can take to quit smoking.



International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day—November 18, 2017

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the nation’s largest suicide prevention organization, is hosting International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day events worldwide on Saturday, November 18, 2017. Survivor Day allows people affected by suicide loss to gather around the world at events in their local communities to find comfort and gain understanding. The event features a screening of *The Journey: A Story of Healing and Hope*, an AFSP-produced documentary that traces the grief and healing journey that follows a suicide loss through the eyes of a diverse group of loss survivors. Click [here](#) to find an event near you.

Prevention Resources

LUNG FORCE

Led by the American Lung Association, LUNG FORCE unites women and their families to stand together against lung cancer and for lung health. “Only a force of many can take on lung cancer, the #1 cancer killer of women in the United States.” This nationwide initiative focuses on (1) making lung cancer in women a public health priority; (2) driving policy change; and (3) raising critical funds for lung cancer research. Click [here](#) to start your screening today.



Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program

A new online tool that allows first responders, public safety and public health officials to track opioid overdoses in real time. First responders can access this tool from any mobile device or computer when they go to the scene of an overdose. Click [here](#) for more information.



SAMHSA IN THE NEWS

Exposure to Substance Use Prevention Messages Among Adolescents—October 3, 2017

Exposure to drug or alcohol use prevention messages decreased among adolescents since 2002, according to a report from SAMHSA. To assess trends in adolescent exposure to substance use prevention messages, researchers analyzed data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health for 2002 to 2015.

The percentage of adolescents exposed to drug or alcohol use prevention messages in the past year by talking with parents, through media, or school sources were generally lower in 2015, compared with years between 2002 and 2012, and were comparable with 2013 and 2014. Click [here](#) to read the report.

PREVENTION AT WORK

Justice Department reveals charges against Chinese fentanyl distributors—October 17, 2017

The U.S. Justice Department announced charges against two Chinese nationals who sold fentanyl online to American customers, *The Washington Post* reports. The men are the first Chinese-based fentanyl manufacturers and distributors to be designated as Consolidated Priority Organization Targets, which the Justice Department considers to be among the most significant drug trafficking threats in the world. According to the Justice Department, one of the men operated websites that sold fentanyl directly to American customers. The other man ran at least four fentanyl labs in China. Click [here](#) to read more.

PREVENTION NEWS

FDA's Gottlieb calls for greater use of medication-assisted treatment to fight opioid epidemic—October 25, 2017

The FDA has approved three medication-assisted treatment drugs: buprenorphine, methadone, and naltrexone—each works in different ways. Patients should be offered all three options so they and their doctors can decide which is best, but often that doesn't happen due to inadequate insurance coverage, Gottlieb said. A report issued last year by Pew Charitable Trusts concluded that medication-assisted treatment is the most effective way to deal with opioid use disorder. Click [here](#) to read more.

Drug OD Rate Now Higher in Rural U.S. Than Cities: CDC—October 20, 2017

A new government report finds drug overdose death rates are now higher in rural areas of the United States than in urban areas. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study found drug overdose death rates in 1999 were 6.4 per 100,000 in cities, compared with 4 per 100,000 in rural areas. By 2015, the rate was 17 per 100,000 in rural areas and 16.2 per 100,000 in cities. Most overdose deaths occurred in homes, where rescue efforts may fall to relatives who have limited knowledge of or access to life-saving treatment and overdose follow-up care, CDC noted. Click [here](#) for the full article.

Rapid Test for Meth Abuse May Be Near—October 2, 2017

Korean scientists have developed a portable, quick urine test for amphetamines. The test uses a wireless sensor and smartphone app, and can detect amphetamines in a drop of urine within seconds. The device costs about \$50 to produce. Further testing in clinical settings is needed before the device can be marketed. Click [here](#) to read more.