



NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY | MAY 2014

Awareness Day 2014 Activities by Program Type

ART ACTIVITY

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Children's National Health System's art therapy programs collaborated to help 55 participants create warrior/wish dolls and to discuss the importance of wishes, hopes, and dreams as they relate to resilience. The programs also distributed information about children's stress, mental health awareness, art therapy and mental health, relaxation techniques, and more.

FLORIDA

Orange County Gov. Wraparound Orange celebrated its fourth annual "Healthy Minds Healthy Lives Family Fun Day," a collaborative partnership with the Federation of Families of Central Florida and several other community organizations and groups.

University of Florida (UF) Health Shands Arts in Medicine hosted an interactive Awareness Day area for people passing through the main hospital atrium. This center featured large posters and fact sheets related to mental health and the services UF Health Shands offers. The area also had tables, one of which included information encouraging community members to participate in an art therapy activity. Also in May, UF Health Shands hosted a patient-created art exhibit that featured an artist who used art therapy during her hospitalization and treatment for cancer as a way to cope and find meaning in her experience. Finally, UF Health Shands undertook a social media campaign during the weeks before and after Awareness Day.

GEORGIA

Lookout Mountain CSB, "WIN Georgia LM CME" held a mental health forum for more than 70 participants that was facilitated by a state representative. Panelists included: family members; the director of Children, Young Adults, and Families and the director of Addictive Diseases from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; the LM CME Youth Engagement specialist and lead family contact; and local law enforcement.

GUAM

Para I Famagu'on organized a proclamation signing by their Lieutenant Governor and held open houses for the public and partnering agencies. In addition, Para I Famagu'on promoted its anti-stigma campaign through an art of healing event with the theme of Icareguam: Caring for Every Child's Mental Health. Para I Famagu'on ended its celebrations with a wave that gathered people together to spread awareness about children's mental health to motorists passing through a busy intersection.

ILLINOIS

ACCESS Initiative partnered with Youth MOVE Champaign County and a local radio station to host its third annual youth awareness show for an audience of 130. At this free community talent show, young people used performing arts to raise awareness of mental health issues and promote messages of resilience, recovery, and wellness.

MARYLAND

MD CARES of Children’s Mental Health Matters! (a partnership between the Maryland Coalition of Families for Children’s Mental Health and the Mental Health Association of Maryland) recruited partners from agencies, providers, and schools across the state. Together, they held a series of events to celebrate Awareness Week, as well as a month long media campaign. Each partner planned its own set of local events. Overall, the statewide campaign drew 110 community partners and 150 school partners.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Project Xpand hosted La Fiesta Grande, an event which was open to the community and students. More than 50 participants had the opportunity to win door prizes, enjoy a meal, and listen to a guest speaker discuss children’s mental health. Mississippi Project Xpand invited the community and families in the area through social media and its Web site.

NFusion X held a Mexican-infused celebration of resilience that drew more than 50 participants. During the week of the event, youth participated in artistic, cultural, and celebratory activities for the mind, body, and soul. Youth also learned facts and statistics on children’s mental health. The week closed out with “La Fiesta Grande,” a celebration of resilience.

NEW YORK

The affiliate locations of **Compeer, Inc.–Compeer Program** in Kansas, New York, and Ohio hosted numerous youth, family, and community events throughout May.

OnCare–The Onondaga County System of Care held its fourth annual Got Art? event. More than 175 youth and young adults created artwork fitting this year’s theme, “Happiness is...” The grantee held the event and exhibit at a local technology museum, attracting an audience of 345 people.

OHIO

Clermont FAST TRAC hosted “My Feelings Are a Work of Art” activities for 700 children and youth using visual and performing arts as a way to positively express mental health. Clermont FAST TRAC will display the resulting art projects this fall at local businesses and a local shopping mall.

OKLAHOMA

Mental Health Services of Southern Oklahoma invited children and their families to an event featuring a representative from the National Alliance on Mental Illness and a hero of hope from the community, who discussed the importance of recognizing mental health and its effects on families. Thirty-six children and family members attended the event.

SOUTH DAKOTA

SGU Tiwahe Glu Kini Pi, Bringing the Family Back to Life held 3 days of celebrations on the healing strengths connected with the development of traditional Lakota/Dakota relationships involved with the Sunka Wakan Oyate, or “Horse Nation.” The celebrations included presentations on traditional Lakota horse regalia, equine-assisted mental health therapy demonstrations, and a Horse Nation honoring. In total, these activities reached approximately 500 people.

TEXAS

Throughout May, the **Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health** hosted a “Stand Up to Stigma” Facebook campaign, encouraging people to share photos of their green shoes or socks to show support for ending stigma. The Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health also collaborated with the Department of State Health Services to host a statewide art contest, displaying winners’ art in the Texas State Capitol. Finally, the community collaborated with partners to host a walk and kite flying ceremony, which involved more than 100 people and which other system of care communities in Texas replicated. To ensure robust community participation, the community used a mix of promotion channels, including social media, their website and biweekly newsletter, media interviews and editorials, and direct communications to partners and community members.

The Children’s Partnership collaborated on a proclamation by the City of Austin, a children’s mental health awareness creativity contest, the Stand Up and Soar walk and kite-flying ceremony, the distribution of mental health fact cards and green ribbons, and email and social media outreach.

UTAH

Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Emerging Adults Initiative, System of Care Expansion and Planning Grant hosted a backpack design contest and printed the winning design on backpacks that were sold in fundraising events. In addition to placing a newspaper article and a television news interview, the grantee hosted a bowling tournament featuring the theme “Strike Out Stigma.”

VERMONT

Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health hosted an informational table at the Church Street Marketplace in Burlington, VT, partnering with the Center for Health and Learning and the Vermont Department of Mental Health. Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental distributed approximately 500 items in addition to mental health and suicide prevention information materials. It also supported local events throughout Vermont, such as decorating a vacant store front with materials about child and youth mental health, celebrating “holi,” an ancient Asian festival of color that symbolizes the return of light after darkness, and hosting discussion groups on mental health wellness. Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental also worked with a local library to highlight a book on mental health and wellness, encouraged several regions to hold youth summits, and posted mental health tip sheets at local mental health agencies.

WEST VIRGINIA

HOPE Coalition worked with local schools to hold an art and essay contest awarding gift cards to first, second, and third place winners. The nonprofit affiliate also had school staff encourage students to compliment one another as a way to encourage good behavioral health.

PARTNERSHIP-DRIVEN EVENT

ARIZONA

Sewa Uusim Community Partnership–Pascua Yaqui Tribe, System of Care Expansion Grant and Project LAUNCH Grant celebrated Awareness Day throughout the month of May by handing out awareness ribbons to community members. They also collaborated with various local programs to provide specialized trainings and events for staff and community members, such as a youth poetry slam. In addition, they held an information night with presentations covering stigma reduction, autism, trauma-informed care for tribal communities, youth first-aid training, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. Finally, Sewa Uusim held a fun run/walk and resource fair that drew more than 300 participants.

CALIFORNIA

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors issued an Awareness Day proclamation, where 3 of the **0 to 8 Mental Health Collaborative’s** partnering organizations presented information. The Collaborative also partnered with Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services to train 45 attendees on the mental health of infants and toddlers.

Children’s Institute, Inc., Project ABC hosted the Little Builders Community Carnival for children 5 years old and younger and their adults. The free event focused on building community partnerships, creativity, and awareness of mental health. In the morning, children used found and recycled objects to make games that community members played that afternoon.

As part of **C-SOC Implementation Expansion–Humboldt BRIDGES, Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services**, Humboldt County Transition Age Youth Collaboration held an evening event called “Digital Story Kickback.” At this event that drew approximately 15 people, young people attended a dinner where they saw digital stories created by other young people in their community.

Along with its community partners, **Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services–Mental Health** staff planned and delivered a month of activities, including a county proclamation, a walk, and a community barbecue and family fun day. At the event, staff distributed Humboldt BRIDGES Frisbees and backpacks.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT)–SOC Planning Grant launched several activities in partnership with other state agencies and service providers throughout May. CONNECT held an open community forum to gather input on the development of a legislatively mandated statewide children’s behavioral health plan. In partnership with the state’s mobile crisis program and suicide prevention efforts, CONNECT also launched a sticker and pledge campaign to support the development of a comprehensive children’s behavioral health network of care.

FLORIDA

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GUAM

Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, Project Karinu partnered with the community of Guam and other child-serving agencies to organize events that drew approximately 300 participants. Events included a proclamation signing, a celebratory Mass, an open house, a SAMHSA site visit, a community vision summit, media interviews, a mental health awareness wave, and a Karinu birthday party.

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HAWAII

On May 8, **Project Laulima** participated in resource fairs, sign-waving at the State Capitol, and the “Lei of Friendship Rally.” Project Laulima also hosted events throughout the month of May that reached 200 people.

ILLINOIS

ACCESS Initiative partnered with Youth MOVE Champaign County and a local radio station to host its third annual youth awareness show for an audience of 130. At this free community talent show, young people used performing arts to raise awareness of mental health issues and promote messages of resilience, recovery, and wellness.

Egyptian Health Department, Project Connect hosted Awareness Day Walk the Block events across 3 counties for more than 300 participants. Project Connect also obtained mayoral proclamations, implemented a baseball green armband campaign, distributed green ribbon sticky notes, obtained school proclamations, and distributed green wristbands to students.

LOUISIANA

Magellan Health in Louisiana/MY LIFE (Magellan Youth Leaders Inspiring Future Empowerment) held a youth day at the Capitol event in Baton Rouge, where attendees heard speeches by MY LIFE Youth and Louisiana State representatives. MY LIFE also obtained a resolution by the Louisiana State Senate proclaiming May 8, 2014, as MY LIFE and Children's Mental Health Day in Louisiana. In addition, MY LIFE helped garner five local television segments highlighting Awareness Day.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Public Health Commission, MYCHILD participated in and hosted several events throughout Boston. Each of the grantee's 7 community health partners hosted events at their pediatric clinics, and its Early Childhood Mental Health Matters team co-sponsored a conference on children and adolescent mental health. MYCHILD also collaborated with the Boston Children's Museum on a day of fun for 15 families and 25 children. Collectively, these events drew more than 300 participants.

MARYLAND

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MICHIGAN

Through its **Community Family Partnership, Network 180** participated in the UP2U Mental Health Festival on May 17, 2014, an event aimed at raising awareness and reducing discrimination around mental health issues. The festival featured carnival games, music, stage entertainment, raffles, arts and crafts, and community resource booths to make learning about mental health issues engaging and fun for participants.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Project Xpand hosted La Fiesta Grande, an event which was open to the community and students. More than 50 participants had the opportunity to win door prizes, enjoy a meal, and listen to a guest speaker discuss children's mental health. Mississippi Project Xpand invited the community and families in the area through social media and its Web site.

The **Mississippi Transitional Outreach Project**, the **Mississippi Department of Mental Health**, the **Arc of Mississippi**, and the **Association of People Supporting EmploymentFirst (APSE) Mississippi** organized a third annual "Wellness Walk, Run, or Roll" event to promote mental and physical well-being. Promoting the event through email, Facebook, Twitter, agencies' websites, state agency newsletters, radio broadcasts, and fliers around the community, the 4 participating agencies were able to involve more than 200 participants.

Nfusion IV partnered with **Region IV Mental Health Services** to host a 5K fun run/walk. Nfusion IV invited children, youth, and adults, and nearly 60 people participated. Prior to the run/walk, youth made posters with mental health facts to place along the walking trail to raise mental health awareness among participants.

On May 6, **NFusion VII** held its Awareness Day celebration at Dean Park in Louisville, MS. A week before the event, Louisville was hit by a devastating tornado that left the town in disarray. As a result of the devastation, 12 families that were served by NFusion lost their homes and there was significant damage to the park. NFusion VII was still able to hold its celebration at the park and engaged attendees in a particularly relevant conversation about trauma and mental health awareness. The site served 46 attendees with a cookout, games, inflatables, music, and a recovery story. At the end of the event, families and staff released green balloons and everyone received bags filled with mental health facts.

NFusion X held a Mexican-infused celebration of resilience that drew more than 50 participants. During the week of the event, youth participated in artistic, cultural, and celebratory activities for the mind, body, and soul. Youth also learned facts and statistics on children's mental health. The week closed out with "La Fiesta Grande," a celebration of resilience.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

National Alliance on Mental Illness New Hampshire, F.A.S.T. Forward-SAMHSA Implementation Grant participated in a legislative briefing, which included a youth panel and community partners. The grantee also distributed posters with information on resilience, as well as green ribbons, to all members of the State's House of Representatives. In total, 1,200 people received posters and green ribbons and 48 people attended the legislative briefing.

NEW YORK

Chautauqua County Mental Hygiene's **Chautauqua Tapestry** reached roughly 100 people with Awareness Day and mental health messages through a wellness fair, a "Strides for My Mind 5K" at a local community college, a mental wellness book display throughout May at a local library, a month long newspaper campaign highlighting their partner agencies and services, a screening and discussion about the documentary "No Kidding, Me 2!!", and a "Green Ribbon Family Fun Fair" for families.

The affiliate locations of **Compeer, Inc.–Compeer Program** in Kansas, New York, and Ohio hosted numerous youth, family, and community events throughout May.

Monroe County Children's System of Care hosted its eighth annual Got Dreams Awards, a community celebration of people in the system of care who exemplify system-of-care values. In addition to the awards presentation, the awards event featured youth performances and a keynote speaker and drew approximately 250 attendees. The program's youth council also hosted a youth speak-out.

NORTH CAROLINA

Alamance Alliance for Children and Families held an early education summit, The School Ready Child, hosted screenings of the "Behind the Seen: Encounters With the Contemporary Family" documentary, sponsored balloon launches, sent out daily e-blasts, and supported a Smart Start Behind the Seen workshop.

BECOMING hosted a series of more than 25 trainings, events, and workshops, engaging more than 5,000 youth, children, family members, community leaders, and agency personnel. The grantee hosted a screening of the movie “Frozen,” as well as a discussion of the mental health and prejudice and discrimination themes it raises. BECOMING also held trainings on child sexual abuse prevention, cultural and linguistic competency, and LGBTQ needs. The grantee also held public celebrations and festivals, conducted professional outreach, and organized the appearance of “Mental Health Man” at local elementary schools.

OHIO

Clermont FAST TRAC hosted “My Feelings Are a Work of Art” activities for 700 children and youth using visual and performing arts as a way to positively express mental health. Clermont FAST TRAC will display the resulting art projects this fall at local businesses and a local shopping mall.

OKLAHOMA

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Protecting the Future (SOC) and **Project LAUNCH** hosted a presentation on infant mental health at the Tribal level that approximately 120 people attended. The grantees promoted the event by distributing fliers throughout the community and to their youth and family contacts.

Oklahoma Systems of Care, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, sponsored a children, youth, and families picnic at the State Capitol. At the picnic, with a theme of “Life: Play It Well, Get On Board,” more than 500 people enjoyed a free meal and entertainment from Spaghetti Eddie, a kid friendly band. Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services’ Commissioner Terri White and NAMI Oklahoma Executive Director Traci Cook spoke about the importance of children’s mental health.

PENNSYLVANIA

The **PA System of Care Partnership** held a mental health and wellness fair, a celebration of the young child, an educational mall event, a youth panel on suicide prevention, a Heroes of Hope banner signing campaign, a mental health awareness picnic, health screenings, paintings, performances, and a Night at the Circus community event.

RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families hosted a legislative rally supporting mental health services for children. The grantee also hosted 2 statewide children’s behavioral health conferences, a high school event, and a statehouse and NAMI presentation. In total, the grantee reached more than 500 attendees through these activities.

SOUTH DAKOTA

SGU Tiwahe Glu Kini Pi, Bringing the Family Back to Life held 3 days of celebrations on the healing strengths connected with the development of traditional Lakota/Dakota relationships involved with the Sunka Wakan Oyate, or “Horse Nation.” The celebrations included presentations on traditional Lakota horse regalia, equine-assisted mental health therapy demonstrations, and a Horse Nation honoring. In total, these activities reached approximately 500 people.

TENNESSEE

The **K-Town Youth Empowerment Network** reached more than 100 people in their viewing of the “Hear Our Voices” film produced by Tennessee Voices for Children. The Youth in Action Council followed the film viewing with a presentation on how their lives had been affected by the mental health system. The county and city mayors also wrote proclamations to proclaim May 8 to be Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day in Knoxville, TN.

TEXAS

The **Rural Children’s Initiative** partnered with the Texas System of Care to host the Stand Up and Soar event, where a Rural Children’s Initiative representative spoke about mental health and the importance of reducing prejudice and discrimination. The 58 participants flew kites and received green shoelaces, wristbands, brochures, balloons, and water bottles.

Throughout May, the **Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health** hosted a “Stand Up to Stigma” Facebook campaign, encouraging people to share photos of their green shoes or socks to show support for ending stigma. The Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health also collaborated with the Department of State Health Services to host a statewide art contest, displaying winners’ art in the Texas State Capitol. Finally, the community collaborated with partners to host a walk and kite flying ceremony, which involved more than 100 people and which other system of care communities in Texas replicated. To ensure robust community participation, the community used a mix of promotion channels, including social media, their website and biweekly newsletter, media interviews and editorials, and direct communications to partners and community members.

The **Children’s Partnership** collaborated on a proclamation by the City of Austin, a children’s mental health awareness creativity contest, the Stand Up and Soar walk and kite-flying ceremony, the distribution of mental health fact cards and green ribbons, and email and social media outreach.

VIRGINIA

Fairfax County–Comprehensive Services Act and Community Services Board secured a proclamation by Fairfax County’s Board of Supervisors, conducted media outreach, undertook direct public outreach, and promoted an online suicide prevention program to system partners.

WASHINGTON

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Washington State System of Care Project supported youth-planned community events across the state. Using shared promotional materials featuring messages such as “Care about more than just your body—mental health matters,” youth engaged the public to promote mental health awareness. These community events occurred in public locations and varied based on youth’s interests and what they felt would work best.

SCHOOL-BASED EVENT

COLORADO

The **Office of Behavioral Health** held a flash mob in front of the State Capitol. After the flash mob, youth and families then delivered Hero of Hope cards to state legislators. The grantee also held a Youth Mental Health First Aid Training at Arapahoe Community College for more than 200 providers and community members.

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ILLINOIS

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SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

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LOUISIANA

Mercy Family Center, Project Fleur-de-lis promoted Awareness Day materials and information through its social media accounts. The grantee also emailed these materials to its community partners and encouraged them to participate in Awareness Day through their respective work environments: schools and community clinics.

MARYLAND

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NEW YORK

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Nassau County Family Support SOC hosted a series of “Wellness Wednesdays” workshops for children, youth, and their families during May. The system of care also participated in New York State Office of Mental Health’s symposium. In May, Nassau County Family Support SOC reached about 15 to 20 people per week with children’s mental health awareness messages.

NORTH CAROLINA

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Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, JOURNEY to Successful Living implemented a green ribbon campaign, participated in NAMI Walks, participated in a march at the state capital, presented to Cincinnati’s City Council, hosted a Fair on the Square event, disseminated messages on a LED board in a public square, and secured proclamations at the county and city levels. The grantee also participated in a news segment on a local television station, participated in a radio interview, implemented a social and traditional media campaign, and distributed an e-newsletter featuring one of the Awareness Day infographics. The grantee’s activities collectively reached more than 50,000 people in the Cincinnati area.

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VIRGINIA

Fairfax County–Comprehensive Services Act and Community Services Board secured a proclamation by Fairfax County’s Board of Supervisors, conducted media outreach, undertook direct public outreach, and promoted an online suicide prevention program to system partners.

WASHINGTON

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Washington State System of Care Project supported youth-planned community events across the state. Using shared promotional materials featuring messages such as “Care about more than just your body—mental health matters,” youth engaged the public to promote mental health awareness. These community events occurred in public locations and varied based on youth’s interests and what they felt would work best.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

ARIZONA

Sewa Uusim Community Partnership–Pascua Yaqui Tribe, System of Care Expansion Grant and Project LAUNCH Grant celebrated Awareness Day throughout the month of May by handing out awareness ribbons to community members. They also collaborated with various local programs to provide specialized trainings and events for staff and community members, such as a youth poetry slam. In addition, they held an information night with presentations covering stigma reduction, autism, trauma-informed care for tribal communities, youth first-aid training, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. Finally, Sewa Uusim held a fun run/walk and resource fair that drew more than 300 participants.

CALIFORNIA

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors issued an Awareness Day proclamation, where 3 of the **0 to 8 Mental Health Collaborative’s** partnering organizations presented information. The Collaborative also partnered with Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services to train 45 attendees on

As part of **C-SOC Implementation Expansion–Humboldt BRIDGES, Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services**, Humboldt County Transition Age Youth Collaboration held an evening event called “Digital Story Kickback.” At this event that drew approximately 15 people, young people attended a dinner where they saw digital stories created by other young people in their community.

Along with its community partners, **Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services–Mental Health** staff planned and delivered a month of activities, including a county proclamation, a walk, and a community barbecue and family fun day. At the event, staff distributed Humboldt BRIDGES Frisbees and backpacks.

COLORADO

The **Office of Behavioral Health** held a flash mob in front of the State Capitol. After the flash mob, youth and families then delivered Hero of Hope cards to state legislators. The grantee also held a Youth Mental Health First Aid Training at Arapahoe Community College for more than 200 providers and community members.

CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT)–SOC Planning Grant launched several activities in partnership with other state agencies and service providers throughout May. CONNECT held an open community forum to gather input on the development of a legislatively mandated statewide children’s behavioral health plan. In partnership with the state’s mobile crisis program and suicide prevention efforts, CONNECT also launched a sticker and pledge campaign to support the development of a comprehensive children’s behavioral health network of care.

FLORIDA

Orange County Gov. Wraparound Orange celebrated its fourth annual “Healthy Minds Healthy Lives Family Fun Day,” a collaborative partnership with the Federation of Families of Central Florida and several other community organizations and groups.

University of Florida (UF) Health Shands Arts in Medicine hosted an interactive Awareness Day area for people passing through the main hospital atrium. This center featured large posters and fact sheets related to mental health and the services UF Health Shands offers. The area also had tables, one of which included information encouraging community members to participate in an art therapy activity. Also in May, UF Health Shands hosted a patient-created art exhibit that featured an artist who used art therapy during her hospitalization and treatment for cancer as a way to cope and find meaning in her experience. Finally, UF Health Shands undertook a social media campaign during the weeks before and after Awareness Day.

GEORGIA

Lookout Mountain CSB, “WIN Georgia LM CME” held a mental health forum for more than 70 participants that was facilitated by a state representative. Panelists included: family members; the director of Children, Young Adults, and Families and the director of Addictive Diseases from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities; the LM CME Youth Engagement specialist and lead family contact; and local law enforcement.

GUAM

Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, Project Karinu partnered with the community of Guam and other child-serving agencies to organize events that drew approximately 300 participants. Events included a proclamation signing, a celebratory Mass, an open house, a SAMHSA site visit, a community vision summit, media interviews, a mental health awareness wave, and a Karinu birthday party.

HAWAII

On May 8, **Project Laulima** participated in resource fairs, sign-waving at the State Capitol, and the “Lei of Friendship Rally.” Project Laulima also hosted events throughout the month of May that reached 200 people.

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Project Xpand hosted La Fiesta Grande, an event which was open to the community and students. More than 50 participants had the opportunity to win door prizes, enjoy a meal, and listen to a guest speaker discuss children’s mental health. Mississippi Project Xpand invited the community and families in the area through social media and its Web site.

Nfusion IV partnered with **Region IV Mental Health Services** to host a 5K fun run/walk. Nfusion IV invited children, youth, and adults, and nearly 60 people participated. Prior to the run/walk, youth made posters with mental health facts to place along the walking trail to raise mental health awareness among participants.

NFusion X held a Mexican-infused celebration of resilience that drew more than 50 participants. During the week of the event, youth participated in artistic, cultural, and celebratory activities for the mind, body, and soul. Youth also learned facts and statistics on children’s mental health. The week closed out with “La Fiesta Grande,” a celebration of resilience.

NEW YORK

Monroe County Children’s System of Care hosted its eighth annual Got Dreams Awards, a community celebration of people in the system of care who exemplify system-of-care values. In addition to the awards presentation, the awards event featured youth performances and a keynote speaker and drew approximately 250 attendees. The program’s youth council also hosted a youth speak-out.

OnCare–The Onondaga County System of Care held its fourth annual Got Art? event. More than 175 youth and young adults created artwork fitting this year’s theme, “Happiness is...” The grantee held the event and exhibit at a local technology museum, attracting an audience of 345 people.

NORTH CAROLINA

Alamance Alliance for Children and Families held an early education summit, The School Ready Child, hosted screenings of the “Behind the Seen: Encounters With the Contemporary Family” documentary, sponsored balloon launches, sent out daily e-blasts, and supported a Smart Start Behind the Seen workshop.

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RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families hosted a legislative rally supporting mental health services for children. The grantee also hosted 2 statewide children's behavioral health conferences, a high school event, and a statehouse and NAMI presentation. In total, the grantee reached more than 500 attendees through these activities.

SOUTH DAKOTA

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UTAH

Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, Emerging Adults Initiative, System of Care Expansion and Planning Grant hosted a backpack design contest and printed the winning design on backpacks that were sold in fundraising events. In addition to placing a newspaper article and a television news interview, the grantee hosted a bowling tournament featuring the theme "Strike Out Stigma."

VIRGINIA

Fairfax County—Comprehensive Services Act and Community Services Board secured a proclamation by Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors, conducted media outreach, undertook direct public outreach, and promoted an online suicide prevention program to system partners.

The **Region Ten Community Services Board** hosted a screening of Tennessee Voices for Children's movie, "Hear Our Voices." The board promoted the screening through fliers distributed to the Department of Social Services, the local Boys and Girls Club, Region Ten staff, and other community partner agencies serving children and families. Twenty people attended the screening.

Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), in collaboration with the **Virginia Family Network of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Virginia**, hosted a networking dinner for more than 60 people, followed by a viewing of the movie “Hear Our Voices.” Before the viewing, the DBHDS commissioner and the deputy secretary for health and human resources shared children’s mental health statistics and information about systems of care. The groups hosted a panel discussion after the screening that included a question and answer session with family, youth, and providers.

WASHINGTON

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Washington State System of Care Project supported youth-planned community events across the state. Using shared promotional materials featuring messages such as “Care about more than just your body—mental health matters,” youth engaged the public to promote mental health awareness. These community events occurred in public locations and varied based on youth’s interests and what they felt would work best.

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Connecticut Department of Children and Families, Connecticut Network of Care Transformation (CONNECT)–SOC Planning Grant launched several activities in partnership with other state agencies and service providers throughout May. CONNECT held an open community forum to gather input on the development of a legislatively mandated statewide children’s behavioral health plan. In partnership with the state’s mobile crisis program and suicide prevention efforts, CONNECT also launched a sticker and pledge campaign to support the development of a comprehensive children’s behavioral health network of care.

FLORIDA

Community Based Care of Central Florida/Children’s Cabinet of Seminole County, Families and Communities Together in Seminole (FACTS) participated in “Let’s Move: A Walk For Children’s Mental Health Awareness,” which was organized by Youth M.O.V.E. and partners; staffed information booths at a local street party; and showed the “Hear Our Voices” documentary, followed by a question and answer session. In addition, FACTS made presentations at county commission and school board meetings in seven cities and secured local Awareness Day proclamations. **Families and Communities Together in Seminole (FACTS)** of Community Based Care of Central Florida/Children’s Cabinet of Seminole County reached nearly 500 people through activities including: “Let’s Move: A Walk For Children’s Mental Health Awareness,” which Youth M.O.V.E. and partners organized; booths at “Alive After 5,” an evening street party for the general public; and a showing of the “Hear Our Voices” documentary, followed by a question and answer panel discussion. FACTS also made presentations to the county council and obtained a proclamation.

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ILLINOIS

Egyptian Health Department, Project Connect hosted Awareness Day Walk the Block events across 3 counties for more than 300 participants. Project Connect also obtained mayoral proclamations, implemented a baseball green armband campaign, distributed green ribbon sticky notes, obtained school proclamations, and distributed green wristbands to students.

INDIANA

One Community One Family hosted a statewide conference that drew 450 attendees from throughout the state to learn about topics on children's mental health. The grantee also supported a book reading for more than 1,700 children ranging from pre-K to second-graders on self-esteem and hosted an Awareness Day luncheon for 81 people.

MICHIGAN

To help celebrate Awareness Day, **American Indian Health and Family Services** provided hope and wellness screenings that raised awareness of suicide and suicide prevention. More than 45 people participated in these screenings, which were part of a larger event focused on child and parent American Indian cultural activities. Community partners and members distributed fliers promoting these activities and also promoted them through social media.

MISSISSIPPI

On May 6, **NFusion VII** held its Awareness Day celebration at Dean Park in Louisville, MS. A week before the event, Louisville was hit by a devastating tornado that left the town in disarray. As a result of the devastation, 12 families that were served by NFusion lost their homes and there was significant damage to the park. NFusion VII was still able to hold its celebration at the park and engaged attendees in a particularly relevant conversation about trauma and mental health awareness. The site served 46 attendees with a cookout, games, inflatables, music, and a recovery story. At the end of the event, families and staff released green balloons and everyone received bags filled with mental health facts.

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VERMONT

Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health hosted an informational table at the Church Street Marketplace in Burlington, VT, partnering with the Center for Health and Learning and the Vermont Department of Mental Health. Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental distributed approximately 500 items in addition to mental health and suicide prevention information materials. It also supported local events throughout Vermont, such as decorating a vacant store front with materials about child and youth mental health, celebrating “holi,” an ancient Asian festival of color that symbolizes the return of light after darkness, and hosting discussion groups on mental health wellness. Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental also worked with a local library to highlight a book on mental health and wellness, encouraged several regions to hold youth summits, and posted mental health tip sheets at local mental health agencies.

VIRGINIA

The Loudoun County Community Services Board—including government agencies and community partners—held a health fair to raise awareness about children’s mental health on Friday, May 2. More than 350 people participated in the event that was aimed at debunking myths, spreading awareness, and promoting positive mental and overall health of children.

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WASHINGTON

The **Lummi Indian Business Council** held an event called “Medicine of the Heart” that promoted healing and recognized unsung heroes and leaders in their community. More than 170 people attended as these unsung heroes were celebrated for their dedication, loyalty, and commitment to a healthier community. The community began preparing for the event 6 months prior, using the Lummi cultural protocol. This involved personally going to each home and giving invitations to those to be honored and their family members. They also used the Lummi Indian Business Council intranet to post the event’s date, time, and place.

WEST VIRGINIA

HOPE Coalition worked with local schools to hold an art and essay contest awarding first, second, and third place winners gift cards. The nonprofit affiliate also had school staff encourage students to compliment one another as a way to encourage good behavioral health.

WEBCAST/KSOC-TV WEBISODE INCORPORATION

CALIFORNIA

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LOUISIANA

Magellan Health in Louisiana/MY LIFE (Magellan Youth Leaders Inspiring Future Empowerment) held a youth day at the Capitol event in Baton Rouge, where attendees heard speeches by MY LIFE Youth and Louisiana State representatives. MY LIFE also obtained a resolution by the Louisiana State Senate proclaiming May 8, 2014, as MY LIFE and Children’s Mental Health Day in Louisiana. In addition, MY LIFE helped garner five local television segments highlighting Awareness Day.

Mercy Family Center, Project Fleur-de-lis promoted Awareness Day materials and information through its social media accounts. The grantee also emailed these materials to its community partners and encouraged them to participate in Awareness Day through their respective work environments: schools and community clinics.

MISSISSIPPI

Nfusion IV partnered with **Region IV Mental Health Services** to host a 5K fun run/walk. Nfusion IV invited children, youth, and adults, and nearly 60 people participated. Prior to the run/walk, youth made posters with mental health facts to place along the walking trail to raise mental health awareness among participants.

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