Quarterly Newsletter | June 2024
Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC)

In This Issue

- March 27, 2024 Meeting
- Announcements
  - New Members
  - 2024 Report to Congress
- Working Group Updates
- Resource Corner

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI)
Thank you to all who attended the Spring 2024 meeting of the ISMICC!

Membership of the Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) convened on March 27, 2024 to discuss actions that Federal Agencies can take to better coordinate the administration of mental health services for adults with a serious mental illness (SMI) and children with a serious emotional disturbance (SED).

At the meeting, Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, joined by SAMHSA staff as well as both federal and non-federal partners, provided updates to the committee including a panel discussion commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Olmstead Decision, a presentation from the Project Director of SMI Adviser, and report-outs from each of the ISMICC’s 5 Working Groups.

Find the full meeting minutes and recording here.

Editors’ Note

Thank you all for your continued hard work in helping to improve the coordination and administration of mental health services for adults with a serious mental illness and for children with a serious emotional disturbance.

With that said, it is important that folks can easily navigate the information we disseminate and the products that we release. We have recently made changes to our website that help make it clearer how the ISMICC operates, where to find previous Reports to Congress, member biographies, products, and newsletters, and the updates about the current foci of its Working Groups!

Check it out here.

Dr. Billina Shaw | Joel Fuentes
Announcements

New Members:

WELCOME

RADM (ret.) Susan M. Orsega

Arc Telos Saint Amour (Tay)

Dr. Sarah Vinson

Dr. Anitra Warrior

2024 Report to Congress:

We are excited to forecast the release of the 2024 ISMICC Report to Congress: Building on Progress: Federal Action for a System That Works for All People Living with SMI and SED and Their Families and Caregivers!

The ISMICC developed its 2017 report The Way Forward: Federal Action for a System That Works for All People Living with SMI and SED and Their Families and Caregivers to coordinate a comprehensive federal response to these challenges and spent the next two years diligently moving their recommendations into action.

In 2022, the ISMICC released a supplemental report on federal accomplishments since 2017—Advances Through Collaboration: Federal Action for a System That Works for All People Living with SMI and SED and Their Families and Caregivers. In 2023, the ISMICC was reauthorized for another five years and now has a clear direction toward increasing its momentum to promote a system of care that provides individualized, holistic services to adults with SMI and children and youth with SED. This progress is documented in the latest 2024 Report.
**Working Group Updates**

**Data and Evaluation Working Group:** Group 1 continues to be focused on measurement-based care and Recommendations 1.6 and 1.7 of the ISMICC. A major accomplishment has been to include the development of resources and support for implementing MBC in a new technical assistance program, *The National Center for Mental Health: Dissemination, Implementation, and Sustainment*, at SAMHSA. This Center will help to carry out some of the recommendations received in the MBC Convening of experts held in the Summer of 2023.

**Access and Engagement Working Group:** Dr. Anitra Warrior and Arc Telos Saint Amour (Tay) have joined the group. Currently, the group’s foci place an emphasis on strengthening Crisis Services, expanding coverage and inclusion of peer and family support specialist services, and exploring opportunities to address behavioral health workforce shortages.

**Treatment and Recovery Working Group:** Treatment and Recovery Workgroup members have continued to share information about topics of focus, especially upcoming events related to supportive housing and supported employment, such as the *Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator* in June 2024.

**Justice Working Group:** Gregory Crawford has assumed a co-steward role as of April 2024. A special thanks to Karen Gentile for her time and dedication as co-steward! Brooke Mount and Marissa Farina-Morse, BJA/DOJ, and Marcy Mistrett, OJJDP/DOJ, have joined the working group as its newest members. The Justice Working Group is excited to have them aboard and looks forward to their upcoming meetings.

**Finance Working Group:** The group is currently reviewing priority foci for the group – one being improving access to quality care for SMI and SED, co-occurring conditions, and health-related social needs. Recently, SAMHSA and CMS welcomed *10 new states* into the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Medicaid Demonstration Program.

**Resource Corner**

- New Collaborative Product: [2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (National Strategy) and accompanying Federal Action Plan](#)
- New SAMHSA Issue Brief: [Expanding Peer Support and Supporting the Peer Workforce in Mental Health](#)
- New SAMHSA Cooperative Agreement: [The National Center for Mental Health: Dissemination, Implementation, and Sustainment](#)
- New Federal Initiative: [Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator](#) (HUD and HHS)
- New SAMHSA Data: [Mental Health Client-Level Data (MH-CLD) 2022: Data on Clients Receiving Mental Health Treatment Services Through State Mental Health Agencies](#)
New SAMHSA Data: Behavioral Health among Older Adults: Results from the 2021 and 2022 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health

ISMICC MBC Resource cited at 12th Annual Commonwealth of Virginia CSA Conference: Improving Outcomes with Measurement-Based Care: A No-Brainer

Contact Us

We appreciate your feedback! Please send your questions, comments, and suggestions to the ISMICC Team. You can email us at ISMICC@samhsa.hhs.gov. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) was established to make recommendations for actions that federal departments can take to better coordinate the administration of mental health services for adults with a serious mental illness (SMI) or children with a serious emotional disturbance (SED). In December 2022, the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (Public Law 117-328) reauthorized the ISMICC and codified it into statute as Section 501C of the Public Health Service Act. It is governed by the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C.). Read full charter here.

Was this email forwarded to you? To receive future ISMICC Quarterly Newsletters directly from SAMHSA, subscribe here.

You are receiving this message because of your existing relationship with SAMHSA, subscribe here.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
5600 Fishers Lane Rockville, MD 20857 USA

To unsubscribe please send an email to ISMICC@samhsa.hhs.gov.