



SAE & Associates Newsletter

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Welcome to SAE & Associates' Current Newsletter!

SAE's newsletter provides information about interesting happenings in the world of human services and health, and shares new and exciting developments at SAE, and with our clients.

SAE Launches Plans For A Health Literacy Academy

Recognizing the critical importance of health literacy in assisting individuals to understand their illness, access care, and continue treatment compliance, SAE is creating a health literacy academy. The academy will initially prioritize individuals served in the mental health, substance abuse, foster care, and criminal justice systems. The academy will also train case managers and other individuals who provide support and guidance to people as they seek better health outcomes. Ultimately, the academy will provide training to individuals in the community at large who also have difficulty in understanding and navigating the health care system. These individuals might be the elderly or individuals with one or more chronic diseases.

Over the next few months SAE will be seeking community-based agencies who would like some of their clients, case managers, and medical staff to participate in focus groups to inform the curriculum. We are also seeking consumers and clinicians to join our Health Literacy Academy advisory board. Agencies interested should contact Julia Page at 212-684-4480.

Services For Veterans And Their Families

While the needs of our military personnel returning from combat in Iraq and Afghanistan are similar in many ways to those of the Vietnam Veterans, there are many differences as well. Considering the knowledge of "what worked and what did not" in the 1970s and 1980s and with a better understanding of the new and unique needs of our current returning Veterans, SAE will be collaborating with the VA, criminal justice system, behavioral health and residential providers and experts in family issues, trauma, and traumatic brain injury, and others to create partnerships which can provide comprehensive treatment, support, housing, and employment to the men and women in the military and their families who need such services. Working with our clients, SAE will identify and seek governmental and foundation support to enhance the service delivery system and expand its capacity. Meetings with local stakeholders and local and national experts will be held over the summer.

Principles For Caring For Combat Injured Families And Their Children

As members of our military continue to return home from serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, many will be confronted with the traumatic effects of their time spent in combat. In recognition of this struggle, The Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress has developed a list of principles that they recommend be applied when caring for combat injured families and their children.

Prevalence Of Serious Mental Illness Among Jail Inmates

In its June issue Psychiatryonline.org features a study showing that across jails and study phases the rate of current serious mental illness for male inmates was 14.5% and for female inmates was 31.0%. It has been concluded that these findings are valuable because of the profound implications they can provide in terms of resource allocation for treatment in jails and in community-based settings for individuals with mental illness who are involved in the criminal justice system or returning to the community from prison or jail.

SAE Competes In The NYS Health Foundation Grant Process

In collaboration with two of its clients, SAE submitted a proposal to the NYS Health Foundation to create "medical homes" to enhance the quality of health care provided to individuals with serious mental illness. Over 100 proposals were submitted. We were encouraged that our proposal was selected as one of the 16 finalists. Although the application was not approved for funding, our research on the topic and the development of the concept paper remains useful as we seek alternative funding support. Additionally, as appropriate, elements of our proposal have added significantly to grant submissions on behalf of some SAE clients, making their proposals more robust and competitive.

Report: How National Reform Can Cover All Children

Georgetown University's Center for Children and Families recently published a new report titled, *The Last Piece of the Puzzle: Providing High Quality, Affordable Health Coverage to all Children through National Health Reform*, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, providing a blueprint of what children and families need from health reform, including an overview of where the remaining gaps are for children's coverage and recommendations on the key challenges that must be addressed.