Data Trends

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Data Trends are produced by the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, University of South Florida, Tampa. Data Trends are funded by the Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. There are two Data Trends products: 1) Summaries, which detail recent, published articles on systems of care for children with emotional and behavioral disabilities and their families, and; 2) News briefs, which highlight related items or events of interest to the field.

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Mental health is listed as one of the 10 leading health indicators in the recently released edition of Healthy People 2010. This two-volume edition contains broad-reaching national health goals for the new decade, incorporating two major themes: 1) to increase the quality and years of healthy life, and 2) to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health status. The nation's progress in achieving these two goals over the course of the decade will be monitored through 467 objectives grouped into 28 "focus areas." Mental health is included as a focus area and is addressed in Chapter 18. Treatment objectives in the area of children's mental health are to: 1) reduce the rate of adolescent suicide; 2) expand mental health services through "promoting effective collaboration across critical areas of support: families, social services, health, mental health, juvenile justice, and schools," and; 3) increase the number of juvenile justice facilities that screen new admissions for mental health problems.

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala and Surgeon General David Satcher released Healthy People 2010 in January, 2000. Since 1979, when the first set of national health targets were published, Healthy People objectives have been specified by Congress as the measure for assessing the progress of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant, and the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

To encourage groups to integrate Healthy People into current programs, special events, publications, and meetings, all Healthy People materials are in the public domain. Healthy People is used by healthy community coalitions. Businesses use the framework to guide worksite health promotion activities as well as community initiatives. Schools and colleges undertake activities to further the health of children, adolescents, and young adults. By selecting among the national objectives, individuals and organizations can build an agenda for community health improvement and monitor results.

The Healthy People 2010 home page is located at: http://www.health.gov/healthypeople

The 1,244-page edition is online and searchable at: http://www.health.gov/healthypeople/PrevAgenda/document.htm

To order Healthy People 2010: Understanding and Improving Health, call (202) 512-1800 and refer to stock #017-001-00543-6. The edition is available in hard copy or on CD-ROM by calling 1 (800) 367-4725.

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