

## ORGANIZATIONAL DESCRIPTIONS: OBSERVERS

### AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CLINICAL PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY [ASCP]

PO Box 40395, Glen Oaks, NY 11004

PHONE: 718-470-4007; FAX: 718-343-7739

WEB SITE: [www.ascpp.org](http://www.ascpp.org);

James W. Thompson, MD, MPH, Administrative Director

**Founding Date:** 1992. **Membership Size:** 800. **Staff Size:** 2. **Number of State/Local Chapters:** none. **Affiliated Organizations:** \_\_\_\_\_. **Annual Conference/Meeting:** October 25-26, 2008, in New York, NY. **Publications:** Official Journal: *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** James W. Thompson, MD, MPH, Administrative Director.

**Organizational Purpose:** ASCP's purpose is to advance the science and practice of clinical psychopharmacology through education of physicians and physicians in training. **Description:** ASCP's members are physicians who study and practice psychopharmacology, as well as doctoral level investigators of clinical psychopharmacology or of pharmacology. ASCP members are advocates for clinical psychopharmacology and for clinical research. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Improving the quality of psychopharmacology prescribing; Creating tools to train psychiatrists, primary care physicians, and medical students in psychopharmacology; Educating physicians in up to date psychopharmacology; Encouraging clinically relevant research in psychopharmacology and the rapid dissemination of new findings; Stimulating and encouraging young investigators interested in psychopharmacology; Advocating for public policies which promote clinical research of psychiatric disorders and the delivery of high quality patient care.

### ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION [ASPE/HHS]

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 415-F, Washington, DC 20201

PHONE: 202/690-7858; FAX: 202/690-7383

Jerry Regier, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation

**Affiliated Organizations:** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); National Institutes of Health (NIH and NIMH). **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Cille Kennedy, PhD.

**Organizational Purpose:** Support staff for the Secretary's office to assist in policy planning and evaluation of HHS programs and activities. **Priority Issues for 2009:** HHS programs and activities.

### CENTER FOR INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY (Formerly Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Problems)

2121 K Street, NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20006

PHONE: 202/994-4332; FAX: 202/994-3472

WEB SITE: [www.integratedbehavioralhealth.org](http://www.integratedbehavioralhealth.org)

Eric Goplerud, PhD, Director

**Founding Date:** 2008. **Publications:** Monthly newsletter, research reports, policy and issue briefs. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Eric Goplerud, PhD, Director; Delia Olufokunbi, PhD, Deputy Director.

**Organizational Purpose:** The mission of the Center for Integrated Behavioral Health Policy is to find policy solutions that integrate behavioral health care into overall health care so that people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders get the help they need. The Center consults with employers and public health care purchasers, health plans, physicians and other health care providers, and government leaders to create policies and practices that integrate behavioral and physical health. **Description:** The project conducts research and develops information addressing the extent and costs of untreated behavioral health problems; policies and practices that hinder access to treatment services; and ways to increase access to integrated treatment. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Behavioral health integration; Screening and brief intervention (including reimbursement codes and workplace screening); Health care financing; Substance abuse parity; Alcohol exclusion laws; Accountability and performance measurement.

#### **CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, SAMHSA [CMHS]**

1 Choke Cherry Road, Rockville, MD 20852  
PHONE: 240/276-1310; FAX: 240/276-1320  
WEB SITE: [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)  
Kathryn Power, Director

**Founding Date:** 1992. **Staff Size:** 125. **Publications:** Through its activities and programs, CMHS produces many documents and sponsors a variety of meetings. Information about these is available through SAMHSA's National Mental Health Information Center, which maintains a toll-free information line (800/789-2647), an electronic bulletin board (800/790-2647) and an award-winning web site ([www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov](http://www.mentalhealth.samhsa.gov)). **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Roslyn Holliday Moore, Public Health Analyst; Elizabeth Lopez, Director, Office of Program Analysis and Coordination.

**Organizational Purpose:** CMHS is a component of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, an agency of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Its purpose is to lead federal efforts to promote mental health and prevent mental illness, including fostering independence and protecting the legal rights of persons with mental illness, conducting service-related assessments, providing technical assistance to public and private providers, and administering the programs assigned to it under the Public Health Service Act. **Description:** CMHS helps states and others improve and increase the quality and range of treatment and support services for people with mental illnesses, families and communities. It administers the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant program, the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children program, Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, Programs of Regional and National Significance, and other efforts to promote and evaluate innovative mental health services for children and adults. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Integrated care; Trauma; Suicide prevention; Homelessness; Eliminating racial and ethnic disparities. **Continuing Priorities:** Assist states and others with issues of parity, managed care and state health care reform; Support capacity expansion and science to service programs in the areas of Violence Against Women, Jail Diversion, Elderly Primary Care, Consumer Operated Services, Supported Employment, Youth Violence Prevention, HIV/AIDS Education II, American Indian/Alaskan Native Children, Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances and their Families and Youth Transition; Expand the number and range of mental health and rehabilitative services for adults with serious mental illness; Work with states to develop performance measures and related accountability mechanisms.

**GRANTMAKERS IN HEALTH [GIH]**

1100 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20036

PHONE: 202/452-8331; FAX: 202/452-8340

WEB SITE: [www.gih.org](http://www.gih.org)

Lauren LeRoy, President and CEO

**Founding Date:** 1982. **Membership Size:** Over 200 funding partners. **Staff Size:** 16. **Affiliated Organizations:** Foundations and corporate giving partners. **Publications:** GIH Bulletin; Issue Briefs. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Jacob Buehler, Program Associate.

**Organizational Purpose:** GIH is a nonprofit, educational organization dedicated to helping foundations and corporate giving programs improve health of all people. **Description:** GIH serves the entire field of health philanthropy, i.e., foundations and corporate giving programs that make grants for health and health care. Funding partners are foundations and corporate giving programs that annually contribute general or program grants.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES [NACDD]**

1660 L Street, NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036

PHONE: 202/506-5813; FAX: 202/506-5846

WEB SITE: [www.nacdd.org](http://www.nacdd.org)

Michael J. Brogioli, Chief Executive Officer

**Founding Date:** 2002. **Membership Size:** 55. **Staff Size:** 5. **Annual Convention/Meeting:** Fall Conference in Milwaukee, WI, in October, 2008; Technical Assistance Institute in Washington, DC, June 2008; Public Policy Seminars in March and June 2008. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Michael J. Brogioli, CEO.

**Organizational Purpose:** To represent the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Planning Councils of the states and territories in policy development at the federal level; advocate Council interests with Congress and the executive branch; provide support and technical assistance to Councils; work with other advocacy organizations on behalf of people with developmental disabilities. **Description:** State Councils on Developmental Disabilities are authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (PL 106-402) and receive federal funds to advocate on behalf of people with developmental disabilities and their families. As defined in the DD Act, developmental disabilities are severe, chronic disabilities which are attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of those; begin before age 22; are likely to continue indefinitely; result in substantial function limitations in 3 or more areas of major life activity; reflect a need for a combination and sequence of specialized, interdisciplinary or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of a lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated. Councils engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities which contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-directed comprehensive system of community services and individualized supports. Council members are appointed by their Governors, and individuals with developmental disabilities and family members comprise at least 60% of the Council's membership. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Increased appropriations for State Councils; Reauthorization of the Developmental Disabilities Act; Medicaid and Social Security; Education; Lifespan respite; Housing; Transportation.

### **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES [NACo]**

25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20001

PHONE: 202/393-6226; FAX: 202/942-4281

WEB SITE: [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)

Larry E. Naake, Executive Director

**Founding Date:** 1935. **Membership Size:** 2,000+ counties. **Staff Size:** 80. **Affiliated Organization:** National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors. **Annual Convention/Meeting:** NACo 2007 Legislative Conference March 1-5, 2008, in Washington, DC. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Paul Beddoe, Associate Legislative Director.

**Organizational Purpose:** To represent the interests of county governments on Capitol Hill and provide technical assistance to elected and appointed officials. **Description:** NACo members consist of elected and appointed county officials, including county directors of mental health. Primary activities include lobbying and technical assistance.

### **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE MEDICAID DIRECTORS [NASMD]**

1133 19<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036

PHONE: 202/682-0100; FAX: 202/289-6555

WEB SITE: [www.nasmd.org](http://www.nasmd.org)

Ann C. Kohler, Executive Director

**Founding Date:** 1979. **Membership Size:** 56. **Staff Size:** 10. **Annual Conference:** November 2008 in Washington, DC. **Publications:** Medicaid Monthly Newsletter. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Ann C. Kohler, Executive Director.

**Organizational Purpose:** The National Association of State Medicaid Directors (NASMD) is a bipartisan, professional, nonprofit organization of representatives of state Medicaid agencies (including the District of Columbia and the territories). Since 1979, NASMD has been affiliated with the [American Public Human Services Association \(APHSA\)](http://www.aphsa.org). The primary purposes of NASMD are: to serve as a focal point of communication between the states and the federal government, and to provide an information network among the states on issues pertinent to the Medicaid program. **Description:** NASMD is comprised of the officials who administer the Medicaid program in the states, the District of Columbia, and the territories. Generally these officials are the state Medicaid director and his or her senior staff. For the purpose of carrying out association business, each entity is limited to one voting member. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program; Providing Medicaid agencies access to Medicare Part D data for dually eligible beneficiaries; Clarification of Targeted Case Management (TCM) and other federal regulatory provisions; Expansion of the "Money Follows the Person" grant program; Monitoring CMS administrative actions; Addressing funding shortfalls in the SCHIP program; Simplifying the DRA's citizenship and identity documentation requirements; Inclusion of Medicaid in any health information technology (HIT) and quality improvement initiatives; Supporting the role of Medicaid in federal emergency preparedness and response legislation; Supporting more effective management of chronic health conditions.

### **NATIONAL BUSINESS GROUP ON HEALTH [NBGH]**

50 F Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20001

PHONE: 202/628-9320; FAX: 202/628-9244

Helen Darling, President

**Founding Date:** 1974. **Membership Size:** 287 Fortune 500 companies. **Staff Size:** 41. **Publications:** In Focus: Policy and Marketplace Trends; reports on preventive services, health and productivity, health services, benefit design, pharmaceutical value and benefit, treatment services, and health promotion/wellness. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Ronald A. Finch, EdD, Vice President.

**Organizational Purpose:** Promote corporate competitiveness, productivity, and well-being of American workers and their families through development of a health care system that provides high quality care to all Americans at an affordable societal cost. **Description:** NBGH is a non-profit association representing Fortune 500 and public sector employers, providing healthcare services and benefits to over 55 million beneficiaries from all segments of US industry, in promoting performance driven health care systems and competitive markets that improve the health and productivity of companies and communities. Primary activities include serving as a conduit for the flow of information between members and health policymakers; conducting research; identifying trends; collecting and disseminating information; and providing long-range planning and analysis on economic and social issues confronting employers. **Priority Issues for 2009:** Emerging trends in employer-sponsored health; E-health; Workplace initiatives for mental health and substance abuse.

### **NATIONAL CHILD TRAUMATIC STRESS NETWORK [NCTSN]**

Coordinated by the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress [NCCTS]

UCLA: 11150 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 226, Los Angeles, CA 90064

PHONE: 310/235-2633; FAX: 310/235-2612

DUKE: 905 West Main Street, Suite 24-E, Box 50, Durham, NC 27710

PHONE: 919/682-1552; FAX: 919/667-2350.

WEB SITE: [www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org)

Robert S. Pynoos, MD (UCLA), and John Fairbank, PhD (Duke), Co-Directors

**Founding Date:** 2000. **Membership Size:** 51 Funded Centers and 41 Affiliate Centers in 40 States. **Staff Size:** NCCTS (50). **Number of State/Local Chapters:** 51 funded (several staff per center); over 2,000 external partners nationwide. **Annual Conference/Meeting:** NCTSN All-Network Meeting, March 16-19, 2009, in Orlando, FL. **Publications:** NCTSN E-Newsletter and many other publications at [www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org). **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Ellen Gerrity, PhD, NCCTS Associate Director and Senior Policy Advisor.

**Organizational Purpose:** The mission of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) is to raise the standard of care and improve access to services for traumatized children, their families and communities throughout the United States. **Description:** Established as part of the Children's Health Act of 2000, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) is a unique Congressional initiative, intended to bring about widespread and lasting improvement in the lives of traumatized children and their families across the United States. The NCTSN supports the development and broad adoption of evidence-based and culturally-appropriate interventions to increase the standard of care, and provides a means to transform services through sustained collaboration among Network academic, clinical, and community service centers and family/consumer partners. Through its national network, and under the guidance of the National Center for Child Traumatic Stress (NCCTS, co-located at the UCLA School of Medicine and Duke

University), the NCTSN brings together expertise to address the specific needs of all ages of children (preschool and school age children, and adolescents) who are exposed to a wide range of trauma, including physical and sexual abuse, violence in families and communities, natural disasters and terrorism, accidental or violent death of a loved one, refugee and war experiences, and life-threatening injury and illness. The NCTSN also integrates the many professional disciplines that are essential to advancing the field of child traumatic stress in all child-serving systems. The NCTSN priorities and directions are shaped by a diverse NCTSN Advisory Board and Steering Committee, the ongoing and integral involvement of family and consumer groups in all NCTSN activities, and the cooperative agreement partnership with the Center for Mental Health Services at SAMHSA.

With NCTSN centers in over 40 states (currently funded and affiliate centers), and working partnerships with hundreds of other organizations, the NCTSN members directly serve more than 50,000 children and families each year, with many hundreds of thousands more served through trainings of providers, development of resources, and technical assistance. Training in evidence-based interventions is directly provided to over 100,000 professionals annually through learning collaboratives, workshops, and online seminars. Through the NCTSN's innovative collaborative structure, member centers located at hospitals, universities, and community-based programs work to transform trauma-focused services throughout child-serving systems of care, including schools, hospitals, clinics, foster care, residential care, juvenile justice facilities, courts, homeless and domestic violence shelters, military bases, and many other community programs. The initiative also has multiple ongoing evaluation efforts underway to determine the impact of the program and services on children and families. **Priority Issues for 2009:** The development of new print and online resources for military families, child abuse and residential care providers, child welfare and foster care professionals, and school-based mental health professionals, with an emphasis on resiliency and evidence-based prevention and integration of care. More information on these and other important initiatives is available at [www.nctsn.org](http://www.nctsn.org).

#### **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH [NIMH]**

6001 Executive Boulevard, Room 8235, Rockville, MD 20852

(Mailing Address: Bethesda, MD 20892-9669)

PUBLIC INQUIRIES PHONE: 866/615-6464; FAX: 301/443-4279

WEB SITE: [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov)

Thomas R. Insel, MD, Director

**Founding Date:** 1946. **Staff Size:** 641. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Gemma Weiblinger, Director, Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison; Alison Bennett, Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison.

**Organizational Purpose:** The mission of NIMH is to reduce the burden of mental and behavioral disorders through research on mind, brain, and behavior. Each year, one in every 20 adults experiences a disabling mental disorder, while nearly one in 10 experiences a serious emotional disorder during childhood. This translates into more than 44 million people who annually experience significant symptoms of mental illnesses that interfere with everyday living. The report of the President's New Freedom Commission: *Achieving the Promise—Transforming Mental Health Care in America*, estimated the economic costs of treating mental disorders at \$150 billion, with elements of these costs increasing beyond 20 percent per year. Implicit in the NIMH mission is the challenge of ensuring that new information finds its way into the hands of the end users of research. These include individuals with mental disorders, health care providers, mental health service delivery systems, and policymakers at all levels of governance.

**Description:** To reduce this tremendous burden, NIMH supports innovative research and research training that: (1) advances discovery in integrative brain and behavior science that provides the foundation for understanding mental disorders and their treatments; (2) develops more reliable, valid diagnostic tests and biomarkers; (3) defines genetic and environmental risk for disorders; (4) develops interventions to prevent occurrence and/or reduce relapse; (5) develops more effective, safer, and equitable treatments; (6) conducts clinical trials that will provide treatment options to deliver more effective personalized care; and (7) creates improved pathways for rapid dissemination of science to mental health care and service efforts. NIMH is committed to finding ways to ensure that the interventions and information we generate can be used by patients, families, health care providers, and the wider community involved in mental health care.

**Priority Issues for 2009:** The NIMH clinical research vision focuses on the four P's of medical research: increasing the capacity to Predict who is at risk for developing disease; developing interventions that Pre-empt the disease process; using knowledge about individual biological, environmental, and social factors to better Personalize interventions; and, ensuring that clinical research involves Participation from the diversity of people and settings involved in mental health care. For example, whole genome association studies will give us the ability to predict who is genetically at risk for a mental disorder, while neuroimaging studies, through visualization of brain circuitry, hold the potential to predict who will respond to certain treatments. Now the challenge is to use these approaches to improve and personalize treatment.

In pursuing these research objectives, , three key factors are being used to evaluate new applications for research grant support: relevance to the mission, traction for making rapid progress, and innovation. Some selected examples of research that address these objectives include:

- New networks for clinical trials in schizophrenia, bipolar, and depression. Participation in the NIH-wide Genetic Association Information Network (GAIN). Using samples collected from previous clinical studies, GAIN will evaluate the subtle differences between the genomes of healthy people and those suffering from common diseases in order to determine how genetic variability contributes to disease susceptibility. Of the six initial studies receiving funding through GAIN, four target mental disorders: schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.
- New research aimed at determining the most accurate methods of measuring how well community-dwelling people with schizophrenia are faring. Results of the project are meant to provide scientists who conduct future research on the effectiveness of treatments with tools that reflect the truest possible picture of daily-life outcomes.
- New research addressing how genes and the environment shape the brain circuitry underlying social behavior. This research is aimed at understanding how the brain processes social behaviors — processes which are disrupted in autism, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders and other mental illnesses.
- New research examining the effectiveness of educational materials designed to teach young people about mental illnesses and reduce the stigma associated with them.

**Publications:** NIMH recently revised its publications on depression, social phobia, generalized anxiety disorder, and eating disorders updating information on symptoms, causes and treatments, research efforts, and information on getting help and coping. These new materials join a growing list of other pamphlets and printable materials on the diagnosis and treatment of mental disorders, anxiety disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, autism, and those affecting children and adolescents. Publications are free and can be ordered on line. Several publications are also available in Spanish. The NIMH Website at <http://www.nimh.nih.gov> makes available these and other important information about the Institute, such as materials and publications on helping children and adolescents cope with

violence and disasters, and detailed information about NIMH-sponsored clinical trials, workshops, meetings, complete text of program announcements and requests for applications, and other items of interest. To receive more information on NIMH activities, subscribe to NIMH-E-NEWS on the NIMH home page or contact the NIMH Information Center toll free at 866/615-6464.

**NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN [NMHAC]**

PO Box 491608, Los Angeles, CA 90049-1608

HELPLINE: 877/495-0009; WEB SITE: [www.nostigma.org](http://www.nostigma.org)

Gail Kamer Lieberfarb, Chair, Board of Directors

**Founding Date:** 1999. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Ross Szabo, Director of Youth Outreach.

**Organizational Purpose:** To reduce the discrimination that pervades the daily lives of Americans living with mental illness and stimulate help-seeking behavior to substantially increase the number of Americans accessing mental health services. **Description:** NMHAC is a not-for-profit, non-partisan, nationwide campaign dedicated to combating the stigma associated with mental illness among youth, adults and seniors.

**OLDER WORKERS & DISABILITY UNIT [OW/DU]**

Division of Adult Services, Employment and Training Administration

U.S. Department of Labor

200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-4203, Washington, DC 20210

PHONE: 202/693-2723; FAX: 202/693-3818

WEB SITE: [www.doleta.gov/disability/](http://www.doleta.gov/disability/)

Alexandra Kielty, Supervisory Manpower Development Specialist, Older Workers & Disabilities Unit

**Organizational Purpose:** The Older Workers/Disabilities Unit (OW/DU), Disability Team, Division of Adult Services (DAS), within the Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, develops and implements disability policy and program initiatives related to the workforce system, including cross-agency collaboration to address structural, programmatic, and systemic barriers to employment by expanding the One-Stop Career Center system to provide comprehensive, integrated, seamless, and accessible services. **Description:** The DAS' Disability Team works to improve career and employment outcomes for adults and youth with disabilities through innovative skills training and systems change activities. With the ultimate goal of increasing the number of people with disabilities who work, the OW/DU provides policy analysis, technical assistance, development and dissemination of effective practices and strategies, and education and outreach to employers, employees, providers, and the disability community. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Randee Chafkin.

**THE RELIGIOUS ACTION CENTER FOR REFORM JUDAISM [RAC]**

2027 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20036

PHONE: 202/387-2800; FAX: 202-667-9070

WEB SITE: [www.rac.org](http://www.rac.org)

Rabbi David Saperstein, Director and Counsel

**Founding Date:** 1958. **Membership Size:** 1.5 million (RAC is part of the Union for Reform Judaism, representing 900 synagogues and 1.5 million reform Jews). **Staff Size:** 21. **Number of State/Local Chapters:** None. **Affiliated Organizations:** All reform temples and affiliated Union for Reform



Judaism organizations. **Annual Convention/Meeting:** Consultation on Conscience: April 19-21, 2009, in Washington, DC. **Publications:** None. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Jill Zimmerman.

**Organizational Purpose:** The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC) is the Washington, DC, office of the Union for Reform Judaism. The RAC has been the hub of Jewish social justice and legislative activity in the nation's capital for more than 40 years. The RAC educates and mobilizes the American Jewish community on legislative and social concerns, advocating on issues from economic justice to civil rights to religious liberty to Israel. The RAC's work is mandated by the Union for Reform Judaism, whose 900+ congregations across North America include 1.5 million Reform Jews, and the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), whose membership includes more than 1,800 Reform rabbis. Representatives of these two organizations, as well as the Union's affiliates, comprise the Commission on Social Action (CSA) and govern the RAC's policy positions.

**Description:** The Religious Action Center is under the auspices of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism, a joint instrumentality of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union for Reform Judaism with its affiliates: American Conference of Cantors, Association of Reform Zionists of America, National Association of Temple Administrators, National Association of Temple Educators, National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, North American Federation of Temple Youth. **Priority Issues for 2009:** The RAC follows a wide range of issues. Please visit the following website for more information:

<http://rac.org/advocacy/issues/>.

#### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION [SAMHSA]**

1 Choke Cherry Road, Rockville, MD 20852

PHONE: 240/276-2000; FAX: 240/276-2010

WEB SITE: [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

Terry L. Cline, PhD, Administrator

**Founding Date:** 1992. **Staff Size:** 550. **Publications:** SAMHSA News; TIPS and PEPS on improved ways of providing prevention and treatment; publications on data related to the various aspects of service delivery; others. **Staff Participating in MHLG:** Joe Faha, Director, Congressional Affairs; Roslyn Holliday Moore.

**Organizational Purpose:** To reduce prevalence and incidence of substance abuse and mental health disorders and improve treatment outcomes, to provide national leadership to ensure the best use of knowledge based on science to prevent and treat addictive and mental disorders, and to improve access and reduce barriers to high quality, effective programs. **Description:** Source of federal assistance for substance abuse and mental health services; data collection on substance abuse and mental health; and evaluation of programs and service delivery systems.