

Dear Community Partner:

FEB 12 2012

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), we invite you to participate in ***SAMHSA's 2012 Community Leaders and Interfaith Partnership Summit***. Please note that this event is by invitation only. It is scheduled May 21-24, 2012, in Rockville, Maryland and will be a unique capacity-building opportunity for your organization.

At the Summit, you will join community teams from 10 States in developing or expanding community partnerships regarding the multiple and diverse needs of individuals and families affected by addictions, mental health disorders, and co-occurring conditions, such as HIV/AIDS. SAMHSA took great care in selecting your community and the members of your community's initial team. Through our intensive work with 2010 and 2011 Summit communities, we have assisted teams in some of the most economically distressed areas of our country to bolster their efforts around improving behavioral health services and the interaction between faith- and community-based organizations that support vulnerable individuals. Although each community team expands to include others upon their return home, Summit participants are carefully selected to represent multiple disciplines, including secular and faith-based organizations, government officials, service providers, and other community stakeholders.

During the Summit, it is anticipated that each team will accomplish the following:

1. Find common ground for building or reinforcing successful, collaborative community- and faith-based partnerships
2. Examine successful community and interfaith partnership approaches and strategies
3. Obtain practical tools, templates, information, and resources to address community efforts regarding substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery, as well as mental health disorders
4. Discuss frameworks for combining community and interfaith efforts, unite resources, and assess service integration and gaps
5. Begin outlining a partnership framework for assisting individuals and families in need of supportive services

The Summit begins on the evening of Monday, May 21, 2012, with an orientation session. At that time, you will meet the members of your community team as well as members from other communities. Summit programming officially begins at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 22, 2012.

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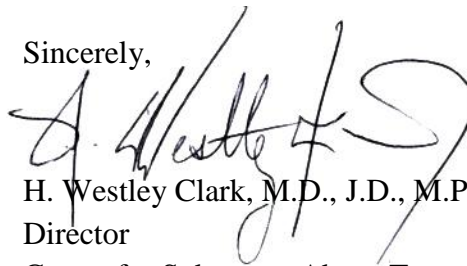
To express your interest in participating in the Summit, please complete and return the attached Agency/Organization Profile. Again, because of the special nature of this program, it is an invitation-only event; please do not forward this information to others. You will have the opportunity to involve additional stakeholders in your community's work following the Summit.

The final day to submit your Agency/Organization Profile for the Summit is Wednesday, April 25, 2012. Space is limited, so please return your information as quickly as possible. Based on the limited number of scholarships and space, it will be impossible to include all candidates. However, we will review the returned profiles in detail to select the best possible Summit participants from your community. Once selections are confirmed, you will receive registration and other logistical information. Scholarships will only be provided to selected Summit participants.

SAMHSA's contractor, AFYA, Inc., will manage the travel and logistics for the Summit. You will be contacted by AFYA once your registration is confirmed. Should you have questions about the Summit, please contact Jocelyn Whitfield, Senior Public Health Advisor, at jocelyn.whitfield@samhsa.hhs.gov or Robin Dade, Project Director, AFYA, Inc., at rdade@afyainc.com.

We look forward to seeing you at SAMHSA's *2012 Community Leaders and Interfaith Partnership Summit*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Westley Clark', written over a large, stylized flourish that extends to the right.

H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H., CAS, FASAM
Director
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment