

FRIENDS OF NIMH



The Friends of NIMH [National Institute of Mental Health] coalition is dedicated to supporting NIMH's mission to transform the understanding of mental health and the treatment of mental illnesses through basic biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research to best inform prevention, early intervention, recovery, and cures.

The Friends of NIMH activities include:

- Educating policymakers and other stakeholders about the science of mental health.
- Advocating in support of the NIMH budget.
- Facilitating engaged communication between NIMH and the stakeholder community, including feedback on research portfolios.
- Increasing public awareness about NIMH research activities and the impact it has on the lives of **all** individuals and communities.
- Supporting policies that positively impact the research workforce and the advancement of basic and translational science.
- Collaborating with the broad NIH community to inform whole person health.
- **Membership Events**

More info: Friends of NIMH

Mental health is a key component to overall health and is closely linked to physical health. It is influenced by factors at the individual, family, community, and society levels.

Mental health is the component of behavioral health that includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being; a state of well-being that enables us to cope with the stresses of life, realize our abilities, learn well and work well, and contribute to our community. ([CDC](#))

Mental illnesses are prevalent across all groups, regardless of age, sex, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, geographic residence, and socioeconomic status. Mental illnesses occur more commonly in people with other chronic illnesses, such as heart disease, diabetes, cancer, and HIV. Approximately,

- 58.7 million people (1 in 5 U.S. adults) live with a mental health condition.
- 14.4 million people (1 in 20 U.S. adults) live with a serious mental health condition (bipolar, schizophrenia, or major depression) that significantly interferes with their ability to carry out life's activities.
- 8 million children (1 in 7 children ages 3 to 17) have a current, diagnosed mental or behavioral health condition.

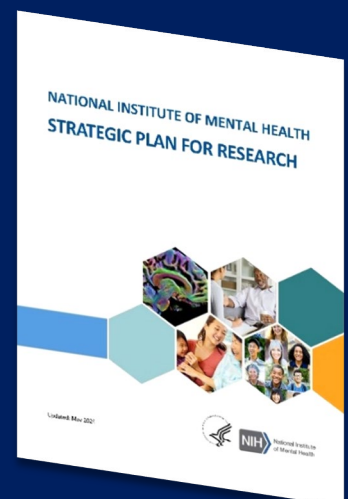
National Institute of Mental Health

The [National Institute of Mental Health](#) (NIMH) is the lead federal agency for research on mental disorders. NIMH is one of the 27 Institutes and Centers that make up the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the largest biomedical research agency in the world. NIH is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

NIMH's mission is to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure.

NIMH supports research and research training through extramural activities and conducts research and research training through intramural activities. NIMH's extramural program currently supports more than 4,000 research grants and contracts annually at universities, academic health centers, and other research institutions across the country and around the world.

The [NIMH Strategic Plan for Research](#) outlines the Institute's research goals and priorities over the next five years.



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Member organizations represent scientists, physicians, healthcare providers, individuals, families, and communities.

Academy for Eating Disorders
Academy for Psychological Clinical Science
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy
American Brain Coalition
American College of Clinical Pharmacy
American Educational Research Association
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Organization for Nursing Leadership
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association Services
Anxiety and Depression Association of America
Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
Association for Psychological Science
Autism Speaks
Coalition for the Advancement and Application of Psychological Science
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology
Council on Social Work Education
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
International Congress of Infant Studies
Lewis-Burke Associates LLC
Mental Health America

National Academy of Neuropsychology
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
National Eating Disorders Association
National Fragile X Foundation
Research!America
Society for Research in Child Development
Society for Women's Health Research
The STARR Coalition
University of California, Los Angeles



Executive Committee

- [Juliane Baron](#), Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (*co-chair*)
- [Diana Clarke](#), American Psychiatric Association
- [Aaron Walker](#), National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
- [Theresa Nguyen](#), Mental Health America
- [Katie Sale](#), American Brain Coalition
- [Angela Sharpe](#), American Psychological Association Services (*co-chair*)
- [Hannah Wesolowski](#), National Alliance on Mental Illness