



www.SMIadviser.org

An APA and SAMHSA Initiative



We are proud to send you the first quarterly update about SMI Adviser. Thank you for being part of this initiative. A special thank you to all Advisory Board members who participated in our most recent call on December 11.

We look forward to working with you over the coming months.

For question about SMI Adviser, please contact:

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## How SMI Adviser Took Shape in 2018

In July 2018, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) was awarded a five-year, \$14.2 million grant from SAMHSA to support implementation of evidence-based, person-centered, pharmacological and psychosocial interventions for individuals with SMI. We plan to do this through education, engagement, and consultations for clinicians who care for individuals with SMI.

To drive this project, APA convened a dedicated, interprofessional Clinical Expert Team (CET). The CET began their work in August 2018 through weekly calls and two in-person meetings.

### The Clinical Expert Team

**Tristan Gorrindo, MD**  
Principal Investigator  
American Psychiatric Association

**Benjamin Druss, MD**  
SMI Health Systems Expert  
Emory University

**Alexander S. Young, MD, MSHS**  
SMI Physician Expert  
University of California, Los Angeles

**Teri Brister, PhD, LPC**  
SMI Patient and Family  
Engagement Expert  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

**Amy N. Cohen, PhD**  
Implementation Scientist and SMI  
Psychological Treatment Expert  
University of California, Los Angeles

**Patrick Hendry**  
SMI Recovery and Peer-to-Peer  
Engagement Expert  
Mental Health America

**Donna Rolin, PhD, APRN**  
SMI Nursing Expert  
University of Texas, Austin

**John Torous, MD, MBI**  
SMI Technology Expert  
Harvard Medical School

### The SMI Staff Team

**Mindi Smith**  
Lead Designer, Digital Learning and  
Technology  
American Psychiatric Association

**Stephanie C. Slowly, MSW  
LCSW-C**  
Project Director  
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**Zhuoyin Yang**  
Project Manager  
American Psychiatric Association

**Glenn Laudenslager IV, MBA**  
Marketing and Engagement Expert  
Charge Ahead Marketing



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In November 2018, staff from APA attended the Technology Transfer Center (TTC) Strategic Orientation Meeting hosted by SAMHSA. We gave a project overview and engaged with leaders of Mental Health, Addiction, and Prevention TTCs to coordinate plans and avoid duplication of efforts.

The APA also convened an Advisory Board of 20+ partner organizations from across the country. These partners provide additional content and implementation expertise via quarterly calls. Most recently, we held an Advisory Board call on December 11, 2018 to provide updates on the grant approach and solicit input from the group.

We welcome your input on key discussion topics! Please take a brief survey for Advisory Board members.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

## Project Title, Vision and Mission

In Fall 2018 APA developed a title, vision, mission and framework for this initiative. Input came from the CET, the Advisory Board, a marketing expert, and interdisciplinary focus groups. After a thorough process, SMI Adviser was chosen for the project title.

### The project Vision Statement is:

To transform care for people who have serious mental illness so they can live their best lives.

### The project Mission Statement is:

To advance the use of person-centered approach to care that ensures people who have SMI find the treatment and support they need. For clinicians, we offer access to education, data, and consultations so you can make evidence-based treatment decisions. For patients, families, friends, people who have questions, or people who care for someone with SMI, we offer access to resources and answers from a national network of experts.

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## Survey on Needs

In Fall 2018, APA surveyed 500+ psychiatrists to identify education and practice needs for those engaged in treatment of individuals with SMI. We are currently working with partners to survey practitioners from other disciplines.

**500+**  
Psychiatrists  
Surveyed

[VIEW THE SURVEY](#)

Results of the survey indicate an interest in a variety of topics related to SMI.

Implementation of effective care models		38.6%
Co-morbid substance use disorders (including tobacco use disorder)		37.9%
Collaborative care / Integrated care models		37.2%
Telemedicine and smartphone / tablet apps		34.9%
Family involvement and engagement		33.5%
Forensics (jail diversion, mental health courts, etc.)		33.2%
First-episode psychosis		32.3%
Suicide prevention		29.8%
Cultural competency and working with minority and under-represented communities		29.3%
Crisis management		28.9%



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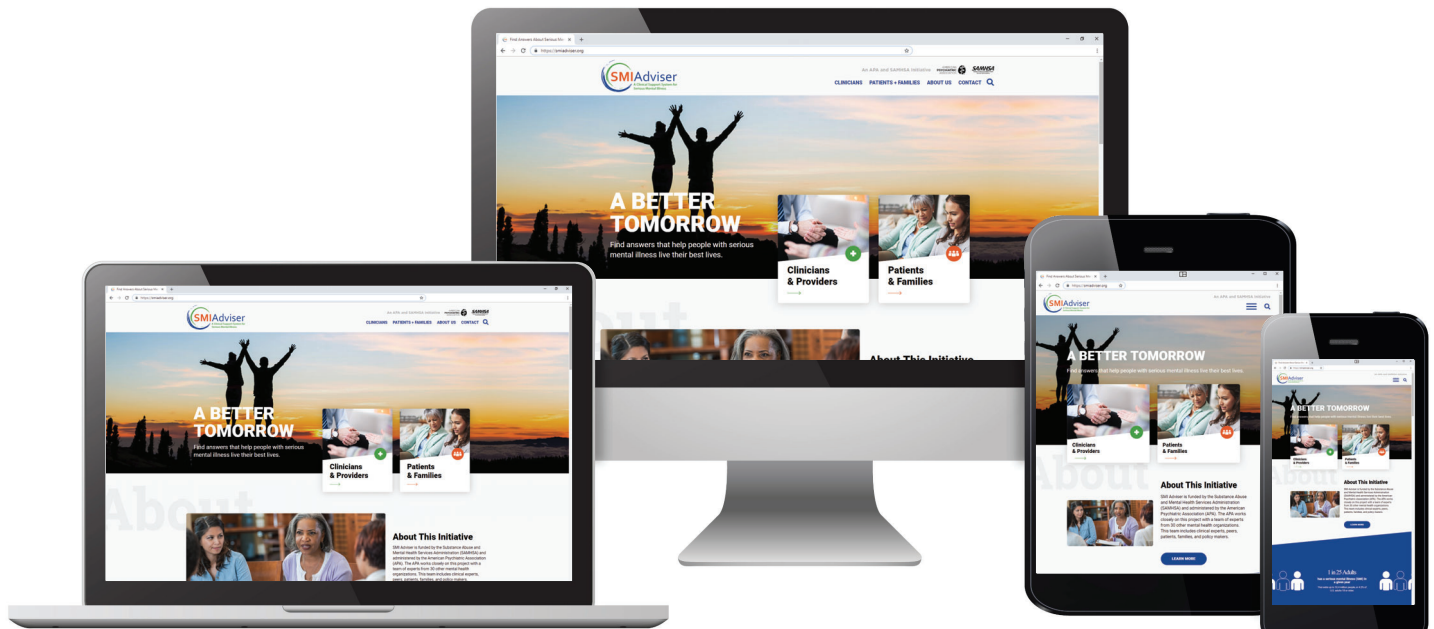
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## A New Website: SMIadviser.org

In November 2018, APA launched a new website for the initiative! It is positioned to become a valuable resource for all stakeholders.

The site offers separate portals for clinicians/providers and patients/families. It also links to existing SAMHSA resources and information about the current project, partners, and participation opportunities.



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## Consultation and Learning Management System (CLMS)

APA is building the foundation of a sophisticated CLMS to support clinician consultations and education. It will integrate with libraries of knowledge assets, clinical data registries, and virtual communities.

Based on high-priority topics identified in the needs assessment survey, the CET began work to curate and develop resources and educational activities. These activities will be eligible for continuing medical education (CME) credits. The first collection of knowledge assets and activities are now available in the Education Catalog.

### Future content may include:

- Existing knowledge assets provided by APA and our content partners, such as self-directed learning modules, webinars, and practice guidelines.
- New activities such as self-management tools, toolkits, factsheets, and virtual communities.



### Register for the first live SMI Adviser webinar!

Addressing Obesity in the Population with Schizophrenia

January 31, 3:00pm EST

## Alignment with State and Local Governments

Here are a few updates on our partnership with state and local government entities.

- Arlington County (VA) Behavioral Healthcare Division provided valuable feedback to the CET on project mission, vision, naming, and early deliverables.
- National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) is liaising with state, county, and community leaders who work in public mental health systems and service systems. They plan to gauge state and community needs.
- NASMHPD Research Institute (NRI) is conducting a needs assessment and will produce a report that documents knowledge gaps, technical assistance needs in the provision of mental health treatment services, and support to persons with SMI.



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## Looking Ahead to 2019 and Beyond

Here are key milestones for the initiative in 2019.

### First Quarter 2019

- Provide phone-, email-, and web-based consultations by psychopharmacology, implementation, technology, and engagement coaches.

### May 2019

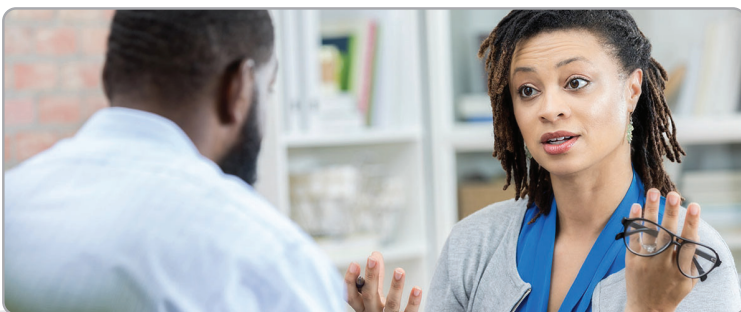
- Clinicians will be able to submit consultations online via SMIadviser.org.
- An automated "answer engine" will attempt to answer the question automatically. It will be driven by items already in the education library.
- If the question is not answered by the answer engine, it will be referred to a member of the CET for a direct response via email. Responses will be added to the answer engine for similar future questions that might arise.
- In this manner, the website is a self-learning platform that will become more efficient in answering consultation questions over the duration of the program.

### July 2019

- Create catalog of relevant practice guidelines and self-management tools.

### January 2020

- A mobile app version of the website will be available to submit and track consultations.



Visit [www.SMIadviser.org](http://www.SMIadviser.org)

## GRANT STATEMENT

Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by Grant No. 1H79SM080818-01 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.