

CARTER CENTER FORUM TO COVER GAPS IN MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE AND CHILDREN'S CARE ISSUES

ATLANTA... New research about the critical shortage of mental health care workers in Georgia and on the needs of children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, will be released during the 19th annual Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum on May 16, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Carter Center in Atlanta. This event is open to the public, but registration is required. (More details below.)

The Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum, established in 1995, is held each May to address a timely mental health policy issue facing the state. Service providers, policymakers, advocates, and consumers from across Georgia are invited to participate in open discussions on diverse topics.

For the past four years, the Georgia Forum also has been an opportunity to update local stakeholders on progress toward building a quality and sustainable behavioral health system in the state as required by a settlement agreement between the U.S. Department of Justice and the State of Georgia in 2010.

A critical component of implementing the settlement in Georgia is addressing the serious shortage of mental health care providers available to treat consumers who are moving out of hospital systems and remain in need of community-based behavioral health care. Research done by the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Rollins School of Public Health shows that there currently are slightly more than 1,000 psychiatrists in the state, which translates to 10.9 psychiatrists per 100,000 people. Almost half of Georgia's 159 counties do not have a psychiatrist.

In addition, the forum will take a close look at whether best practices for the diagnosis and treatment of young children with ADHD are available and being used in Georgia. This is important because the parent-reported prevalence of ADHD in Georgia is 9.3 percent, higher than the national estimate.

Agenda

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| 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. | Registration/Breakfast |
| 9:00 – 9:10 a.m. | Welcome
Thomas Bornemann, Ed.D.
Director, The Carter Center Mental Health Program |
| 9:10 – 9:20 a.m. | Opening Remarks
Rosalynn Carter
Chair, The Carter Center Mental Health Task Force |

9:20 – 10:30 a.m.	<p>Panel I: Update on DOJ Settlement Moderator: Thomas Bornemann, Ed.D., Director, The Carter Center Mental Health Program Frank Berry, M.S., Commissioner, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Judy Fitzgerald, M.S.W., Deputy Commissioner, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Terri Timberlake, Ph.D., Director, Adult Mental Health, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>Respondents: C. Talley Wells, J.D., Director, Mental Health and Disability Rights Project, Atlanta Legal Aid Thomas Bornemann, Ed.D., Director, The Carter Center Mental Health Program</p> <p>Q&A</p>
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	BREAK
10:45 a.m. – Noon	<p>Panel II: The State of ADHD Care in Georgia: From Data to Action Moderator: Ruth Perou, Ph.D., Child Development Studies Team Leader, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Susanna Visser, Dr.P.H., M.S., Acting Associate Director for Science, National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Monica Parker, M.A., L.P.C., Director, Community Mental Health, Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Ann DiGirolamo, Ph.D., M.P.H., Director, Center of Excellence in Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health, Georgia Health Policy Center, Georgia State University Doris Greenberg, M.D., Developmental Pediatrician, Associate Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Mercer University School of Medicine</p> <p>Q&A</p>
Noon – 12:45 p.m.	Lunch
12:45 – 1:45 p.m.	Presentation: John Morris, M.S.W. , Executive Director, The Annapolis Coalition on the Behavioral Health Workforce
1:45 - 2:00 p.m.	BREAK
2:00 – 3:45 p.m.	<p>Panel III: Workforce Issues in Georgia Moderator: Benjamin Druss, M.D., M.P.H.</p>

Ben Robinson, Executive Director, Health Workforce Planning and Analysis, Board of Regents of University System of Georgia

Chris Parker, M.P.H., M.B.B.S., Georgia Primary Care Health Care Workforce Task Force, Georgia State University

Denise Kornegay, M.S.W., State Area Health Education Centers Network

Sherry Jenkins Tucker, Executive Director, Georgia Mental Health Consumer Network

Q&A

3:50 – 4:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Rosalynn Carter

Chair, The Carter Center Mental Health Task Force