

# *In TOUCH* with the Department of Psychiatry

## TOWN HALL MEETING Our Community's Voice

Volume Two

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The Department of Psychiatry's Center for Mental Health Outreach recently hosted a Town Hall Meeting on "Mental Health Care for the Underserved in the District of Columbia" at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library. Consumers, family members, providers, organizational/agency representatives and advocates posed questions to invited DC Mayoral Candidates: Michael Brown;



Dr. Steve Epstein and Chairman Linda Cropp



Councilman Adrian Fenty, with Michael Brown and Marie Johns, seated

Photos: Dominique Jackson

Marie Johns; and, Chairman Linda Cropp. Councilman Adrian Fenty joined the program for closing remarks. Community collaborative partners included: the District of Columbia Primary Care Association and its Mental Health Task Force; Washington Psychiatric Society; DC Psychological Association; NAMIDC; Whitman-Walker Clinic; Recovery Group: Family and Medical Counseling; Mary's Center; So Others Might Eat; Make Piece/Peace, Inc; Community Health Partnership, Inc; and the Kolmac Clinic.

## Forensic Partnership with the DC Department of Mental Health

The Georgetown University Hospital Department of Psychiatry has been awarded a contract from the DC Department of Mental Health (DMH) for education in Forensic Psychiatry. In this agreement, DMH has granted up to \$475,000 annually to support the training of Georgetown fellows, residents, and medical students in this psychiatric subspecialty, which focuses on interrelationships between Psychiatry and the Law. Forensic trainees will perform assessments at the John Howard Pavilion of St. Elizabeths Hospital as well as other forensic sites in DC. Faculty from Georgetown will also provide education in Forensic Psychiatry for DMH staff. The fellowship will be the only non-military Forensic Psychiatry fellowship in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. Supported by an outstanding team of nationally recognized experts, the partnership is a direct outgrowth of the efforts of DMH and Georgetown's Center for Mental Health Outreach, dedicated to bringing best practices to community mental health programs.

For more information about the department:  
[www.georgetownuniversityhospital.org/body.cfm?id=512](http://www.georgetownuniversityhospital.org/body.cfm?id=512)  
Georgetown Center for Trauma in the Community:  
<http://ctc.georgetown.edu>

## Department News

• In July, Georgetown University Hospital was recognized in the 2006 *US News and World Report's* annual "America's Best Hospitals" issue with the Department of Psychiatry ranked among "America's Best Hospitals" in the specialty listings for the third consecutive year.

• Tiffany Townsend, Ph.D. joined the department in July. Currently the Principal Investigator on a four-year SAMHSA grant, Dr. Townsend's research activities focus on the implementation of community-based research and prevention programs to decrease health/mental health disparities among ethnic minority women, children and families.

• The Department of Psychiatry has begun work on a Criminal Justice-Psychiatry Analysis for DC's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. The final report, to be completed September 30, will review the current state of psychiatric/ psychological and judicial approaches to adults in the criminal justice system who have psychiatric conditions (including co-occurring substance use disorders).

## Psychiatry Grand Rounds and Other Programs (\*open to the public)

- \*Sept. 14, Conference, Malignant Recognition and Clinical Management
- Sept. 21, Clinical Case Conference — George Kolodner, M.D.
- \*Sept. 28, Presentation — Alan Newman, M.D.
- \*Oct. 12, Adult ADD — Brian Doyle, M.D.
- Oct. 19, Clinical Case Conference — Martin Chin, M.D.
- \*Oct. 26, Schizophrenia Conference, Grand Hyatt Washington (202.784.0682 for registration information)