

February 15, 2012

# Project Update

*Congratulations!* We are at the end of our contract.

During this last quarter of our California Reducing Disparities Project (CRDP), December 2011, January and February 2012, we have:

- ✓ finished all of our data analyses
- ✓ reviewed and included information received during our public review period
- ✓ sent the comprehensive report to the designer for final layout
  
- ✓ continued collaboration with the Racial and Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition (REMHDCO) and the California MHS/Multicultural Coalition (CMMC)
  
- ✓ presented our preliminary findings to various groups
- ✓ began implementing our NEXT STEPS for dissemination and follow-through on the community recommendations in our African American Population Report

Dissemination of the final African American Population Report will take place **after the State Department of Mental Health has approved** the final release.

**On February 6, 2012**, along with our other 4 CRDP contractors (Native Americans, Asian/Pacific Islanders, LGBTQI, and Latinos), we presented a Legislative Briefing to the California Assembly. The education included sharing a brief overview of the project, the strategic planning process and data collection methods. We have posted a copy of our African American presentation below on this webpage. You may download for your records. We do not have any additional original copies of the presentation.

**Please save the date, April 19 & 20, 2012.** We will convene another statewide meeting. The purpose is to immediately follow-up with a strategic planning session for developing the implementation of the community-based recommendations in our African American Population Report. We will convene in a central location. The CRDP will provide for travel and lodging. As before, please extend an invitation to one or two mental health consumers (from your region) to join us in this very critical next step. Additional information is forthcoming.

Please visit the AAHI-SBC website often for a very special end of the contract updates.

Thank you all. It has been my pleasure to serve on this very important project for our people and for all ethnic populations in the State of California. I look forward to the dissemination phase of our project.

*V. Diane Woods, DrPH, MSN, RN*  
African American CRDP Director