



**Community Support Resource Center (CSRC)  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
Office of Technical Assistance**

## **Summary of TCE grant program**

The Older Adults Targeted Capacity Expansion (TCE) Grants program, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), is managed by the Community Support Resource Center, Office of Technical Assistance (OTA) at NASMHPD (National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors). The purpose of the Older Adults TCE Grant Program is to help communities provide direct services and build the necessary infrastructure to support expanded services for meeting the diverse mental health needs of older persons. The target population of older adults, for the purpose of this program, is defined as persons 60 years and older who are at risk for or are experiencing mental health problems.

SAMHSA's services grants are designed to address gaps in mental health prevention and treatment services and/or to increase the ability of States, units of local government, American Indian/Alaska Native tribes and tribal organizations and community- and faith-based organizations to help specific populations or geographic areas with serious, emerging mental health problems. TCE grants are authorized under Sect 520A of the PHS Act, as amended.

TCE grants support an array of activities to help the grantee build a solid foundation for delivering and sustaining effective mental health outreach, prevention and treatment services, as well as resources to support the direct delivery of services. Awardees may target specific subpopulations of older persons with particularly high needs within their communities, such as racial/ethnic groups, persons in rural areas or persons with high degrees of behavioral and physical health co-morbidities.

SAMHSA's services grants are intended to fund services or practices that have a demonstrated evidence base and that are appropriate for the target population. An evidence-based practice, also called EBP, refers to approaches to prevention or treatment that are validated by some form of documented scientific evidence. Ten 3-year grants were awarded in 2008; two previous round of TCE grants have been awarded since the program's inception.