

Higher Education Mental Health Alliance (HEMHA)

MISSION: *To provide leadership through a partnership of organizations to advance college mental health.*

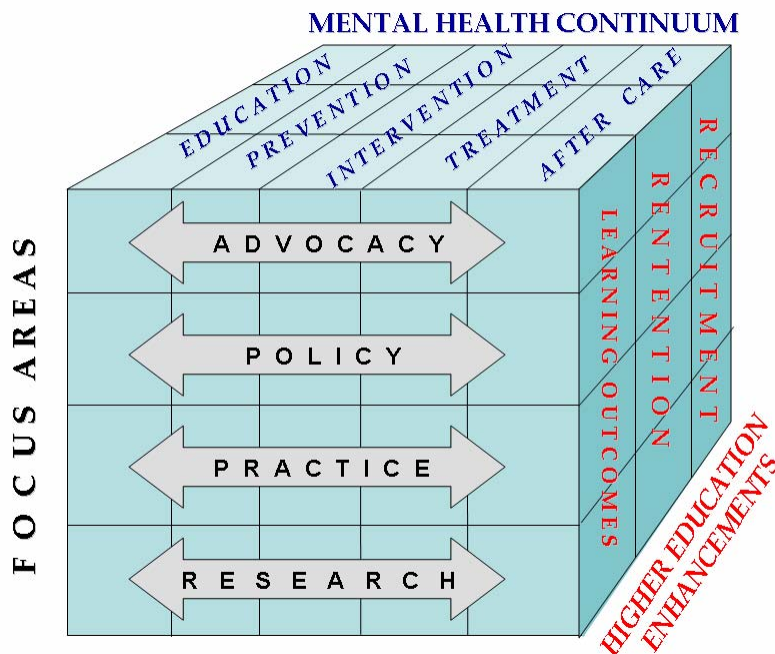
The Alliance...an inter-association partnership:

The American College Counseling Association	(ACCA)
The American College Health Association	(ACHA)
The American College Personnel Association	(ACPA)
The American Psychiatric Association	(APA)
The American Psychiatric Nurses Association	(APNA)
The American Psychological Association	(APA)
The Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors	(AUCCCD)
The Jed Foundation	(JED)
The National Association of Student Personnel Administrators	(NASPA)

PURPOSE: The Alliance affirms that the issue of college mental health is **central to student success**, and therefore **is the responsibility of higher education**. Accordingly, The Alliance will provide leadership to:

- Think about college mental health issues at a strategic level
- Identify and share mental health resources
- Promote full community engagement in the mental health continuum of care
- Define the role of advocacy in mental health
- Support and disseminate evidenced-based practice

What can we accomplish together that we cannot accomplish alone?



Through focus on **advocacy** actions, **policy** development and review, **practice** dissemination, and the promotion of **research** -- across the mental health continuum -- The Alliance is committed to advancing mental health throughout the realm of higher education and improving student **recruitment, retention, and learning outcomes**.

ORGANIZATIONAL CONCEPT:

- **LEADERSHIP:** The leadership of The Alliance will be comprised of a Chair, Host, and Past Chair:
 - **The Leader (Chair):** (*1st Leader - ACHA: Lesley Sacher, as a continuation from initial meeting last year*)
 - Selected by The Alliance members at each annual meeting
 - Serves as the Chair for the subsequent year
 - Sets the agenda for The Alliance's activities/actions
 - For the ensuing year
 - For the next annual meeting
 - Serves as the "point person" for initiatives of The Alliance throughout the year
 - Delegates tasks to the other two leaders as well as to other members, as appropriate
 - **The Host:** (*1st Host - ACHA: Chris Brownson, San Francisco, May 29, 2009*)
 - Serves as a liaison from the organization that will be hosting the next Alliance annual meeting
 - Coordinates the following support for The Alliance's meeting at the next organization's annual meeting:
 - Scheduling
 - Meeting space
 - Lodging availability
 - Catering support (food & beverage) as needed
 - Coordinates **shared** resource support from all members of The Alliance
 - **The Past Leader:**
 - Provides continuity perspective for the leadership group
 - Supports the Chair and Host as needed
- **MEMBER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATION:**
 - Each member organization provides at least one (1), but not more than three (3) "Liaisons" to represent the member organization
 - Each member organization determines its own internal process on how to appoint Liaison(s), how long they serve, etc. (3 year continuity is desired)
 - Liaison(s) will:
 - Contribute their organization's perspectives to The Alliance
 - Provide continuity in perspective over time
 - In cases where there is only one (1) Liaison, ensure alternate/proxy representation from the organization when unable to attend
 - Secure internal organizational or other support to fund their travel
 - Secure internal organizational decision-making on issues emanating from The Alliance
- **ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE ALLIANCE:**
 - Annual Meetings will rotate between the annual conferences of the professional organization members
 - The first annual meeting will be May 29, 2009 in San Francisco, hosted by ACHA
 - The second meeting in 2010 may possibly be in Chicago at NASPA (to be confirmed)
 - Future annual meetings will not be on a pre-determined rotating basis, but rather determined by the members of The Alliance based on location and calendar spacing of the meetings
 - Some organizations are not able to host due to size, finances, etc; those organizations can partner and pool resources when it is their turn to host
- **COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT:**
 - To be provided by The Jed Foundation
 - Potential virtual office, including IT server/software/vendor support to:
 - Host documents
 - Provide a Listserve and/or message board (for members of The Alliance only)
 - Provide conference call services for regularly scheduled and urgent call requirements

NEXT STEPS: At the conclusion of the Philadelphia meeting, Liaisons have the following responsibilities:

1. Once The Alliance approves the letterhead, logo, mission, purpose, and organizational concept, each organization's leadership must "sign off" to become a Charter Member of the **Higher Education Mental Health Alliance (HEMHA)**.
2. The leadership of each organization must also agree to the funding of yearly travel for Liaison(s) and to host an annual meeting at some point.
3. Each organization must decide who to appoint as liaison(s) and for what term.
4. Each organization must submit the next four annual meeting locations and dates.
5. Each organization must provide the total number of members that it represents (for future aggregating purposes so as to determine the potential scope/breadth of The Alliance).
6. Each organization must get approval from its organizational leadership about whether it supports the Durbin Legislation (*S.3311 - Mental Health on Campus Improvement Act*).

(All information above to be submitted to the ACHA Executive Office: picrone@acha.org; templates to be provided.)

TO BE DETERMINED:

- There was no discussion about how the group makes decisions. Should it be by:
 - o Consensus?
 - o Majority vote?
 - o Unanimous vote?
- There was no discussion about how The Alliance decides on what other organizations are invited to join.