



# Creating Community Solutions

Part of the National Dialogue on Mental Health

## Creating Community Solutions

*GIH Behavioral Health Funders Network*

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# Today's Presenter



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# What is Creating Community Solutions?

- Effort to organize hundreds of community conversations and action plans
- Ten lead sites
- Wide variety of other events: small discussions, online dialogues, large planning processes



# Goals of the Deliberations

Get Americans talking about mental health to break down misperceptions and promote recovery and healthy communities



# Goals...

Find innovative community-based solutions to mental health needs, with a focus on helping young people

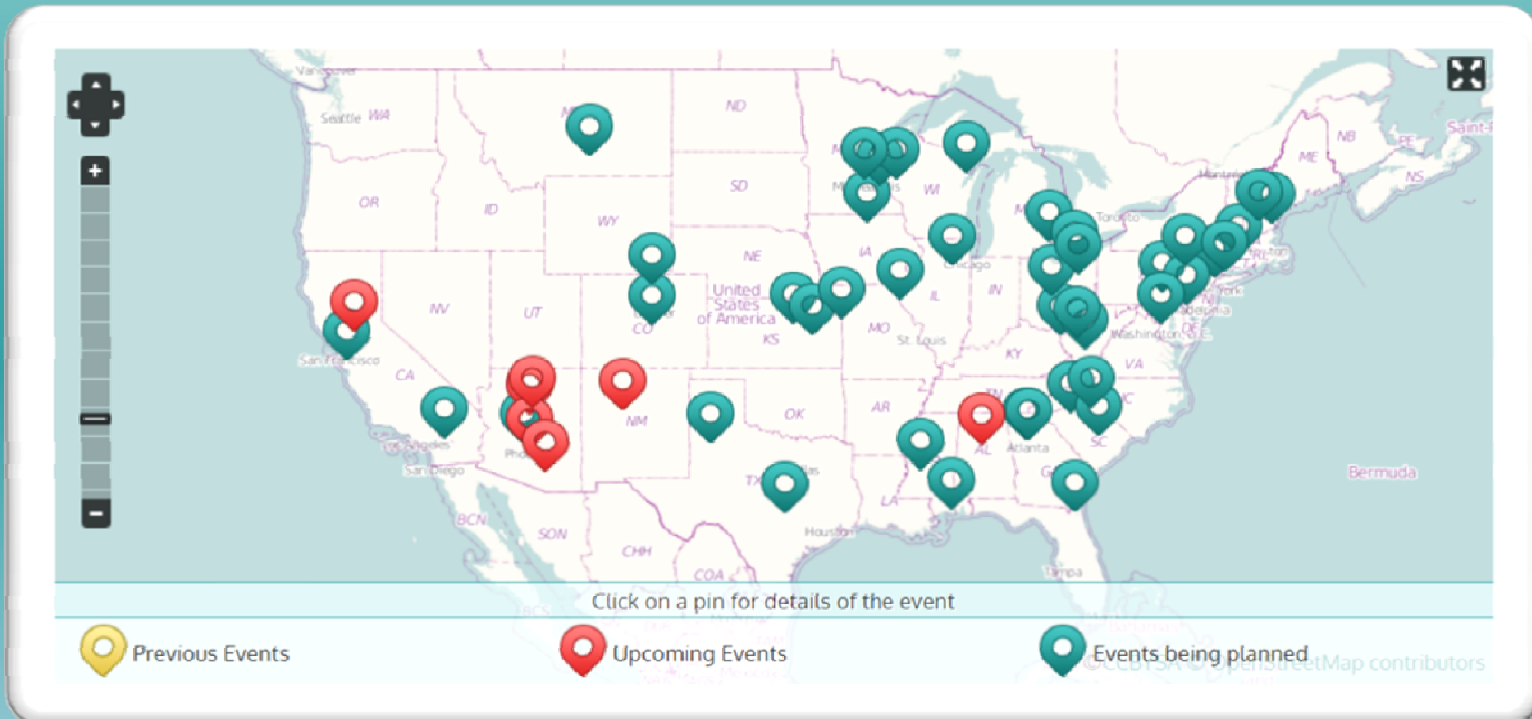


# Goals...

Develop clear steps for communities to move forward in a way that complements existing local activities



# CreatingCommunitySolutions.org



# Who is involved?

- Federal agencies
- Local governments
- Nonprofit organizations
- Faith communities
- Professional associations
- National & local funders
- Networks of all kinds

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# Creating Community Solutions Team

- National Institute for Civil Discourse
- Everyday Democracy
- *AmericaSpeaks*
- National Issues Forums Institute
- National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation
- Deliberative Democracy Consortium
- *In concert with:* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



# What is Happening in the Lead Sites?

- Mayor is calling for engagement on mental health
- Local organizing team working either with AmericaSpeaks, Everyday Democracy, or NIF Institute to plan process
- Large-scale deliberative event as a focus point of local process

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# Sequence of the Discussions

- Starting the Conversation
- Identify the Challenges
- Focusing on Youth
- Community Solutions

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# What's in the Toolkit?

- Information brief – data on mental health
- Discussion guide – useful for events of various sizes; also being used to frame online dialogues
- Organizing guide – lays out steps for small groups, larger forums, big planning processes

# Coordinating, Amplifying CCS Online

- [Creatingcommunitysolutions.org](http://Creatingcommunitysolutions.org) features an online map that helps potential allies find one another & will display outcomes of events
- [Theciviccommons.com/mentalhealth](http://Theciviccommons.com/mentalhealth) features an online dialogue on mental health
- [Mentalhealth.gov](http://Mentalhealth.gov) provides information, ways to find local data and mental health professionals

# What You Can Do

- Help spread the word
- Encourage organizations in your community to put a pin in the map
- Help us find local allies, through the map or through us
- Upload your outcomes at [www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/outcomes](http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/outcomes)
- Help support additional sites

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# Thank You!

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