



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration

Center for Mental Health Services
Center for Substance Abuse
Prevention
Center for Substance Abuse
Treatment
Rockville MD 20857

Jan. 8, 2010

Dear State, Tribe, and Territory Mental Health and Substance Abuse Commissioner:

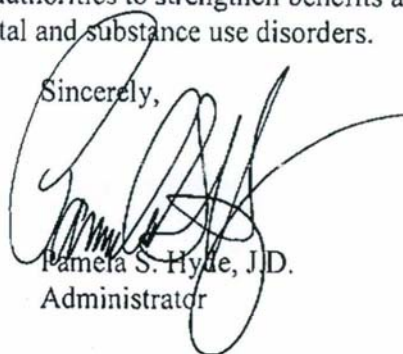
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in collaboration with the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) is pleased to announce additional funding opportunities for States, Tribes, and Territories administering Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act.

As a part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, this funding opportunity allows States, Tribes, and Territories to use Federal TANF funds to provide appropriate counseling services such as mental health services and non-medical substance use treatment services to family members with barriers to employment and self-sufficiency.

ACF has recently released TANF Program Instruction, available at www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ofa/policy/pi-ofa/2009/200912/pi200912.htm and ACF's Office of Family Assistance has technical assistance available on its Welfare PeerTA Web site at peerta.acf.hhs.gov/. As always, SAMHSA is available to provide technical assistance through our Web site at www.samhsa.hhs.gov.

In this period of economic constraint, SAMHSA will continue to provide support and increase its efforts to assist you in strengthening your service capacity in innovative ways. We encourage you to work with your respective TANF authorities to strengthen benefits and services to individuals and families coping with mental and substance use disorders.

Sincerely,



Pamela S. Hyde, J.D.
Administrator