WHAT IS THE GOAL OF ALLIED HEALTH RESEARCH?

Research performed by allied health professionals crosses the lifespan; from developmental disorders in infants to health outcomes and quality of life related to aging. Research undertaken by allied health professionals is science-driven and evidence-based where the objective is to apply research findings to grow capacity and advance best practices in allied health professions.

FUNDING HAS DECREASED FOR MEDICAL AND ALLIED HEALTH RELATED RESEARCH

- 5% across the board budget cuts to NIH ($1.55B), NSF ($288M), and CDC ($285M) for FY2013. Consequences of decrease funding include:
  - Approximately 700 fewer competitive research project grants will be issued by NIH and a 1,000 fewer will be funded by NSF in 2013.
  - No increase in stipends for graduate and post-doctoral award recipients in FY2013
  - Cuts to research may delay progress in medical breakthroughs
  - Reduce ability to prevent leading causes of illness and death: cancer, heart attack, stroke, diabetes.
  - Decreased research funding present a risk to the allied health workforce and future job creation.

WHICH FEDERAL AGENCIES CURRENTLY PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ALLIED HEALTH RESEARCH?

- National Institutes of Health (NIH). It comprises 27 separate institutes, centers, and offices. As of 2003, the NIH was responsible for 28%, about US$30.7 billion of the total biomedical research funding spent annually in the U.S. www.nih.gov
- National Science Foundation (NSF). It supports fundamental research and education in all the non-medical fields of science and engineering. With an annual budget of about US$7.0 billion (FY2012), the NSF funds approximately 20% of all federally supported basic research. www.nsf.gov
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the national public health institute of the United States. CDC’s FY2008 budget was $9.2 billion. www.cdc.gov
- Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is the agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable. The agency’s $7 billion budget (FY2008) provides direct health care to 23 million people. www.hrsa.gov
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) mission is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare for Americans. www.ahrq.gov
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA is charged with improving the quality and availability of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitative services in order to reduce illness, death, disability, and cost to society resulting from substance abuse and mental illnesses. www.samhsa.gov

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration. www.fda.gov
- Department of Veterans Affairs. www.va.gov

THE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS (ASAHP)

The Association of Schools of Allied Health Professions (www.asahp.org) is the principal membership organization representing and promoting the schools and colleges of allied health. Its mission is to advance the professions of allied health and advocate for allied health programs in the United States and abroad.

CONTACT INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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