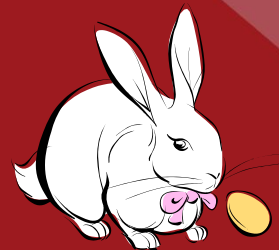


TMS TRENDS

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DEPRESSED ADOLESCENTS IN THE U.S.: A SOBERING STATISTIC

A study published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (JAACP) has shown that U.S. adolescents (ages 13-18) are remarkably lacking in treatment for mental disorders. Of those affected by severely impairing mental disorders, about *half* do not receive any—let alone adequate—treatment.

Also of note were the categories of statistical significance found in the study: the percentage of those receiving treatment did not vary by the severity of impairment, but did vary drastically by type. For example, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) has the highest treatment rate of nearly 60%, while anxiety, substance, or eating disorders had less than one-fifth treated of those affected. Additionally, researchers noted a wide racial disparity in those treated for certain disorders.

So what are the root causes of these deficiencies? Mentioned in the study are the insufficient numbers of mental health children specialists, which is expected to stretch even more thinly in the coming years with extended health care coverage. Future needs for child specialists remain a priority in the mental health field, especially with the growing strain on an already-undertreated population.

LOCAL SUPPORT GROUPS

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)

Meets every Monday, 7-9 PM
Riddle Hospital, Rothman Building, 2nd floor, #2
1118 Baltimore Pike
Media, PA 19063
(877) 687-9552

Bipolar Disorders Support Group

Meets the third Thursday of every month, 2 PM
Pottstown Memorial Medical Center
Boardroom #1
Pottstown, PA 19464
(610) 327-7633

Depression Support Group

Meets the second Wednesday of every month,
6:30 PM
Pottstown Memorial Medical Center
Private Dining Room A
Pottstown, PA 19464
(610) 327-7633

Chester County NAMI Family Support Group

Meets the first Wednesday of every month
7-9 PM
Peer Center
825 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
(484) 947-5643

Depression/Bipolar Support Group

Meets each Thursday, 6:30-7:30 PM
Crossroads Peer Support Center
825 Paoli Pike
West Chester, PA 19380
(610) 429-1702