



THE CARTER CENTER
MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Waging Peace. Fighting Disease. Building Hope.

April 15, 2013

Eighteenth Annual Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum
Building Quality Behavioral Health Community Services and Supports for All Georgians

Friday, May 17, 2013

The Carter Center 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

On behalf of former First Lady Rosalynn Carter I would like to invite you to attend the Eighteenth Annual Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum at The Carter Center on May 17, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This year's topic is ***Building Quality Behavioral Health Community Services and Supports for All Georgians***. This event is open to the public, but we do ask that participants register by Monday, May 13. A registration form is attached. Please fill it out and fax it to The Carter Center Mental Health Program c/o Kristin Christakis at (404) 420-5158.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is providing a spotlight on children's mental health. CDC Director Thomas Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., will release the supplemental MMWR titled "Children's mental health: Surveillance of mental disorders among children in the United States" at the Georgia Mental Health Forum. This report describes current federal efforts to track children's mental disorders, the prevalence of these disorders, identify gaps, and inform a public health approach to prevent mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders, and promote mental health in children.

The 2013 Rosalynn Carter Georgia Mental Health Forum will provide an opportunity for consumers, families, providers, and other stakeholders to be updated on the settlement agreement between the U.S. Department of Justice and the State of Georgia and consider how to improve public policy for Georgia's children and adolescents with behavioral health challenges. Since child and adolescent services are not covered in the settlement agreement, special attention will be given to this service area. The *Preliminary Report for Public Comment – Building a Vision for Community Services for Children, Adolescents, and Adults with Behavioral Health Disorders* is available on the web for review. Please see http://www.cartercenter.org/health/mental_health/georgia-crisis.html.

We look forward to seeing you in May.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. Bornemann, Ed.D.
Director