

## RI International CEO & President David Covington Appointed to National Department of Health & Human Services Committee

Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee (ISMICC) reports to Congress and federal agencies on serious mental illness

WASHINGTON D.C., US, August 29, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- <u>RI International</u> CEO and President David W. Covington, LPC, MBA, will participate in the inaugural meeting of the <u>Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness</u> <u>Coordinating Committee (ISMICC)</u> on Thursday, August 31, 2017. David was selected as one of 14 targeted appointments to serve alongside leaders from 10 federal agencies (representing a leading research, advocacy, or service organization for adults with a serious mental illness). The Department of Health & Human Services formally announced the non-federal members on August 16, 2017.

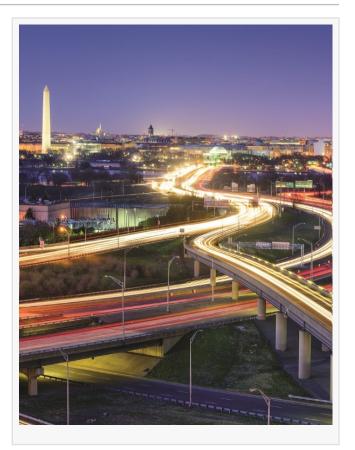
Public access to the meeting will be available by webcast (<u>http://www.hhs.gov/live</u>) and phone. Notice of the meeting appears in the Federal Register and on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration website:

http://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/advisory-councils/smi-committee.

David's Better Behavioral Healthcare innovation blogsite will regularly address the progress of the new ISMICC and his latest entry "<u>Returning to the Why in Behavioral Healthcare</u>" expresses strong optimism in the potential of this new federal initiative.

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The ISMICC is focused on the heart of the matter; on the outcomes experienced by those with serious mental illnesses. It's time for us to begin taking strong actions to achieve measured success." David W. Covington "I am pleased and honored to accept this appointment," said Covington. "As expressed by Secretary Price, this committee will help inform HHS's efforts to ensure that individuals with serious mental illness get the care they need. The ISMICC is focused on the heart of the matter; on the outcomes experienced by those with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, and other serious mental illnesses. It's time for us to begin taking strong actions to achieve measured success. I'm confident this approach will engender actions that, over time, dramatically improve the lives of those with



serious mental illness."

Carole Pfeil RI International 262 623 4054 email us here

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