



American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Psychological Association
CHADD – Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)
Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Mental Health America
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHD)
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)
National Coalition of Mental Health Consumer/Survivor Organizations (NCMHCSO)
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare (NCCBH)
National Empowerment Center (NEC)
National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health (FFCMH)
National Mental Health Consumer's Self-Help Clearinghouse
Suicide Prevention Action Network USA (SPANUSA)
United States Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association (USPRA)

Board:
Linda Rosenberg, MSW, CSW,
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare,
President
David Shern, Ph.D., National Mental Health Association, *Vice President*
E. Clarke Ross, Ph.D., Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder,
Secretary
Robert Bernstein, Ph.D., Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law,
Treasurer
Daniel Fisher, M.D., Ph.D., National Empowerment Center
Michael Fitzpatrick, MSW, National Alliance on Mental Illness

William Emmet
Director

t. 703-836-3066
f. 703-548-9517

November 13, 2009

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Enzi
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
835 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Harkin and Enzi,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write on behalf of the Campaign for Mental Health Reform in support of the nomination of Pamela Hyde, J.D., to serve as Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Having built a distinguished career serving in a variety of positions in several states, Ms. Hyde has earned the respect and admiration of advocates, practitioners, and administrators in the mental health and substance abuse fields for her command of both clinical and financing issues, her innovative approaches to policy and administrative challenges, and her ability to represent behavioral health interests in a variety of settings.

At a time of great change in healthcare, we welcome the prospect of a SAMHSA Administrator who can confidently navigate not only the familiar terrain of mental health and substance abuse service delivery and policy, but also the shifting landscape of a reforming healthcare financing and policy arena. Ms. Hyde brings unique capabilities to these endeavors and, we believe, will help uphold the nation's responsibilities to some of its most vulnerable citizens.

The Campaign for Mental Health Reform
1101 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 1212
Washington, DC 20005

November 13, 2009

Page 2

Members of our Campaign are eager to see Ms. Hyde join the team that will guide the administration's approach to the provision of healthcare services. We believe there is no time to waste in ensuring the full integration of behavioral healthcare with overall healthcare. In this process, we recognize the need for the mental health and substance abuse services communities to be expertly represented at the highest levels of health and social service policy development and implementation. Therefore, we urge your Committee to act on Ms. Hyde's nomination as soon as possible.

Thank you for giving your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Emmet." The signature is written in black ink on a light blue rectangular background.

William Emmet
Director