

## Successful World Federation for Mental Health Conference

Approximately 300 people came together for the outstanding presentations and networking opportunities at the World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) *Conference on Transcultural Mental Health in a Changing World: Building a Global Response*, held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, October 29-31, 2007. Minneapolis was the chosen venue because of the region's rich diversity of population and services and the conference certainly benefited from that diversity. While a large number of participants came from the United States, other attendees came from as far away as the UK, Pakistan, India, Norway, Japan, Australia, and Yemen. This conference further serves to set the stage for the activities of WFMH's Transcultural Mental Health Initiative. The conference was made up of a combination of plenary sessions and concurrent sessions along with social events to facilitate networking opportunities. A multitude of excellent speakers presented at the concurrent sessions on far reaching topics related to special populations (Latinos, Africans, Asians, Arabic/Middle Eastern clients, Haitians, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender clients), prevention and promotion, advocacy, transcultural mental health issues of refugees and immigrants, the mental health effects of trauma, building a culturally competent workforce, community mental health programs, mind/body connection and spirituality, children and families, high needs and low resources, cognitive and brain disorders, treatment of depression, and student/youth mental health.

WFMH has acknowledged the support of the following Minneapolis/St. Paul organizations in the planning and execution of this conference:

- African American Family Services
- Southside Community Health Center/Q Health Services
- Prairielands Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PATTC)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Minnesota
- Wilder Foundation
- Northwest Resources for Families, Inc. (NWRF)
- Northwest Hennepin Family Service Collaborative (NWHFSC)
- Grotto Foundation
- State of Minnesota
- University of Minnesota
- Family & Children's Service
- Minnesota Fathers and Families Network
- NWH & Associates
- City of Minneapolis