

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Please join the Senate Caucus on Mental Health Reform for a briefing entitled:
MENTAL HEALTH: A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

FEATURED SPEAKER

Dr. David Satcher, Former Surgeon General of the United States

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2006

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Room 385- Russell Senate Office Building

****LUNCH SERVED****

Mental health is an extremely important public health issue. Mental illnesses are common health conditions that can affect people of any age, race or background. These illnesses can significantly affect work, relationships and quality of life. Having a mental illness presents extreme challenges, not only for the individuals concerned, but also for their family and friends.

Without treatment the consequences of mental illness for the individual and society are staggering: unemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, incarceration and suicide are just some of the devastating effects. Fortunately, mental illnesses are treatable. Modern treatments for mental illnesses are highly effective; it is estimated that most individuals who receive treatment have significant reduction in symptoms and improved quality of life.

Please join us for a very important overview of the status of mental health in the United States, including a discussion of improving mental illness diagnosis, treatment and mental health services. Our featured speaker will be Dr. David Satcher, the 16th Surgeon General of the United States. We will also hear from Dr. Howard Goldman, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Additionally, Senate staff members who have kindly agreed to share their personal and family experiences in dealing with mental illness will offer their experiences.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Collins in Senator Domenici's office at chris_collins@domenici.senate.gov or 4-7087.

Sincerely,



Pete V. Domenici
United States Senator



Gordon H. Smith
United States Senator



Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senator



Tom Harkin
United States Senator