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Media Advisory
INVITATION TO COVER AND ATTEND

WHO: American Psychiatric Association (APA), American Psychiatric Foundation (APF), mental health advocate and inspirational speaker Terrie Williams, Illinois Psychiatric Society, Indo-American Psychiatric Association, University of Illinois, Illinois Department of Human Services, University of Chicago Law and Thresholds Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center.

WHAT: APA Tour Stop in Arlington Heights, Ill., to Engage Communities to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Mental Health Care

WHEN: **Friday, Oct. 27, 2006; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**

WHERE: **Doubletree Hotel Chicago- Arlington Heights, Arbor Ballroom**
To register in advance contact 703-907-8539 or omnaontour@psych.org. Onsite registration and donations accepted); Press coverage invited.

Arlington, VA – Populations vulnerable to post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) such as soldiers returning from war; victims of violent crimes; survivors of major disasters; individuals spiraling into depression; children failing in school as a result of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); and new mothers suffering from postpartum depression. Bringing vital stakeholders together from communities throughout the Midwest area to discuss policies and resources for adequate care for these and other mental conditions is the focus of a day-long symposium on reducing mental health disparities for racial and ethnic minorities by the American Psychiatric Association.

A major finding by former U.S. Surgeon General David Satcher, M.D., in his 2001 report, *Mental Health: Culture, Race, and Ethnicity*, stated that “members of minority groups receive poorer quality of care, are less likely to receive services, and are underrepresented in mental health research.” This finding holds true today, and is among the reasons the APA’s Office of Minority and National Affairs has embarked upon a national tour to develop policy recommendations for reducing mental health disparities for racial and ethnic minorities as part of the APA’s plan, “A Vision for the Mental Health System,” to help reform and repair the nation’s crumbling mental health system.

A reception precedes the event on **Thursday, Oct. 26 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Doubletree Hotel Chicago-Arlington Heights, Oakwood Room. **To register in advance contact 703-907-8539 or omnaontour@psych.org. Onsite registration and donations accepted.**

About the American Psychiatric Association:

The American Psychiatric Association is a national medical specialty society whose more than 37,000 physician members specialize in diagnosis, treatment, prevention and research of mental illnesses including substance use disorders. Visit the APA at www.psych.org and www.HealthyMinds.org.