

WeSearchTogether Connects Researchers to Study Participants Instantly

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Nearly 1 in 4 American adults lives with a mental health disorder, yet less than 2 in 100 participate in mental health research (CISRP, 2012). Researchers in the field struggle to engage enough participants in their work, making it difficult to achieve breakthroughs in the treatment of mood disorders.

[WeSearchTogether.org](http://www.wesearchtogether.org) is a national online clearinghouse and registry that offers researchers a free opportunity to connect with people living with mood disorders who are thinking about participating in research. WeSearchTogether was launched this summer by the University of Michigan Depression Center and the Depression Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA).

Supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), WeSearchTogether.org provides a unique forum for communication between participants and researchers while highlighting the latest clinical trials and research advancements within the mental health field. The site offers detailed information on research participation, provides testimonials from study participants and researchers, and allows people to browse study listings and be matched with specific research opportunities.

“WeSearchTogether.org will help foster communication, trust, and bridge the gap between potential participants in research – many of whom have legitimate questions about getting involved – and researchers. By working together, we *will* improve lives,” explained John Greden, M.D., executive director of the UMDC and founding chair of the National Network of Depression Centers (NNDC).

WeSearchTogether.org strives to help researchers recruit participants for their studies in a matter of days or months rather than years. Expediting the research recruitment process can facilitate breakthroughs that bring the latest treatment and care to those impacted by mental illness. Researchers across the United States are encouraged to add studies that still need participants to the WeSearchTogether clearinghouse by visiting www.wesearchtogether.org.