The Treatment and Preventive Intervention Research Branch (TPIRB) in the Division of Services and Intervention Research (DSIR) of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) seeks a motivated and experienced intervention researcher to manage and develop a portfolio of innovative grant-supported studies that address unmet treatment needs of adults with mental illness. The Adult Psychosocial Interventions Research Program supports practice-oriented investigations aimed at refining, augmenting, and personalizing existing therapies to increase acute and longer-term clinical effectiveness and substantially improve symptomatic, social, and/or functional outcomes.

DSIR offers a stimulating and collegial work environment with opportunities to impact mental health research priorities, develop new research initiatives, and contribute to the advancement of a national program of T2/T3 translational research. General responsibilities for Program Officers in TPIRB include administering and managing an extramural portfolio of research grants; collaborating with researchers and Program Officers from related scientific programs within NIMH, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and other public and private funding agencies; and communicating TPIRB research priorities via outreach to the scientific community (e.g., conference presentations, workshops, and special journal issues).

The successful candidate will have primary responsibility for managing and developing a portfolio of research grants that evaluate novel and integrative approaches for optimizing the effectiveness of psychosocial (psychotherapeutic and behavioral), sequenced, or combination interventions for adults with mental disorders. Topics include examining heterogeneity in treatment response to inform personalized interventions; using innovative trial designs that incorporate tailoring variables (e.g., clinical data, biomarkers, behavioral markers from passive sensor data) to guide treatment assignment and to deploy modular or stepped-care approaches; testing adaptations or augmentations of evidence-based interventions for additional populations or treatment refractory subgroups by targeting known moderators of clinical response; determining the optimal length of interventions; developing strategies for preventing/managing relapse episodes and sustaining recovery in chronic disorders; and employing mobile health (mHealth) and other emerging technologies to boost the effectiveness of evidence-based interventions and to monitor health status. The portfolio features experimental therapeutics research applied in confirmatory efficacy, comparative effectiveness, hybrid effectiveness-implementation, and pragmatic clinical trials.

Qualifications:  
The ideal candidate will possess a Ph.D. or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university, including acceptance of the dissertation, in an academic field related to health sciences research. Experience in the conduct of research or research management and data-based publications in mental health treatment or prevention research is required. Strong organizational, oral, writing, and communication skills are required. Experience with the grants process is preferable. The successful candidate is subject to a background investigation and public financial disclosure requirements.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens. The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. The work site is in Rockville, Maryland. A full package of federal Civil Service benefits is available, including retirement, health and life insurance, long term care insurance, leave, and a Thrift Savings Plan (401K equivalent). Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience. The position will be posted at the GS-13 and GS-14 federal government salary grades, with an annual salary between $102,663 and $157,709.

How to Apply:  
For more information: Interested parties should send a letter of interest, including a curriculum vitae, to NIMHsearch@mail.nih.gov. This is a pre-announcement of the vacancy. A Global “Health Scientist Administrator” job announcement will be posted on www.usajobs.gov on September 21, 2020. Applications must be submitted through that website by September 30, 2020, to be considered.

The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities. HHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers.