



## **HERMES, LLC Awarded Phase II SBIR Grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)**

The NIMH SBIR program supports small businesses to develop tools and technologies that can advance neuroscience research, translational and clinical research, clinical diagnosis and treatment, and dissemination and implementation of evidence-based research on mental disorders.

**September 27, 2011**

**Wilmington, NC.** **H**Health **E**ducation **R**esearch, **M**anagement and **E**pidemiologic **S**ervices (HERMES) LLC has been awarded a **3-year Phase II Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR)** grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to further develop and field test a clinical and community provider training model to address post-disaster mental health conditions in under-resourced black communities. To reduce individual and community mental health repercussions requires the building of social capital and local competencies while taking into account cultural differences in pathways/access to mental health services and understanding of mental health conditions in black communities. In response to these needs, HERMES' overall project goal is to adapt a community integration training model and use evidence-based practices (EBP) to strengthen local health care provider mental health competencies.

*“This study will demonstrate how emergency response plans can be tailored for different black communities and what the different players – professional, medical, support, and community – can do to prepare a coordinated response to mental health needs that is culturally embedded.”*

**Danielle Laborde, President**

HERMES will recruit and train a core team of mental health providers to deliver clinical provider- and community leader-tailored training workshops. Participants will complete

an evaluation follow each training component and pre, post, as well as 3-, 6-, and 12-month follow up knowledge and self-rated competency skills assessments in eight target communities.

*“The multi-site field trial will test efficacy as well as the acceptability, adaptability, and sustainability of the model. “*

**Danielle Laborde, President**

HERMES’ research team includes experts from North Carolina Central University, the School of Psychology, Fielding Graduate University, Santa Barbara, CA, the Medical University of South Carolina VA Medical Center and Center for Health Professional Training and Emergency Response (CHPTER), South Carolina's first collaborative emergency preparedness training center for health professionals. HERMES combines the academic strengths of senior staff and associates to develop and extend customized training programs for researchers and health professionals, international collaborators, project staff, and community leaders.

For additional information contact [dlaborde@hermesllc.com](mailto:dlaborde@hermesllc.com) or call 910-375-5454.

About HERMES, LLC

*HERMES is a Small Business Administration (SBA) certified HUBZone and Economically Disadvantaged Small Woman-Owned Business (EDWOSB) business offering research and training services in public and international health. Our mission is to be a model professional research services company by excelling in methodology, innovation, and technical assistance.*

*We understand ASAP (Accurate, Scientific, And Precise)*