

### **Recommendations to Strengthen Sustainable Affordable Quality Health Care:**

1. The highest level of leadership to help lessen the stigma of substance abuse and mental health disorders within the primary and public health care systems.
2. Public health and primary care financing structures that includes evidence-based comprehensive substance abuse and mental health prevention and treatment services for low-income Americans with emphasis on providing access to quality evidenced-based practices with emphasis on Medicaid.
3. Expansion and integration of substance abuse and mental health research into mainstream comparative effectiveness research that supports management of chronic diseases.
4. A coordinated funded roadmap and safety net of care for substance use disorders and PTSD which allows combat returning veterans and their families to walk into any door and receive referral and/or evidence-based comprehensive services in their communities.
5. An implemented solution to an addiction workforce shortage that currently handicaps the expansion of treatment services and the quality of effective treatment that is in equity to other health profession shortages and workforce development efforts. This effort should include innovative career ladder opportunities. Educational and training programs in addiction and mental health should be institutionalized within medical schools and other health professional training.