

# Presidential Candidate **MHDDSA** Forum

**Featuring:**

**Marvin Swartz, M.D  
and  
John Blackshear, Ph.D.**

**Date: Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
Time: 6 p.m. with doors opening at 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Meredith College Chapel, Raleigh NC**

Snacks & beverages will be served beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the atrium of the Science and Math Building next to the Chapel

**Spread the word and plan to attend!**

Please come with QUESTIONS!

For directions to 3800 Hillsborough St, Raleigh, NC visit [www.meredith.edu](http://www.meredith.edu). Our thanks to the Meredith College Democrats for their sponsorship of the event.

For more questions about this event please contact Jennifer Mahan at 919-981-0740 x270 [jennifer.mahan@mha-nc.org](mailto:jennifer.mahan@mha-nc.org) or Erin McLaughlin at 919-981-0740 x507 [erin.mclaughlin@mha-nc.org](mailto:erin.mclaughlin@mha-nc.org).

The Coalition (formerly Coalition 2001) was contacted by the Obama/Biden Presidential campaign with an offer to speak with North Carolina mental health, developmental disability and substance abuse advocates about the campaign's position on these issues and to hear from advocates about their concerns. The campaign has selected Drs. Swartz and Blackshear as representatives of the campaign. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear from and educate a Presidential Candidate's policy committee on the important SA/DD/MH issues that need to be addressed at the Federal level.

Dr. Marvin Swartz is Professor and Head of the Division of Social and

Community Psychiatry at the Duke University School of Medicine and Co-director of the Services Effectiveness research Program. His research interests include services for persons with severe mental illness, law and psychiatry, community psychiatry, and psychiatric advance directives. Dr. John Blackshear is Clinical Director of the Academic Research Center at Duke University where he works with students with learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders. He has been involved in several national research projects including The Young African American Men's Project and The Fatherhood Initiative program. He has served as a clinical provider for the Adolescent Alcohol and Other Drug Program in Conyers, Georgia.

***This is not a debate event between candidates; only one candidate's campaign will be present. Please note that the Coalition has contacted the McCain/Palin campaign with a similar offer, and are doing the same with the NC Republican Party. Should they respond with interest, a similar event will be held to speak with them on these same issues.***

The forum is open to the public and we encourage individuals, families, providers, advocates, and anyone concerned with developmental disabilities, addiction, and mental health to attend.