

**The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse**

**Directors**

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**January 12th, 2017**

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**News from NASADAD**

**NASADAD releases updated fact sheet on opioids**

NASADAD has updated its fact sheet on opioids to include the latest data on the topic, such as the recently released overdose death figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and results from the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH). The fact sheet reviews prescription opioids, heroin, and fentanyl, and provides an epidemiological overview of the problem. Additionally, this iteration of the fact sheet highlights the continuum of care—prevention, treatment, and recovery—as it relates to opioids. There is a section of the document that describes the role of the State alcohol and drug authorities, and another section that describes key federal programs that address addiction, including the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant and the State Targeted Response (STR) to the Opioid Crisis Grant. This document will be used to educate congressional offices and other stakeholders about the opioid crisis.

Access the updated fact sheet [here](http://nasadad.org/2018/01/opioids/).

**News from the States**

**Elizabeth Romero appointed as Delaware’s Director of Substance Abuse and Mental Health**

Elizabeth Romero, who formerly served as Senior Director for Health Improvement with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) in Arlington, Va., was appointed to lead Delaware’s Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) and is NASADAD’s new Delaware member. Romero, who lives in Middletown, started in her new position on November 27th. During her time at ASTHO, Romero’s duties and accomplishments included oversight of behavioral health, injury, and substance use and chronic disease health teams, with a focus on building systems of care to improve population and community outcomes. In earlier positions, Romero worked for Nemours Health and Prevention Services in Newark, the National Association for State Boards of Education, AED/FHI 360, and the Harvard Prevention Research Center at the Harvard School of Public Health. She has a bachelor’s of science degree from Boston University and a master’s of science degree from the University of Oregon.

To contact Director Romero, email Elizabeth.Romero@state.de.us.

**Around the Agencies**

**SAMHSA announces first Director of the National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory**

Christopher Jones, PharmD, MPH, has been named the first Director of the National Mental Health and Substance Use Policy Laboratory within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Policy Laboratory was created as part of the 21st Century Cures Act of 2016 and promotes innovation and the dissemination and adoption of evidence-based practices and service delivery models related to mental health and substance use.

Prior to joining SAMHSA, Dr. Jones served as Acting Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Science and Data Policy and Director of the Division of Science Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Previously in his career, Dr. Jones has served as Senior Public Health Advisor to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), led the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Drug Safety and Risk Communication team, and served on the Science Team in the Center for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Strategic National Stockpile.

The NASADAD Board of Directors met with Dr. Jones during the December 2017 Board Meeting. We appreciate Dr. Jones’ ongoing commitment to issues related to substance use disorders and look forward to working with him in his new capacity.

Read SAMHSA’s announcement [here](https://blog.samhsa.gov/2018/01/09/leadership-announcement/#.WlfbvKinGUk).

**FDA prioritizes reducing addiction to opioid drugs and cigarettes in 2018**

Earlier this week, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced four policy priority areas for 2018: reducing addiction to opioid drugs and cigarettes; promoting innovation and competition; empowering consumers to make informed decisions; and strengthening the FDA workforce. With regard to reducing opioid addiction, the FDA stated that, “We need to take steps to reduce exposure to opioid drugs by helping to make sure that patients are

prescribed these drugs only when properly indicated, and that when prescriptions are written, they are for dosages and durations of use that comport closely with the purpose of the prescription.” The FDA also noted that it will do more to facilitate medication-assisted treatment. As for reducing addiction to cigarettes, the FDA will continue developing an approach to the regulation of nicotine that would ultimately render cigarettes minimally addictive or non-addictive.

Read the FDA’s 2018 Strategic Policy Roadmap [here](https://www.fda.gov/downloads/AboutFDA/ReportsManualsForms/Reports/UCM592001.pdf).

**In the News**

**NAATP releases “Ethics Code 2.0” and mandates that all NAATP members adhere to it**

The National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP) recently released its Ethics Code 2.0, which builds upon the NAATP 2012 Code. In 2017, NAATP developed its Quality Assurance Initiative (QAI) to address issues such as patient brokering, payment kickbacks, licensing misrepresentation, and predatory web practices. The updated ethics code aims to address these types of issues by serving as a guide for ethical practice in the addictions field. NAATP will mandate that all of its members adhere to the ethics code as a condition of membership.

Read the updated NAATP Code of Ethics [here](https://www.naatp.org/resources/ethics/code-ethics).

**Upcoming Events**

**NADCP webinar on the use of technology in supervising impaired-driver population**

The National Association of Drug Court Professionals’ (NADCP) National Center for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) Courts will be hosting a webinar entitled, "Supervising the Impaired-driver Population through Use of Technology." The webinar will review technology used to monitor the impaired-driving population, including the type of technology currently available, the evolution of technology, and how technology is used to supervise impaired-driving offenders. The webinar will also examine research evaluating the effectiveness of various types of technology and review public opinion regarding the role technology plays in supervising impaired-driving offenders to ensure public safety.

The webinar will be held on Wednesday, January 24th from 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST.

Register for the webinar [here](https://nadcp.webex.com/mw3200/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=nadcp&service=6&rnd=0.9490802948758152&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fnadcp.webex.com%2Fec3200%2Feventcenter%2Fevent%2FeventAction.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26%26%26EMK%3D4832534b0000000418ad9414e34ca03c749af3cfb37ea279e9c0ea74a16fea1fb7a5480390e2ef85%26siteurl%3Dnadcp%26confViewID%3D83330951622438053%26encryptTicket%3DSDJTSwAAAAQQPqv7hNTd8UVEZqzcKnuU3iC-xFoQldFuRdGrwhAaFQ2%26).

**SAMHSA holding public listening session on 42 CFR part 2**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently finalized changes to Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records regulations (42 CFR part 2). On Wednesday, January 31st, from 8:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. EST, SAMHSA will hold a public listening session to solicit feedback on the regulations. The listening session will offer an opportunity to provide input concerning the effect of 42 CFR Part 2 on patient care, health outcomes, and patient privacy, as well as potential regulatory changes.

Register for the listening session [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/samhsa-listening-session-42-cfr-part-2-tickets-41087357392).

*Should you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Morrison, Executive Director, or Shalini Wickramatilake-Templeman, Federal Affairs Manager, at (202) 293-0090.*