

## **NASADAD Board of Directors Meeting**

**Washington, DC**

**March 7 - 8, 2019**

**Board of Directors Present:** Arlene González-Sánchez (NY – First Vice President), Rosie Andueza (ID – VP for Internal Affairs), Michelle Nienhius (VP for Prevention), Joyce Starr (VP for Treatment), Mark Stringer (MO – Immediate Past President), Becky Boss (RI – Region I, Secretary), Valerie Mielke (NJ – Region II), Mellie Randall (VA – Region III), Sara Goldsby (SC – Region IV), Kevin Moore (IN – Region V), and Michael Langer (WA – Region X)

**Board of Directors Present via Conference Call:** Cassandra Price (GA – President), Janice Petersen (LA – Region VI), Sheri Dawson (NE – Region VII), and Doug Thomas (UT – Region VIII, Treasurer)

**NASADAD Staff Present:** Robert Morrison (Executive Director/Director of Legislative Affairs), Melanie Whitter (Director of Research and Program Applications), Rick Harwood (Deputy Director), Hollis McMullen (Director of Finance), Shalini Wickramatilake (Federal Affairs Manager), Heather D’Onofrio (Research Analyst), Tracy Flinn (Research Analyst), Amy Frandsen (Research Analyst), Kevin Rushton (Research Analyst), Claire Gray (Research Associate), and Joel Tinkler (Research Associate).

### **Thursday, March 7, 2019**

#### **Call to Order: Cassandra Price (GA – President)**

NASADAD President, Cassandra Price (GA), welcomed participants to the Board meeting.

#### **Minutes from December 2018 Board Meeting**

Valerie Mielke (NJ) made a motion to accept the December 2018 minutes as written. Kevin Moore (IN) seconded the motion. The Board then unanimously approved the minutes by voice vote.

#### **President’s Report: Cassandra Price (GA – President)**

Cassandra Price began by describing the current federal and State environments that make it a critical time for State Directors to rely on NASADAD. She thanked NASADAD’s Research & Program Applications Department staff for their continued efforts to support the component groups, as well as their work on various research projects. Ms. Price noted Mark Stringer’s (MO) recent testimony before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education, and Related Agencies, and thanked him for representing the Association. Finally, Ms. Price stated that Rick Harwood, NASADAD’s Deputy Director, is gradually transitioning to retirement, and she expressed gratitude for his leadership and contributions to NASADAD over the decade.

**Executive Director's Report: Robert Morrison**

Mr. Morrison began by recognizing Research and Program Applications Department staff for managing various new projects, continuing to support the component groups, and making better use of technology in providing membership services. He then spoke about efforts to revise NASADAD's Policies and Procedures. Finally, he described the upcoming elections for NASADAD officers and regional directors in odd-numbered regions, which will be held at the Annual Meeting in June 2019.

**Public Policy Update and Discussion: Mark Stringer (MO– Immediate Past President, Chair of Public Policy Committee), Robert Morrison, and Shalini Wickramatilake**

Mark Stringer began with an overview of his recent testimony before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies. Rob Morrison and Shalini Wickramatilake then described the continued interest by lawmakers in learning about how State alcohol and drug agencies are using State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (STR) and State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funds. The Board discussed the potential development of an inquiry of all SSAs to gather information about their use of STR/SOR funds, and the subsequent creation of State profiles that summarize each State's efforts. Board members expressed an interest in using these State profiles to access requests for applications (RFAs), requests for proposals (RFPs), memoranda of understanding (MOUs), cooperative agreements, and contracts related to the work being done on STR/SOR grants.

Rob Morrison and Shalini Wickramatilake described their efforts to educate SSAs, Congressional offices, and other stakeholders about the implementation of recent legislation that is impacting the addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery systems, including the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), the 21st Century Cures Act, and the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act. They also reviewed final FY 2019 appropriations for NASADAD's priority programs within the Department of Health and Human Services, including SAMHSA.

**Treasurer's Report: Doug Thomas (UT – Treasurer) and Hollis McMullen**

Mr. Thomas provided an overview of the current financial state of the organization and reviewed the quarterly Treasurer's Report. The Association's spending is currently high due to the upcoming Annual Meeting. However, Mr. McMullen noted that the reduced monthly rent in NASADAD's new office space, along with the various contracts and grants that fund the Research Department continue to help the Association maintain a stable financial situation.

Becky Boss (RI) made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Joyce Starr (OH) seconded the motion. The Board then unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report by voice vote.

**Prepare for Guest Speakers**

The Board prepared for guest presentations by Penny Mills and Dr. Maureen Boyle of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM); Rich Hamburg of the Safe States Alliance;

and Anne Hazlett and Betty-Ann Bryce of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, who are serving as detailees to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

### **Component Group Reports**

Melanie Whitter, NASADAD's Director of Research and Program Applications, began with an overview of the Department's portfolio, which currently includes 10 contracts/grants, supported by various federal agencies and private foundations. The 2019 project portfolio is valued at over \$2.5 million, and includes a mix of technical assistance and research projects.

The Board then heard updates from Michelle Nienhius, President of the Prevention Coordinators (PC) Learning Community; Joyce Starr, President of the Treatment Coordinators (TC) Learning Community; and Heather D'Onofrio (NASADAD) on behalf of the Women's Services Coordinators (WSC) Learning Community. Joyce Starr also provided an update on behalf of the State Opioid Treatment Authorities (SOTA) Learning Community.

### **Guest Speakers: Penny Mills, CEO, and Dr. Maureen Boyle, Chief Quality and Science Officer, American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)**

Ms. Mills and Dr. Boyle began with an overview of ASAM and its membership, as well as background on the ASAM criteria products and their implementation. They primarily focused on the Level of Care (LoC) Certification, which will launch in the summer of 2019. The LoC Certification, delivered in partnership with the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) International, will be the first program of its kind to independently assess and verify treatment programs' ability to deliver services with fidelity to the ASAM Criteria.

Ms. Mills and Dr. Boyle also described their concerns about the misuse of ASAM Criteria by some treatment providers and payers. The ASAM Criteria copyright and permissions process will be updated to include agreements that will enable parties to publicly reference their use of the ASAM Criteria. Agreements with States and other public entities will be free, and fees for providers will be modest.

### **Guest Speaker: Rich Hamburg, Executive Director, Safe States Alliance**

Mr. Hamburg reviewed the history of the Safe States Alliance and its members, and described the Alliance's committees, programs, and special interest groups. Mr. Hamburg also spoke about the Alliance's key activities, which include: increasing awareness of injury and violence as a public health problem; representing diverse injury and violence prevention (IVP) professionals; enhancing public health agency capacity by developing standards for IVP practice; advocating for public health policies designed to prevent injuries and violence; collaborating with other national organizations and federal agencies; convening leaders to advance IVP practice; and providing educational opportunities, training, and professional development.

**Considerations related to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's) new approach to technical assistance: John McIlveen (SOTA President, OR)**

John McIlveen joined the meeting via conference call to discuss the recent change to SAMHSA's policy regarding the delivery of certain technical assistance (TA) resources. The new policy entails SAMHSA providing supplemental funds directly to State alcohol and drug agency directors to provide them flexibility to target TA resources in a manner that best fits their own unique needs.

Mr. McIlveen spoke about the impact that this new policy has on the SAMHSA-supported face-to-face orientation for new SOTAs. In recent years, these face-to-face orientations have been co-located with the conference of the American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD). In addition to the orientation, for many years SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) has sponsored a separate face-to-face CSAT-SOTA meeting to ensure that SOTAs received critical updates from federal partners. These in-person meetings have also typically been co-located with the AATOD conference.

SAMHSA has announced that it is transitioning to an online approach for the new SOTA orientation, and the agency is not renewing a contract that previously supported the face-to-face CSAT-SOTA meetings.

The Board conversed with Mr. McIlveen about potentially sending a letter to all State Directors about the importance of these SOTA meetings, and reminding them that the supplemental TA resources provided to State alcohol and drug agencies could be allocated to support staff attendance at meetings and conferences, such as the next AATOD conference in October 2019.

**Guest Speakers: Anne Hazlett and Betty-Ann Bryce, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Detailees to the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)**

Anne Hazlett and Betty-Ann Bryce began with an overview of USDA's role, and then spoke specifically about the Department's commitment to addressing opioid misuse, addiction, and overdose. A primary focus of the USDA in tackling the opioid crisis is reaching out to and developing infrastructure in rural parts of the country. Ms. Hazlett and Ms. Bryce dialogued with the Board about issues related to serving rural areas. They also described efforts to increase housing for those who are in recovery from a substance use disorder.

**Prepare for Guest Speaker**

The Board prepared for a visit to Congressman Paul Tonko's (D-NY-13) office.

**Friday, March 8, 2019**

**Guest Speaker: A Dialogue with Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY-13) on Capitol Hill**

The Board visited Congressman Paul Tonko's office on Capitol Hill to speak with him about various issues related to substance use disorders. Board members expressed their gratitude for the Congressman's leadership on addiction issues, including a "Dear Colleague" letter in support

of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant that he has led for the past several years.

The Board thanked Rep. Tonko for his work on recent legislative milestones, including the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act, and the SUPPORT Act. Board members talked to him about the importance of State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (STR) and State Opioid Response (SOR) grants, but emphasized the continued importance of the SAPT Block Grant as a flexible funding stream to States to address all substances of concern, not solely opioids. The Congressman asked what more Congress can do to tackle addiction, and Board members offered various ideas, touching upon prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

**Shatterproof Quality Measures Initiative: Melanie Whitter (Director of Research and Program Applications), Janice Petersen (LA – Region VI), and Rob Kent (Chief Counsel, NY State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse)**

Melanie Whitter provided background on Shatterproof's rating system for addiction treatment programs. Shatterproof's goal is to create a platform that provides reliable and transparent information on addiction treatment quality. Five States, including Louisiana and New York, have been selected as pilot sites to test the rating system. Dr. Janice Petersen (LA), and Rob Kent from the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS), joined the Board meeting via conference call to describe their experiences as pilot States.

**Adjourn:** Cassandra Price asked for any new business items. No items were proposed. Cassandra Price thanked the Board for participating in the meeting. Ms. Price then adjourned the meeting.

**Acronyms**

ATTC	Addiction Technology Transfer Center
CSAP	Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
CSAT	Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
MAT	Medication-Assisted Treatment
NPN	National Prevention Network
NTN	National Treatment Network
OTN	Opioid Treatment Network
PC	Prevention Coordinator
PPW	Pregnant and postpartum women
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration
SOR	State Opioid Response Grants
SOTA	State Opioid Treatment Authority
SSA	Single State Authority

STR	State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants
SUD	Substance use disorder
TC	Treatment Coordinator
WSC	Women's Services Coordinator
WSN	Women's Services Network

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