

May 16, 2019



D.C. Update: Registration for 2019 NPN Conference now open, SAMHSA releases new "Tips for Teens," and more

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News from NASADAD

32nd annual NPN Conference registration is open

The annual National Prevention Network (NPN) conference will be held August 27-29, 2019 at the Hilton Chicago. The conference is 3 days, complete with keynotes, breakouts, and networking opportunities. The conference theme for 2019 is "Building on Evidence-Based Prevention to Connect Communities." The purpose of the NPN Conference is to highlight the latest research in the substance use prevention field. It provides a forum for prevention professionals, coalition leaders, researchers, and federal partners to share research, best practices, and promising evaluation results for the purpose of integrating research into prevention practice. Learn more and register for the conference [here](#).



Around the Agencies

HRSA seeking applications for new National Health Service Corps (NHSC) sites

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has announced that the 2019 [National Health Service Corps \(NHSC\) New Site Application](#) cycle is now open.

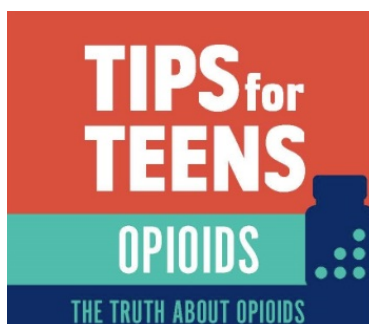
Each year HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce (BWH) accepts applications from eligible health care facilities throughout the United States and territories to become NHSC-approved sites. New facility types were recently added as eligible for NHSC approval: Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), Office Based Opioid Treatment (OBOTs), and Non-Opioid Substance Use Disorder Sites.

As described in HRSA's [announcement](#), NHSC-approved sites receive several benefits, such as:

- Recruiting qualified providers using [NHSC Loan Repayment Programs](#) as an incentive;
- Attracting NHSC Scholars who have completed their training and are ready to fulfill their service obligation at your site;

- Posting vacancies to the [Health Workforce Connector](#);
- Participating in [HRSA Virtual Job Fairs](#), to connect you with primary care trainees and practicing clinicians; and
- Having direct access to State [Primary Care Offices](#) that help to increase access to primary health care services in your community.

Interested health care organizations are encouraged to read the [Site Reference Guide](#) to learn more about the program requirements. Applications are due by May 30, 2019.



SAMHSA releases series of "Tips for Teens" fact sheets

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has released new and updated "Tips for Teens" fact sheets. These resources are specifically designed for teens, addressing the risks, statistics, and myths about various substances that teens may use.

The two new fact sheets are:

- [Tips for Teens: Opioids](#) about the short- and long-term effects and the signs of opioid use.
- [Tips for Teens: E-Cigarettes](#) to get answers to questions on e-cigarette use teens might be hesitant to ask others.

The updated Tips for Teens fact sheets are:

- [Tips for Teens: Marijuana](#) fact sheet reflects new research about the effects of marijuana on brain and physical health. It also discusses the potential for long-term consequences of youth marijuana use, including mental health.
- [Tips for Teens: Tobacco](#) fact sheet reflects new research about the effect of tobacco on teen brains and bodies, including the impacts on lung functioning.
- [Tips for Teens: Steroids](#) fact sheet reflects new research about the effect of steroids on teen brains, bodies, and physical health.

HHS seeking nominations for Interdepartmental Substance Use Disorders Coordinating Committee members

Section 7022 of the [SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act of 2018](#) established an [Interdepartmental Substance Use Disorders Coordinating Committee](#) to coordinate federal activities related to substance use disorders. The Committee will be comprised of both federal and non-federal members who are substance use disorder experts. Earlier this week, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), in coordination with the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), announced that it is seeking nominations for non-federal committee members.

Non-Federal members will include:

- Individuals who have received treatment for a diagnosis of substance use disorder (SUD);
- Directors of State alcohol and drug agencies;
- Representatives of leading research, advocacy or service organizations for individuals with SUDs;
- Physicians, licensed mental health professionals, advance practice registered nurses, or physician assistants with experience in treating individuals with SUDs;
- SUD treatment professionals who provide treatment services at certified opioid treatment programs;
- SUD treatment professionals who have research or clinical experience in working with racial and ethnic minority populations;
- SUD disorder treatment professionals who has research or clinical mental

- health experience in working with medically underserved populations;
- State-certified SUD peer support specialist;
- Drug court judge or judge with experience in adjudicating cases related to SUD;
- Public safety officer with extensive experience in interacting with adults with a SUD; and
- Individuals with experience providing services for homeless individuals with a SUD.

Details on how to nominate someone to serve on the Committee can be found on the [Federal Register](#). Nominations are due by June 14, 2019.

DEA collects 465 tons of unused medications during recent drug take back day

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has [announced](#) that the April 2019 drug take back day removed 469 tons of unused medications from households throughout the country. The DEA partnered with 6,400 partner sites throughout the country for this take back day, which is a record number of partners in the event's history. DEA Acting Administrator, Uttam Dhillon, stated that, "The ever-increasing public support and continuously growing numbers of partners and collection sites are a true testament to the value of DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back program. Just as DEA and our law enforcement partners are committed to ending the opioid epidemic, our communities recognize that this is a pervasive and heartbreaking crisis. DEA Take Back Day gives every American a way to help by simply cleaning out their medicine cabinets." Since this biannual event started in fall of 2010, the DEA has collected a total of 11,816,393 pounds (nearly 6,000 tons) of medications.



The [next DEA Take Back Day](#) is scheduled for Saturday, October 26, 2019.

In the News

Stateline article covers growing methamphetamine- and cocaine-related deaths in the U.S.

Stateline recently published an article about increasing overdose deaths related to methamphetamine and cocaine. The article, "[As the Opioid Crisis Peaks, Meth and Cocaine Deaths Explode](#)," written by Chrstine Vestal, notes that 14,000 individuals who used cocaine and 10,000 individuals who used methamphetamine died in the U.S. in 2017, which is triple the number of deaths in 2012.

Similar to opioid overdose deaths, based on autopsy reports, cocaine- and methamphetamine-related deaths are being driven by fentanyl. According to the article, it is unclear whether drug dealers are intentionally lacing cocaine and methamphetamine with fentanyl, or whether those who used the either of those substances simultaneously used heroin that contained fentanyl.

Vestal writes that in response to these growing trends, "the National Emerging Threats Initiative administered by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), is working with communities in Ohio, Vermont, and Virginia to create a model drug surveillance system that can be used to design appropriate interdiction, prevention and treatment programs." Several other States have signed up to do the same.

