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Executive Director
Robert I. L. Morrison

October 14, 2021

The Honorable Ayanna Pressley 1108 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Pressley:

On behalf of the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD), thank you for working to address issues related to substance use disorders. We appreciate your efforts in Congress to educate the public about the stigma surrounding addiction and the benefits associated with prevention, treatment and recovery.

We are writing in support of the Post-Disaster Mental Health Recovery Act. As you know, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program (CCP) is made available to States and implemented by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). CCP funding supports community-based outreach, short-term counseling, and other services to survivors of disasters. Presently, CCP grants may only be made available to States and localities during a Major Disaster Declaration. The Post-Disaster Mental Health Recovery Act would allow CCP grants to be issued during all Emergency Disaster Declarations. This seemingly small change would have a big impact by helping expand the type of services funded by the CCP to more Americans experiencing challenges during a disaster.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue. Should you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert Morrison, Executive Director

NASADAD