

July 29, 2021



D.C. Update: CMS announces planning grants for mobile crisis intervention services, Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon sworn in as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, and more

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Meet the Member

Claudia Zundel, Prevention Coordinator for State of Colorado

Claudia A. Zundel, MSW serves as the Director of Community Prevention and Early Intervention for the Office of Behavioral Health within the Colorado Department of Human Services. Ms. Zundel has a 25+ year career at the Colorado Department of Human Services but is known for her innovation and acting as a catalyst to initiate new projects. She was the Principal Investigator for a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant; the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and their Families, commonly known as Systems of Care. She previously served as the Director of Child, Adolescent and Family Services at the Office of Behavioral Health, Cross System Project Manager, Director of Early Childhood Mental Health and Family Center Director. Early in her Colorado career she worked in Governor Romer's office in Communities for a Drug Free Colorado where she was introduced to substance use prevention.



Around the Agencies

Dr. Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon Sworn in as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use and Administrator of SAMHSA

On July 14th, Miriam E. Delphin-Rittman, Ph.D., was sworn in as the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health



and Substance Use and Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary, Xavier Becerra. As described in the press release, Dr. Delphin-Rittmon previously “served for six years as Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, where she promoted recovery-oriented, integrated and culturally-responsive services and systems that fostered dignity, respect and meaningful community inclusion.” HHS Secretary Becerra praised Dr. Delphin-

Rittmon’s work in a statement regarding her swearing-in. To see the full press release, click [here](#).

New SAMHSA Publication: “Learn the Law: How Does Your State Prevent Underage Drinking?”

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking (ICCPUD) recently released a new publication, “Learn the Law: How Does Your State Prevent Underage Drinking?” This publication includes 24 different policy summaries based on the annual *Report to Congress on the Prevention of Underage Drinking* and the *State Performances and Best Practices (SPBP) for the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking Report*. In addition to each policy summary, there is a link to the full legal policy summary which describes the policy, exceptions to the policy, the status of States regarding the policy, policy trends, and various maps, charts, and data sources. The publication is now available for download and can be accessed [here](#).



LEARN THE LAW:
PREVENTING AND REDUCING
UNDERAGE DRINKING
SERIES 1-24

THE INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ON THE PREVENTION OF UNDERAGE DRINKING



CMS Announces Availability of Planning Grants for Mobile Crisis Intervention Services

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), through its Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services (CMCS), announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for planning grants to States to implement community-based mobile crisis intervention services for Medicaid recipients with a mental health or substance use disorder (SUD). The grants were authorized in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), which was passed in March. Eligible applicants include State Medicaid agencies and the NOFO announcement notes that a total of \$15 million is available for grantees. Letters of intent were due July 23rd and applications are due August 13. For more information, click [here](#).

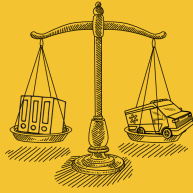
In the News

New LAC Report: “Hospitals Can Violate Federal Law by Denying Necessary Care for Substance Use Disorders in Emergency Departments”

The Legal Action Center (LAC) recently released a new report, [“Hospitals Can Violate Federal Law by Denying Necessary Care for Substance Use Disorders in Emergency Departments.”](#) that analyzes the legal obligations of hospitals to provide evidence-based and lifesaving care to emergency department (ED) patients with substance use disorders (SUD). The key finding of the report concludes that hospitals that fail to provide the required care for patients could face legal liability under four federal laws: the Emergency

EMERGENCY:

Hospitals are Violating Federal Law by Denying Required Care for Substance Use Disorders in Emergency Departments



Sika Yeboah-Sampong, Ellen Weber, Sally Friedman
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Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA); the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); the Rehabilitation Act (RA); and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act (Title VI). The report also notes that Black, Latinx, and Indigenous communities are disproportionately affected by an emergency department's failure to provide evidence-based practices.

Webinars to Watch

CMS National Webinar on State Medicaid Learning Collaborative

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will be presenting a webinar on "Lessons Learned from the Advancing Housing-Related Supports for Individuals with Substance Use Disorders State Medicaid Learning Collaborative." This opportunity is pursuant to section 1018 of the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities (SUPPORT) Act which authorized the Secretary of Health and Human Services to "provide technical assistance and support to States regarding the development and expansion of innovative state strategies to provide Housing-Related Supports and Services and care coordination services under Medicaid to individuals with substance use disorders." The webinar will focus on key activities and lessons learned from States that are working to develop and expand innovative strategies to provide housing-related supports for Medicaid beneficiaries with substance use disorders (SUD). The webinar will take place on August 19th from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. ET. To register for this event click [here](#) or for more information or questions contact MedicaidHousingTA@mathematica-mpr.com.



SAMHSA GAINS Center Webinar: Supporting Women's Reentry

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's \(SAMHSA\) GAINS Center](#) will be presenting an upcoming webinar, "Supporting

Women's Reentry: Understanding and Addressing the Needs of Women Reentering the Community." The webinar will discuss common challenges and barriers to reentry experienced by women. Presenters will also focus on key program elements to support gender-specific reentry programming for women. The webinar will take place on August 25th from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. ET. To register for this event, click [here](#).

SAMHSA GAINS Center Webinar: Mitigating Behavioral Health Disparities

The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's \(SAMHSA\) GAINS Center](#) will be presenting an upcoming webinar, "Mitigating Behavioral Health Disparities: Using Culturally Relevant Approaches to Support Justice-Involved Native American People." The webinar will discuss considerations and recommendations for developing culturally relevant programming for tribal members who are justice involved. This webinar will take place on September 2nd from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. ET. To register for this event, click [here](#).