



D.C. Update: Biden-Harris Administration releases proposed budget for FY2022, CDC launches drug overdose website in Spanish, and more



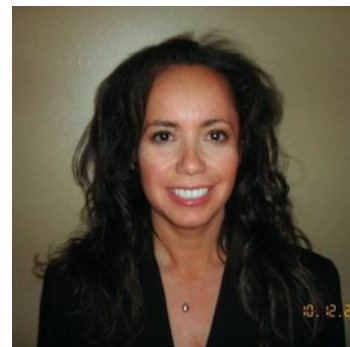
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### Meet the Member

#### Becky King, Women's Services Coordinator for State of Utah

Becky King, LCSW, has worked in the field of substance use disorders (SUD) and mental health for the past 27 years. She is currently the Program Administrator for the Utah State Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, providing oversight for statewide women, youth and family programs since 2007. Ms. King began her career at Valley Mental Health in 1994, where she worked as a case manager and as a therapist providing mental health and SUD treatment to individuals with serious and persistent mental illnesses. She then worked for the Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Services as a Drug Court Therapist, Felony and Misdemeanor Drug Court Case Management Supervisor, and as the Clinical Director. In this role, Ms. King provided oversight for the SUD treatment program and supervised a team of fifteen licensed therapists, social work students, and interns. She has been a Licensed Clinical Social Worker since 1999. Ms. King has a Bachelor of Music from Brigham Young University (1991); an Associate of Science in Ethnic Minority Health and Human Services (1994); and a Masters of Social Work from the University of Utah (1997).



## Biden-Harris Administration releases proposed budget for FY2022

Last week, the Biden-Harris Administration released their proposed budget for FY 2022 (Oct. 1, 2021-Sept. 30, 2022). The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), which includes several priority programs for the Association, released their [Congressional Budget Justification](#) which offers proposed funding levels for each of its programs, including:

- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant: \$3,508,079,000 (+\$1.65 billion compared to \$1.858 billion in FY 2021 regular appropriation)
    - Proposes adding a new 10% recovery support services set-aside in the SAPT Block Grant
  - State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant: \$2.25 billion (+\$750 million compared to \$1.5B in FY 2021)
  - Center for Substance Abuse Treatment: \$650 million (+\$154 million compared to FY 2021)
  - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention: \$217 million (+\$8 million compared to FY 2021)
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## Around the Agencies



### DOJ accepting applications for Second Chance Act programs

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is now accepting applications for two programs funded by the Second Chance Act, passed in 2008. The first program, [Adult Reentry Education, Employment,](#)

[Treatment, and Recovery Program](#) provides funding to develop a strategic plan for integrating correctional and employment programming and/or establishing, expanding, and improving treatment for people with substance use disorders (SUD) while incarcerated and during reentry to communities. The anticipated total award amount is \$24.3 million to approximately 27 grantees. The second program, [Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative](#), provides funding for State, local, and tribal governments to enhance or implement contracts with reentry, permanent supportive housing, or recovery housing providers to reduce recidivism and address SUD impacting formerly incarcerated individuals. The anticipated total amount to be awarded is \$6.6 million to approximately 6 grantees. Applications for both grants are due July 6, 2021.

### CDC launches drug overdose website in Spanish



Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades  
CDC 24/7: Salvamos vidas. Protegemos a la gente™

The Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC) recently launched their [drug overdose website](#) in Spanish. The launch of the website was in response to the substantial increases in opioid misuse and overdose deaths observed among racial and ethnic minority groups including Hispanic/Latino persons. For example, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), the opioid misuse rate among Hispanic/Latino persons is about 4%, which is similar to the national rate. The website includes basic information about the opioid overdose epidemic such as commonly used terms and frequently asked questions. It also includes resources for prevention as well as patient information including fact sheets, posters, infographics, and conversation starters.

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## Study examines use of emergency authorities to prescribe buprenorphine during COVID-19

A new [study](#) analyzed the use of emergency authorities to prescribe buprenorphine during the COVID-19 pandemic. Authors of the study, Christopher M. Jones, Mamadou M. Diallo, Meena Vythilingam, Joshua G. Shier, Matthew Eisenstat, and Wilson M. Compton, conducted an electronic survey of DATA-waivered clinicians in order to determine how clinicians with a DATA waiver to prescribe buprenorphine for opioid use disorder (OUD) adapted during the COVID-19 pandemic to emergency authorities, including the use of telehealth to prescribe buprenorphine. Researchers found that, among the 72% of clinicians who reported past 12-month buprenorphine prescribing, 33% reported remote prescribing to new patients without an in-person examination. As described in the study, the strongest predictors of remote buprenorphine prescribing to new patients were prescribing the medication to larger numbers of patients in an average month in the past year, closure of the practice setting during the pandemic, and previous experience with remote prescribing to established patients prior to COVID-19. The study suggests that permanent adoption of emergency authorities used during the pandemic may enable expanded access to buprenorphine.



## New study reveals disparities in alcohol testing among individuals who die violently

Members of the [Council for State and Territorial Epidemiologists \(CSTE\)](#) Alcohol Subcommittee and the [CDC Alcohol Program](#) conducted a [study](#) on

alcohol testing and involvement in violent deaths. As described in the study, approximately 2 in 5 people who died violently (e.g., homicide or suicide) had unknown or missing information on alcohol testing. The study also found that among people who died violently with a reported blood alcohol concentration level (BAC), 41.1% had a positive BAC and 27.7% had a BAC > 0.08 g/dL. The authors used data from States that participated in the National Violent Death Reporting System from 2014-2016 and found a variation in alcohol testing rates by State. The study suggests that increased alcohol testing among violent deaths could help better inform the development and use of evidenced-based prevention strategies.