

September 2, 2021



D.C. Update: NASADAD releases updated SAPT Block Grant Prevention Set-Aside fact sheet, White House releases proclamation naming September "Recovery Month", and more

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Meet the Member

DeAnn Decker, State Director for the State of Iowa

DeAnn Decker has served as Bureau Chief of Substance Abuse for the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) for almost 15 years. Her Bureau is made up of approximately 24 staff that specialize in problem gambling and substance use disorder (SUD) prevention and treatment. The Bureau also houses the suicide prevention work for the State of Iowa. Prior to coming to the Department of Public Health, Ms. Decker worked as a substance use disorder clinical reviewer for Magellan Behavioral Health for 11 years. Magellan had been the State's managed care company for mental health and substance use disorder services from 1995- 2016. Ms. Decker received her bachelor's degree in Family Services from the University of Northern Iowa. She is also a Certified International Alcohol and Drug Counselor.



News from NASADAD

NASADAD releases updated SAPT Block Grant Prevention Set-Aside fact sheet

NASADAD is pleased to announce the release of an updated fact sheet on the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant prevention set-aside administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The updated fact sheet includes the following:

- An overview of the prevention set-aside
- Data on substance use, including increases in use during the COVID-19

pandemic

- New section on the value of prevention efforts
- How prevention set-aside funds are used
- Targeted prevention efforts
- Prevention success stories
- Recent investments in the SAPT Block Grant prevention set-aside in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Description of the role of the State Alcohol & Drug Agency

To view the fact sheet, click [here](#).

Robert Morrison quoted in National Journal article

Robert Morrison, Executive Director at NASADAD, was recently quoted in a [news article](#) published by the National Journal. The article discusses challenges related to workforce shortages in the substance use disorder (SUD) system. When asked about these issues, Mr. Morrison stated, "An ever-present problem, even before the pandemic, now exacerbated by the pandemic, is the challenge related to the workforce...Having the resources to help make sure you have the people to do the work. We've struggled there across the continuum – prevention, treatment, recovery. It's been a challenge for a long time." Mr. Morrison also highlighted efforts on Capitol Hill to address workforce issues, including the [Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act \(CARA\) 3.0](#) introduced in March. The legislation, introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R-OH), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH), would create a pilot program to help State alcohol and drug agencies support staff focused on substance use prevention. Please note that you may be required to login in order to view the National Journal article.

Recovery Month Reminders



White House releases proclamation naming September "Recovery Month"

The White House recently released a [proclamation](#) naming September as Recovery Month. As described in the proclamation, this year's theme is "Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family,

Every Community," and emphasizes that recovery is possible for all Americans. The proclamation highlights the Administration's efforts to promote recovery including the expansion of employment opportunities for people in recovery through recovery-ready workplace policies and cultures; a government-wide approach to advancing equity in both the public health and criminal justice systems; and nearly \$4 billion allocated through the American Rescue Plan to strengthen and expand mental health and substance use disorder services.

In addition to the White House proclamation, Faces and Voices of Recovery (FAVOR) announced this year's Recovery Month Kick-Off Event which will be held on September 9th. The virtual event will host a collection of diverse voices celebrating this year's Recovery Month, including Dr. Haner Hernandez and Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon. Registration for the event can be accessed [here](#).



Around the Agencies

New funding opportunity for the Partnership for Disaster Health Response

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) announced a new [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for the Partnership for Disaster Health Response program. The program aims to improve the clinical specialty and medical surge

capabilities necessary through the establishment of a Regional Disaster Health Response System (RDHRS). As described in the announcement, the NOFO seeks to fund one new RDHRS demonstration site that will build upon lessons learned from the three active demonstration sites established in 2018 and 2020. The focus will be on building and maturing partnerships that are required to prepare for and respond to patients in disasters, coordinate patient and resource movement to support the response, and the swift involvement of specific clinical specialists. Applications are due on September 20, 2021.



CDC releases article on youth e-cigarette use

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently released a new [feature article](#) examining the issue of youth e-cigarette use. The article includes updated data on youth and young adult use of e-cigarettes and background on the addictive nature of nicotine. The article also provides information for parents, teachers, counselors, and coaches regarding warning signs of nicotine use and how to identify e-cigarette devices. In addition, the article encourages individuals who interact with youth to talk about the short- and long-term risks associated with e-cigarette use. Finally, the CDC

provides additional information, including fact sheets and free downloadable resources.

HRSA awards over \$19 million to expand telehealth in rural and underserved communities

On August 16th, the Biden-Harris Administration announced investments totaling \$19 million for telehealth services in rural and underserved communities. The [investments](#) are being distributed to 36 award recipients through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Telehealth Technology-Enabled Learning Program (TTELP) will provide \$4.28 million in funding to nine health organizations to provide training and support for primary care providers in rural and underserved areas that are treating patients with health issues, including substance use disorders (SUD). The Evidence-Based Direct to Consumer Telehealth Network Program (EB TNP) will provide approximately \$3.85 million to expand access to telehealth services in primary care, acute care, and substance use disorder and mental health settings.

Webinars to Watch

New module from CoE-PHI on federal privacy regulations for SUD care

The Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) announced a new

[eLearning Module](#) titled "Federal Privacy Regulations When Providing SUD and Mental Health Services." As described in the announcement, the module is designed to introduce participants to the federal privacy laws that protect substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health information. This includes the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA), the SUD privacy law (42 CFR Part 2), and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The module can be used to support new-employee orientation processes and annual staff competency trainings, and offers an option to receive a course certificate.

