

September 9, 2021



D.C. Update: NASADAD releases new Pregnant and Postpartum Women fact sheet, NIH finds marijuana use at historic highs among college-aged adults, and more

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Meet the Member

Marc Condojani, Treatment Coordinator for State of Colorado

Marc Condojani is a licensed clinical social worker and a senior certified addictions specialist in Colorado. He has been working in the mental health and substance use disorder field for 29 years, during which time he has held a variety of positions including clinician, manager, educator, and administrator. Mr. Condojani is currently the Director of Adult Treatment and Recovery for the Division of Community Behavioral Health, Office of Behavioral Health within the Colorado Department of Human Services. His team contracts for mental health and addiction services in Colorado, with oversight responsibilities for the treatment and recovery services funded by the SAMHSA Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) and Mental Health block grants, numerous discretionary grants, and State general and cash funds. He has served on a number of Colorado interagency committees, including as Vice Chair for Treatment of the Substance Abuse Trend and Response Task Force that is chaired by the State Attorney General. He represented Colorado as Vice President of the National Treatment Network (NTN) from 2018-2019.



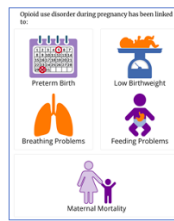
News from NASADAD

NASADAD releases new Pregnant and Postpartum Women fact sheet
NASADAD is pleased to

Comprehensive Substance Use Disorder Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women: A Closer Look at SAMHSA's

Pregnant and Postpartum Women Program

Includes an overview of recent actions taken by Congress and current legislative proposals.



announce the release of a new fact sheet, [Comprehensive Substance Use Disorder Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women: A Closer Look at SAMHSA's Pregnant and Postpartum Women Program](#). The fact sheet provides

data on substance use among pregnant women, an overview of neonatal abstinence syndrome and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, the impact of adverse experiences in childhood, and the importance of family-based approaches to treatment.

In addition to background on substance use in pregnant and postpartum women and the effects on children, the fact sheet provides an overview of the Pregnant and Postpartum Women (PPW) Residential Services Program administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) beginning in 1993. Investments in the program over the past six years, required activities in the grant program, and positive outcomes such as reductions in substance use and increased family preservation/permanency are also included in the fact sheet.

In 2016, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) authorized a pilot program for State alcohol and drug agencies within SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). The State Pilot Grant Program for Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women aims to enhance flexibility in the use of funds to support family-based services in nonresidential-based settings. The fact sheet provides an overview of the program, required activities, and details on the four cohorts of PPW Pilot awardees.

Finally, the fact sheet provides an overview of ongoing efforts in Congress to promote services for PPW, including the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) 3.0 (S.987), introduced in March 2021. Section 202 of the bill aims to *improve treatment for pregnant, postpartum, and parenting women*, re-authorizing the PPW grant program within SAMHSA and giving preference to certain types of PPW grant applicants.

Around the Agencies

[NIH finds marijuana use at historic highs among college-aged adults](#)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced in a [press release](#) that marijuana use has continued to rise among college students over the past five years and has remained at high levels among same-aged peers who are not in college. The data was acquired from the 2020 Monitoring the Future (MTF) survey and represents the highest levels of marijuana use recorded since the 1980's. Among college students, 44% reported using marijuana in the past year in 2020, compared to 38% in 2015. For young adults not in college, annual marijuana use in 2020 remained at 43%. In addition to marijuana, the survey found a significant increase in the annual use of hallucinogens and a significant drop in current alcohol use between 2019 and 2020.

[CDC study examines mental health and substance use among adults with disabilities during COVID-19](#)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

A [study](#) recently published in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR) examined mental health and substance use among adults with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study found that, during February and March of 2021, 64.1% of surveyed adults with disabilities reported adverse mental health symptoms or substance use. Results of the survey also indicated that past-month substance use was higher among adults with disabilities compared to adults without disabilities (40.6% versus 24.5%, respectively). In addition, adults with disabilities and a diagnosis of a mental

health or substance use disorder (SUD) more frequently reported difficulty accessing care and medications.

[HRSA extends application deadline for healthcare workforce resiliency grants](#)

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced a deadline extension for several grant opportunities addressing resiliency among the healthcare workforce. HRSA is now accepting applications through September 20th for the [Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training Program](#), [Promoting Resilience and Mental Health Among Health Professional Workforce](#), and [Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Technical Assistance Center](#). The first program will provide approximately \$68 million for 30 grants and State or local governments are included as eligible applicants. The second program provides approximately \$29 million for 10 grants and entities providing health care are eligible to apply. The third program will provide approximately \$6 million for one grant and State or local governments are included as eligible applicants.

News from the States



[Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association launches naloxone initiative with support from OhioMHAS](#)

The Ohio Hotel & Lodging Association (OHLA), in partnership with the State's RecoveryOhio initiative and other local agencies, [launched](#) an awareness campaign aimed at getting as many hotels as possible to keep a supply of naloxone on

site and to train hotel staff in the administration of naloxone. Hotels, with support from the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS), will be able to obtain naloxone at no cost and will be encouraged to install a "NaloxBox" to keep the medicine secure and easily accessible. The NASADAD Member for the State of Ohio is Lori Criss, Director of OhioMHAS and Vice President for Internal Affairs on the NASADAD Board of Directors.
