

April 21, 2022



D.C. Update: National Drug Control Strategy Released, April is Alcohol Awareness Month, RSAT Funding Available, and More

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Meet the Member

Shelly Nolan, Director of Women's Services for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)

Shelly Nolan, MS, LPC, is the Director of Women's Services for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). She oversees the women's specific continuum of care throughout the State including services targeted for pregnant and parenting women. She partners with other State agencies, the healthcare system and community partners to work through barriers specific to this unique demographic while implementing new initiatives and collaborative efforts to overcome challenges. She provides direct on-site evaluation and support to ensure contract compliance, strength of clinical service delivery, and implementation of evidence-based practices with a focus on risk reduction strategies. She oversees the execution of several Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA) grant projects targeted at addressing the specific needs of women and families, LGBTQ+ individuals, and integration of peer support services.

Prior to coming to DMHAS, Shelly has held a variety of direct service and leadership roles within the substance use disorder and mental health system. She



NASADAD News

Farewell to Emily Diehl

Join us in saying goodbye and good luck to NASADAD Public Policy Analyst, Emily Diehl on April 29th. Emily joined NASADAD in January 2019 as an intern while finishing her degree from Georgetown University. Emily's background as a licensed and certified addiction counselor brought a unique angle to her work. NASADAD hired Emily in May of 2019 and in June 2021, she was promoted to Public Policy Analyst. During her time at NASADAD, her work included direct oversight for NASADAD's appropriations work, representing NASADAD before the Hill, federal agencies, and coalitions. Emily also provided leadership on workforce issues and recovery support services – with a particular focus on recovery housing. Amidst all this work, she also enrolled as a part-time student at American University Washington College of Law. Emily will be headed to the National Council for Mental Wellbeing where she will continue working on federal public policy issues.

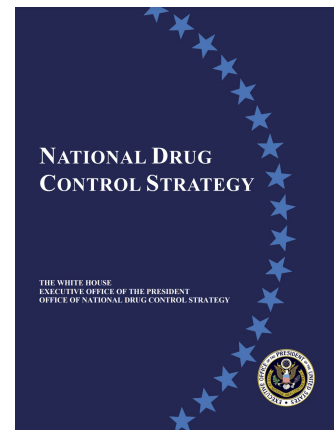


White House News

ONDCP releases the 2022 National Drug Control Strategy

Today, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) released the [2022 National Drug Control Strategy](#). The priorities identified include:

- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Harm Reduction
 - “Focus area: Expanding access to naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal medication, which could save tens of thousands of lives in a short period of time.”
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
 - “Focus area: Expanding access to high-quality treatment, including medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), to prevent overdoses and put recovery within reach.”
- Building a Recovery-Ready Nation
- Reduce the Supply of Illicit Substances through Domestic Collaboration
- Reduce the Supply of Illicit Substances through International Engagement
 - “Focus area: Disrupting illicit finance networks to commercially disrupt drug trafficking operations and prevent illicit substance from reaching communities in the United States.”
- Criminal Justice and Public Safety
- Data and Research
 - “Focus area: Improving data collection, particularly for non-fatal overdoses, to obtain a full picture of overdoses in America and identify people who need substance use treatment.”



To learn more, the 2022 National Drug Control Strategy is available [here](#) and the Fact Sheet is available [here](#).

Around the Agencies

HHS Awards Nearly \$105 Million to States and Territories to Strengthen Crisis Call Center

Services in Advance of July Transition to 988

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), [is awarding nearly \\$105 million in grant funding to 54 States and territories](#) in advance of the transition from the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to the 988 three-digit dialing code in July. States and territories are expected to use the funds to improve response rates, increase capacity to meet future demand, and ensure calls initiated in their States or territories are first routed to local, regional, or State crisis call centers. [Award recipients](#) may also use the funds to build the workforce necessary for enhancing local text and chat response. To learn more, see the [press release](#).



SAMHSA: How to Develop a Competitive Grant Application

The Office of Financial Resources at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will be conducting a webinar on how to develop a competitive grant application. The webinar will be offered on May 3, 2022 at 2 pm (ET). The webinar will address:

- The three registration processes that need to be completed;
- Preparing to apply for a grant;
- Key components of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO);
- Responding effectively to the evaluation criteria;
- Resources and technical assistance that are available.

Information on how to access the webinar can be found on the [Training Events](#) webpage. There is no need to pre-register. If you would like to receive the slides prior to the webinar, send an email to: GPOtraining@samhsa.hhs.gov



FDA Considers New Approach to Improve Safe Disposal of Prescription Opioid Analgesics

On April 20, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [announced](#) they are seeking public comment on a potential change that would require opioid analgesics used in outpatient settings to be dispensed with prepaid mail-back envelopes and that pharmacists provide patient education on safe disposal of opioids. This potential modification to the existing Opioid Analgesic Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy would provide a convenient, additional disposal option for patients beyond those already available such as flushing, commercially available in-home disposal products, collection kiosks, and takeback events. The FDA is accepting [public comments](#) from interested parties, including patients, patient advocates, health care professionals, academics, researchers, the pharmaceutical industry, and other government entities until June 21, 2022.

HHS Celebrates Minority Health Month

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Minority Health (OMH) recognizes April as [National Minority Health Month](#). The theme for this year's National Minority Health Month is "Give Your Community a Boost!" The theme focuses on the continued importance of COVID-19 vaccination, including boosters, as one of the strongest tools to protect communities from COVID-19, which has disproportionately affected communities of color. Give Your Community a Boost! also supports the many other efforts happening in communities across the country to advance health equity.



Give Your Community A Boost! | April 2022

COSSAP: Addressing the Opioid Crisis

Through Public Health and Safety Partnerships: A Spotlight on Three Initiatives



The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) leadership in collaboration with the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) team, and the Center for Health and Justice at Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) is hosting a webinar on [Addressing the Opioid Crisis Through Public Health and Safety Partnerships: A Spotlight on Three Initiatives](#). This webinar is on April 28, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., ET. and will highlight three initiatives that demonstrate multidisciplinary collaboration among health and safety professionals to address the opioid crisis. Speakers include:

- Mallory O'Brien, M.S., Ph.D., Senior Policy Advisor, BJA COSSAP, Consultant, IPA, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Sarisa Roe, Evaluation Specialist, CDC Foundation
- Melissa Heinen, R.N., MPH, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Intergovernmental Research
- Hope Fiori, TASC's Center for Health and Justice

Spotlight: April as Alcohol Awareness Month

In honor of April as Alcohol Awareness Month, we're sharing resources on alcohol use and related disorders.

- [NIAA Alcohol Treatment Navigator](#) – The Navigator helps adults find alcohol treatment for themselves or an adult loved one. Unlike many other resources you may find online, the *Navigator* has no commercial sponsors. Instead, it is produced by the leading U.S. agency for scientific research on alcohol and health, the [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism \(NIAAA\)](#).
- [Interagency Coordinating Committee on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders \(ICCFASD\)](#) – The mission of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (ICCFASD) is to enhance and increase communication, cooperation, collaboration, and partnerships among disciplines and federal agencies to address health, education, developmental disabilities, alcohol research, health and social services, and justice issues that are relevant to disorders caused by prenatal alcohol exposure. ICCFASD is sponsored and chaired by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)