

March 30, 2023



D.C. Update: FDA Approves First Ever Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray, New SAMHSA Funding Opportunities, NIDA & NIAAA Request for Information, and More.

[Visit our Website](#)



Meet the Member

Brooke Whitfield, WSC for Alabama, Mental Health Specialist at ADMH, LPC, NCC

Brooke Whitfield has worked in the field of behavioral health for over fifteen years. She has experience in working with individuals with substance use disorders (SUD), serious mental health conditions, developmental disabilities, and co-occurring disorders (COD). She has provided direct service to various age groups in different community settings including residential treatment settings, outpatient treatment settings, institutional settings, and in-home settings. She has provided group counseling, individual counseling, family counseling, crisis counseling, case management services, and assessment services throughout her career. Brooke also served as the expert witness for probate court within the probate court systems for multiple years providing testimony about mental health conditions and symptoms. She has worked as a Mental Health Specialist for the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH) for over six years in both subdivisions of mental illness and substance abuse treatment services. She also currently serves as the Women's Services Coordinator (WSC) for the State of Alabama.



Brooke obtained her Master of Arts (MA) Degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) in 2015 in community mental health counseling. She is a licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in Alabama, and she is a nationally certified counselor (NCC) through the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC).

Brooke is currently pregnant with her first child, due in March 2023.

All States Public Policy Call: the President's FY 2024 Budget

Thank you to everyone who joined us on March 29th for the All States Public Policy call on the President's FY 2024 Budget. The chart for the President's proposed budget for FY 2024 can be found on the NASADAD website [here](#).

Updated Training Guidance From SAMHSA/DEA From Mate Act

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through its Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), released updated training guidance for prescribers of medication to treat substance misuse, which can be found [here, on SAMHSA's website](#). In addition, DEA registrants received a Dear Registrant letter from the DEA which can be found [on DEA's website, here](#).

Section 1263, commonly known as the Medication Access and Training Expansion or MATE Act, was included in the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328). The act includes a provision requiring that DEA registrants, at the time of renewing or applying for registration, must attest to receiving at least 8 hours of education on substance use disorders (SUDs).

The 8 required hours of training can occur through classroom situations, seminars at professional society meetings, virtual platforms, or via other accredited continuing education sources. Practitioners who previously took training to meet the requirements of the DATA-2000 waiver to prescribe buprenorphine can count this training towards the 8-hour training requirement. Additionally, the 8 hours do not have to be completed in one session and can be satisfied through cumulative CME hours, as long as the training is provided by or approved by specified organizations.

Capitol Hill Happenings

SUPTRS Block Grant Letter Sent to House Appropriations Committee Leadership

On March 22, [a letter](#) from 82 Members of Congress was sent to the leadership of the House Appropriations Committee seeking robust investments in FY 2024 for the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services (SUPTRS) Block Grant. The letter was led by Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). The letter highlights the magnitude of the drug overdose crisis and promotes the benefits of Block Grant dollars to support States' prevention, treatment, and recovery systems.

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA Issues Alert for Providers and Grantees About the Rise of Xylazine

This week, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a [Dear Colleague letter](#) to providers and grantees about the risks of xylazine. According to the press release, "SAMHSA's goal with this alert is to provide information about the consequences of xylazine exposure, what practitioners can do to mitigate harm, and how SAMHSA is responding to this emerging public health challenge. SAMHSA thanks grantees and providers for their vital role in carrying out this life-saving work."

FDA Approves First Ever Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray

Earlier this week, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first Naloxone nasal spray, Narcan, 4 milligrams, for non-prescription, over-the-counter (OTC) use. This approval allows the life-saving



medication that reverses opioid overdose to be sold directly to consumers, with the goal of saturating it into use in everyday life. The approval was applauded by Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), who stated in a [press release](#), “FDA’s announcement to make Narcan available over-the-counter is an important step to make this medicine accessible to more people at a time when the majority of overdose deaths are being driven by illicit opioids like fentanyl. This move will also build on the progress made under the Biden-Harris Administration to get more Naloxone into communities, expand access to treatment for substance use disorder, and reduce the supply of illicit drugs, which has resulted in a decline or flattening of overdose deaths for seven months in a row.” The timeline for availability and price of this product will be determined over time and the FDA has announced it will work with all stakeholders to help facilitate the supply of Narcan.

To read the FDA’s press release announcing the approval of OTC Naloxone nasal spray, visit their website [here](#).

New SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced a \$1.25 million funding opportunity for the [Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery](#). This program aims “to establish and/or maintain a national center of excellence with specialized subject matter expertise in commercial tobacco use cessation among persons with mental health or substance use disorders. The award recipient will be expected to create results-oriented collaborations among stakeholder organizations and educate/train behavioral health providers. With this program, SAMHSA aims to reduce the high rate of tobacco use among individuals with mental health or substance use disorders.” This program will provide one award of up to \$1.25 million per year for up to five years. Applications are due May 16th, 2023.

New SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced a \$29.42 million funding opportunity for [Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care](#). This program is designed to:

1. “promote full integration and collaboration in clinical practice between behavioral healthcare and primary physical healthcare, including for special populations;
2. support the improvement of integrated care models for behavioral healthcare and primary/physical healthcare to improve the overall wellness and physical health status of adults with a serious mental illness; adults who have co-occurring mental illness and physical health conditions or chronic disease; children and adolescents with a serious emotional disturbance who have a co-occurring physical health condition or chronic disease; individuals with a substance use disorder; or individuals with co-occurring mental and substance use disorder; and
3. promote the implementation and improvement of bidirectional integrated care services, including evidence-based or evidence-informed screening, assessment, diagnosis, prevention, treatment, and recovery services for mental and substance use disorders, and co-occurring physical health conditions and chronic diseases.”

This program will offer 14 awards of up to \$2 million per year for up to five years. Applications are due May 22nd, 2023.

New SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Improvement and Advancement Grant



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced a \$61.8 million funding opportunity for the [Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Improvement and Advancement Grant](#). This program aims to transform community mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) systems to provide comprehensive,

coordinated health care by:

1. “enhancing and improving CCBHCs that meet the CCBHC Certification Criteria;
2. providing a comprehensive range of outreach, screening, assessment, treatment, care coordination, and recovery supports based on a needs assessment with fidelity to the CCBHC Certification Criteria; and
3. supporting recovery from mental illness and/or substance use disorders by providing access to high-quality mental health and substance use services, regardless of an individual’s ability to pay.”

This program will offer 62 awards of up to \$1 million each per year for up to four years. Applications are due May 22, 2023.

New SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Cooperative Agreement for the Hispanic/Latino Behavioral Health Center of Excellence

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced a \$1.125 million funding opportunity for the [Cooperative Agreement for the Hispanic/Latino Behavioral Health Center of Excellence](#). This program seeks to:

1. “develop and disseminate culturally informed, evidence-based behavioral health information);
2. provide training and technical assistance (TTA) on evidence-based and best practices in mental health promotion, prevention, and treatment and recovery from mental health and substance use disorders (SUD); and
3. expand the behavioral health workforce for Hispanic and Latino communities.”

This program will provide one award of up to \$1.125 million per year for up to five years. Applications are due May 23rd, 2023.

New SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: American Indian and Alaska Native Behavioral Health Center of Excellence

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced a \$1.5 million funding opportunity for the [American Indian and Alaska Native Behavioral Health Center of Excellence](#). This program aims to:

1. “develop and disseminate culturally-informed, evidence-based behavioral health information and
2. provide technical assistance and training on issues related to addressing behavioral health disparities in AIAN communities. AIANs have consistently experienced disparities in access to healthcare services, funding, and resources; quality and quantity of services; treatment outcomes; and health education and prevention services.”

This program will provide one award of up to \$1.5 million per year for up to five years. Applications are due May 26, 2023.

NIDA & NIAAA Request for Information: Preaddiction

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) jointly issued a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) “... to invite input on the use of the term ‘preaddiction’ for identifying and intervening in potentially clinically significant substance misuse and/or early-stage substance use disorder within healthcare settings.” This RFI seeks input from “people with lived experience of substance use, medical and scientific research communities, and other interested parties.” Responses must be received by April 27, 2023. Additional information on the RFI and how to submit a response can be found [here](#).



SAMHSA Requesting Public Comment on Draft Model National Peer Specialist Standards

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is seeking [Public Comments for SAMHSA's National Model Standards for Peer Support Certification](#). SAMHSA's [National Model Standards for Peer Support Certification](#) were developed in collaboration with federal, State, and local partners with the goal of advancing "... peer specialist efforts in serving people experiencing mental health and/or substance use conditions and their families by improving the quality and consistency of state certification approaches across states." The deadline for submitting comments is April 10 at 5:00 PM (ET).

SAMHSA Releases Recommendations for Curricular Elements in Substance Use Disorder Training

The Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act, included in the 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act, includes a provision that Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registrants, at the time of renewing or applying for registration to prescribe controlled medications, must attest to receiving at least eight hours of education on substance use disorders (SUDs). Practitioners who previously took training to meet the requirements of the DATA-2000 waiver to prescribe buprenorphine can count this training towards the 8-hour training requirement. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) also [released recommendations on this training](#), including the integration of evidence-based practices and a focus on prevention, recognition, and care of people with SUDs. Further recommendations for Curricular Elements in Substance Use Disorders Training can be found on SAMHSA's website, [here](#).

Research Round-Up

New NIH Study Reveals Shared Genetic Markers Commonly Inherited Across Substance Use Disorders



A recent [study](#) conducted by researchers at Washington University with support from the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), identified shared genetic markers commonly inherited across substance use disorders (SUD), regardless of the substance being used. The study also found that the combination of genes underlying SUDs was also associated with the regulation of dopamine signaling. The researchers hope these results may help uncover new treatment targets across several SUDs, including for people diagnosed with multiple SUDs. NIH's press release announcing the study's findings can be found [here](#).

NASADAD | 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite M 250, Washington, DC 20006

[Unsubscribe ladams@nasadad.org](mailto:ladams@nasadad.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by ladams@nasadad.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!