

April 18, 2024



**D.C. Update: NASADAD Releases Chart on Administration's Proposed FY 2025 Budget, HHS Announces Framework to Support Smoking Cessation, New CoE-PHI Webinar on 42 CFR Part 2 Final Rule, and More.**

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## Meet The Member

### **Marisa Marino Beard, MA, LAC, National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Louisiana**

Marisa Marino Beard, MA, LAC, is the Director of Addiction Enhancements and Accountability for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) - Office of Behavioral Health (OBH). She also serves as the National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Louisiana.

Marisa has been involved in the field of Addiction for over 20 years. She has managed multiple State level initiatives addressing substance use, gambling, and tobacco. Her past experience includes grants management for OBH, providing direct care substance use services at an Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), project management with one of Louisiana's Managed Care Organizations, and program management with the Louisiana Office of Public Health. In her current role, Marisa is responsible for the planning, implementation and execution of effective programs and initiatives addressing the treatment of substance use and related disorders (i.e., gambling).



Marisa received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, her Master's Degree in Psychology from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana, and is a Licensed Addictions Counselor (LAC).

The NASADAD National Prevention Network (NPN) Conference highlights the latest research in the substance use prevention field. It provides a forum for prevention professionals, coalition leaders, researchers, and federal partners to share research, best practices and promising evaluation results for the purpose of integrating research into prevention practice.

The NPN Conference will take place August 13-15 in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Arizona Grand Resort. This year's theme is: *Shining a Light on Prevention: Connecting Research, Practice, Innovation, and Equity*.

Register for the conference here: <https://nnpconference.org/registration/>.

## NASADAD Develops Resource Document on Administration's Proposed FY 2025 Budget

On March 11, President Biden released the Administration's overall budget for fiscal year (FY) 2025 (October 1, 2024- September 30, 2025). NASADAD has developed a chart that outlines the proposed funding levels for NASADAD's priority programs within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Justice (DOJ), and Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).



The resource document can be found on NASADAD's webpage, [here](#).

## Around the Agencies

### HRSA Funding Opportunity: Supporting Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Screening and Intervention

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently announced a new funding opportunity for [Supporting Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Screening and Intervention](#). This program aims to both reduce alcohol use during pregnancy and improve outcomes for children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD). The program focuses on communities with higher rates of binge drinking during pregnancy, including rural areas and medically underserved communities. Specifically, the program provides education to primary care providers on the use of screening, intervention, and referral processes for high-risk pregnancies. The program's goals include:

- “Increase primary care providers’ knowledge of the risks of drinking alcohol during pregnancy
- Promote recommended screening, interventions, and referral approaches; and
- Develop skills to identify and manage FASD, with an emphasis on fostering effective communication with families”

HRSA will provide 1 award of up to \$950,000 for a 1 year project. Applications are due June 21, 2024.

Additional information on eligibility and how to apply can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) for the *Supporting Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Screening and Intervention* program under “Related Documents,” [here](#).

## SAMHSA Virtual Discussion: SAMHSA's Quarterly Recovery Exchange Meeting



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Office of Recovery (OR) is hosting a virtual discussion on [SAMHSA's Quarterly Recovery Exchange Meeting](#). This no-cost virtual discussion is on April 29, at 1:00 pm ET. The virtual discussion is led by SAMHSA's OR and aims to bring together recovery stakeholders for a dialogue on the training and technical assistance capacity of the new SAMHSA Program to Advance Recovery Knowledge (SPARK). SAMHSA's OR will also highlight upcoming events for Recovery month. All substance use disorder (SUD) recovery stakeholders are invited to participate in the virtual discussion. Registration is required.

## DOJ's Office for Access to Justice Launches Resource on Federal Funding Opportunities for Providers of Legal Services

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office for Access to Justice (AJT) recently launched a new resource on [Federal Funding Opportunities for Providers of Legal Services](#). This webpage offers a compilation of ongoing federal funding opportunities for organizations that provide and work to enhance legal services. The webpage includes links to grant solicitations, as well as the agency program pages for relevant federal funding opportunities, broken down by soliciting agency and issue area. The page includes a section dedicated to "Health/Mental Health" that covers federal funding opportunities related to mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) issues.

Additionally, ATJ is hosting a webinar on April 25, at 1:00 pm ET, on [Federal Funding for Legal Aid](#). This no-cost webinar will introduce ATJ's new federal funding resource and discuss how legal aid and community organizations can utilize federal programs to support a range of legal services. Registration is required.

## HHS Announces New Framework to Support and Accelerate Smoking Cessation

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released the [HHS Framework to Support and Accelerate Smoking Cessation 2024](#). This new framework intends to accelerate the cessation of combusted tobacco products - namely, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos. and reduce smoking and cessation-related disparities. The framework contains a vision and set of goals to support and promote smoking cessation, especially in populations with smoking and cessation-related disparities, that will guide future HHS actions. The framework's six goals are:

1. "Reduce smoking- and cessation-related disparities.
2. Increase awareness and knowledge related to smoking and cessation.
3. Strengthen, expand, and sustain cessation services and supports.
4. Increase access to and coverage of comprehensive, evidence-based cessation treatment.
5. Advance, expand, and sustain surveillance and strengthen performance measurement and evaluation.
6. Promote ongoing and innovative research to support and accelerate smoking cessation."

The framework also highlights past and upcoming actions by HHS to support smoking cessation.

HHS' press release announcing the framework can be found [here](#).



## CDC Study Examines State Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco Cessation Treatments and Barriers to Accessing Treatments

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently published a study in *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* on [State Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco Cessation Treatments and Barriers to Accessing Treatments – United States, 2018-2022](#). The study examined data collected by the American Lung Association on State Medicaid tobacco cessation coverage and barriers to accessing tobacco cessation treatments in the United States from 2018 to 2022. The study found that as of December 31, 2022, all 50 States and the District of Columbia covered at least one tobacco cessation treatment for all standard Medicaid enrollees. The study also found that from December 2018-December 2022, the number of States with treatment access barriers decreased across all barrier types. Other findings include:

- “As of December 2022, a total of 21 states covered both individual and group counseling for all standard Medicaid enrollees, an increase from 16 states in December 2018.
- Forty-three states covered all seven medications as of December 2022, an increase from 36 in December 2018.
- As of December 2022, the three most common barriers (that apply to all or some standard Medicaid enrollees) were duration limits (39 states; 76%), annual limits on the number of covered quit attempts (35; 69%), and requirement for prior authorization (30; 59%). These three barriers were also the most common in December 2018.
- As of December 2022, only three states (Kentucky, Missouri, and Wisconsin) provided barrier-free coverage, an increase from two (Kentucky and Missouri) in December 2018. All three of these states provided comprehensive coverage.”

The authors maintain that while barriers to tobacco cessation treatments have declined and State Medicaid tobacco cessation coverage has increased, there are still barriers to accessing tobacco cessation treatment for Medicaid enrollees in the United States.

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### Webinars to Watch

#### SAMHSA GAINS Center Webinar: Training Treatment Court Teams: Navigating Harm Reduction in Drug Courts



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Gather, Assess, Integrate, Network, and Stimulate (GAINS) Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation is hosting a webinar on [Training Treatment Court Teams: Navigating Harm Reduction in Drug Courts](#). This no-cost webinar is on April 29, at 2:00 pm ET. The webinar will offer strategies for implementing harm reduction measures in treatment court settings and roles that each treatment court team member can play in supporting the implementation and maintenance of harm reduction services in treatment courts. Learning objectives include:

- “Develop an expanded understanding of harm-reduction practices and how they relate to the recently updated Adult Drug Court Best Practices Standards.
- Discuss how treatment court team members may have different roles in implementing harm reduction measures.
- Share examples of how treatment courts have successfully implemented harm reduction practices into their operations.”

Registration is required.

#### CoE-PHI Webinar: 42 CFR Part 2 Final Rule: What You Need to Know

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) is hosting a webinar on [42 CFR Part 2 Final Rule: What You Need to Know](#). This no-cost webinar is on May 21, at 3:00 pm ET. The webinar will outline recent changes to 42 CFR Part 2, the role of 42 CFR Part 2 in protecting confidentiality of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment records, and

related technical assistance and resources from CoE-PHI. Learning objectives include:

- “Describe the recent changes to 42 CFR Part 2
- Apply recent changes to practical scenarios within case studies
- Identify how to access resources and technical assistance provided by the CoE-PHI.”

Registration is required.

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