

August 15, 2024



D.C. Update: NASADAD NPN Conference Hosts Dr. Chris Jones, FDA Approves First Nalmefene Hydrochloride Auto-Injector to Reverse Opioid Overdose, SAMHSA Releases Updated Language Access Plan, and More.

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Meet The Member

Shanel Long, National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Utah

Shanel Long serves as Substance Use Administrator III for the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health within the Utah Department of Health and Human Services. She has over 26 years of experience working in the mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) field. Ms. Long also currently serves as the National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Utah.

Prior to joining the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, Ms. Long spent 14 years working for the Utah County Department of Drug and Alcohol Prevention and Treatment in various settings, including residential and social detox, women's outpatient, and the criminal justice system. In 2010, she began working for the State of Utah as a Program Manager with the Access to Recovery Grant Project and has worked for the State in several capacities since then, including work on programs and projects related to recovery support services, criminal justice services, and SUD treatment services, among others.



In her capacity as Substance Use Administrator III, her responsibilities include overseeing the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Support (SUPTRS) block grant, COVID Supplemental and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, State general funds, COVID emergency grant funds, budgets and financials, contracting, grant applications, developing policies and procedures, quality assurance, and additional mental health and

SUD projects and programs. Ms. Long is also Chair of the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council (USAAV+) Treatment Track Committee.

Ms. Long received her Bachelors of Science in Psychology from the Utah Valley University and is licensed as a Substance Use Disorder Counselor.

Farewell to Allison Beaumont

Join us in saying goodbye and good luck to NASADAD Public Policy Intern Allison Beaumont! Allison's last day with NASADAD is this Friday, August 16th. Allison joined NASADAD in May 2024 while pursuing her Bachelors of Science in Public Health from Temple University. During her time at NASADAD, her work included assisting with the NASADAD Annual Meetings, leading the D.C. Update weekly policy update newsletter, attending congressional hearings, developing memos on proposed legislation, and supporting the development of resources on appropriations actions. Allison will now return to Temple University to finish her undergraduate degree before completing coursework in graduate school in pursuit of her Masters in Health Policy and Administration. She will be looking for full-time work starting in 2026.

Best of luck, Allison!



NASADAD News

NASADAD NPN Conference Hosts Dr. Chris Jones as Keynote Speaker

It was a privilege to host Dr. Chris Jones, Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as our keynote speaker on day one of the NASADAD National Prevention Network (NPN) Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. Great start to a great conference!

Pictured: Carlos Santoscoy, Arizona NPN; Dr. Chris Jones, CSAP/SAMHSA; Pat Zuber-Wilson, New York NPN and NPN President; and Robert Morrison, Executive Director, NASADAD



Around the Agencies

FDA Approves First Nalmefene Hydrochloride Auto-Injector to Reverse Opioid Overdose

On August 7, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced the approval of Zurnai, the first Nalmefene Hydrochloride Auto-Injecting medication to reverse opioid overdose, for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose in adults and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older. Nalmefene nasal spray was also previously approved in May 2023. The newly approved product is a single-dose, pre-filled auto-injector that delivers 1.5 milligrams of Nalmefene subcutaneously or intramuscularly to reverse acute opioid overdose. Zurnai is only available with a prescription.

FDA's press release announcing the approval of Zurnai can be found [here](#).

CMS Approves Nevada's Plan for Mobile Crises Services for Individuals with Medicaid



On July 29, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid services (CMS) notified the State of Nevada of the approval of its [state plan amendment](#) (SPA) for mobile crisis services. Authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), SPA approval enables States to support qualifying community-based mobile crisis intervention services for patients covered by Medicaid. SPA approval helps States integrate mobile crisis services into their Medicaid programs, which promotes long-term sustainability. Nevada's mobile crisis SPA is the 19th mobile crisis SPA approved to date.

Additional details on SPA, including a list of approved SPAs, can be found [here](#).

SAMHSA Releases Updated Language Access Plan

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced the release of its [updated Language Access Plan \(LAP\)](#). The LAP is designed as a roadmap to improve equitable access to information on SAMHSA's programs, services, and other resources, including for people with non-English language preference, while promoting equity in mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care. SAMHSA's updated LAP encompasses ten elements, each of which contains a description of the element, its role in improving equity within the LAP framework and SAMHSA's equity efforts at large, and action steps related to implementation.

SAMHSA encourages workforces to use LAP to implement standards that promote equity in mental health and SUD care for all.

PCSS-MAUD Online Module: Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded [Providers Clinical Support System - Medication for Alcohol Use Disorder \(PCSS - MAUD\)](#) recently released an online training module on [Motivational Interviewing for Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment](#). This on-demand training module can be completed at any time and is intended for physicians, nurses, social workers, and other healthcare professionals in a care team to explore motivational interviewing as a strategy in clinical interactions to help patients with alcohol use disorder (AUD) change risky behaviors associated with an increased risk of alcohol use and AUD. Learning objectives include:

1. "Use motivational interviewing to enhance patients' readiness to change risky behaviors.
2. Apply motivational interviewing skills to guide conversations with patients.
3. Develop a personal plan for building a motivational interviewing practice."

2 Continuing Education (CE) credits are available upon completion of module.

Additional trainings can be found on PCSS-MAUD's website, [here](#).

Research Roundup

Study Evaluates Effectiveness of HRSA's RCORP Initiative at Expanding the MOUD Treatment Workforce in Rural Communities

Findings from a study recently published in the Journal of Rural Health on [Expanding the Opioid Use Disorder Medication Treatment Workforce in Rural Communities Through the](#)

[RCORP Initiative](#) indicate that the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Initiative had a significant impact on the national increase of buprenorphine prescribers. The study analyzed 2017-2022 Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) lists of waived clinicians in rural counties across the nation. Specifically, the study reported significant increases of an average of almost four per 100,000 DEA-waivered clinicians to prescribe buprenorphine in counties where RCORP grantees operated compared to non-RCORP counties. Key findings include:

- “In 2017, 3.7% more of RCORP funded counties had a waived clinician than non-RCORP counties.
- RCORP counties also had 1.2 more waived clinicians per 100,000 population and 57.5 more treatment slots per 100,000 population compared to non-RCORP counties.
- From 2017 to 2022, these differences more than doubled.
- The supply of waived clinicians varied across Census Divisions. In most Census Divisions, a greater percentage of RCORP counties had a waived clinician as well as more waived clinicians and treatment slots per population, except for the Pacific Census Division, which had more clinicians and treatment slots per population in non-RCORP counties.”

Based on the effectiveness of RCORP expanding the number of DEA-waivered clinicians to provide buprenorphine, the authors call for increased federal investments to expand access to opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment for rural patients.

Webinars to Watch

SAMHSA's GAINS Center Webinar: Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in Criminal Justice Settings: Current Updates in Case Law



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Gather, Assess, Integrate, Network, and Stimulate (GAINS) Center is hosting a webinar on [Medications for Opioid Use Disorder \(MOUD\) in Criminal Justice Settings: Current Updates in Case Law](#). This no-cost webinar is on August 29, at 2:30 pm ET. The webinar will review legal obligations for providing comprehensive substance use disorder (SUD) treatment in correctional settings, including the imperative for correctional facilities to offer all forms of medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in prisons and jails, based on recent updates to case law. The webinar will also highlight strategies for correctional facilities to meet legal standards for providing MOUD to support the health and recovery of individuals with SUD while incarcerated.

Registration is required.

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