

September 12, 2024



D.C. Update: NASADAD Recognizes September as Recovery Month, Inaugural SAMHSA Recovery Awards Event, Monitoring the Future Survey Finds Adult Cannabis and Hallucinogen Use at Historic Highs, and More.

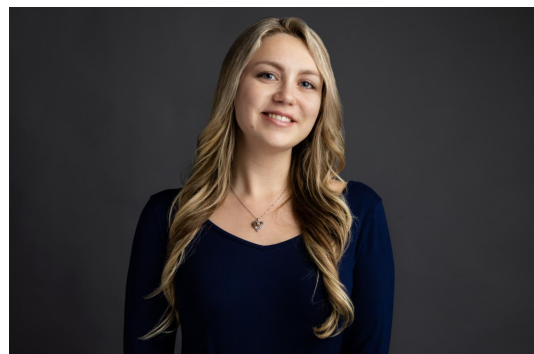
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Meet The Member

Brandi Clark, State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) for Idaho

Brandi Clark currently serves as the State Opioid Response (SOR) Project Director and the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Program Specialist for the Behavioral Health Division within the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. She also serves as the State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) for Idaho.



Mrs. Clark has held various roles in the mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) field in Idaho for almost a decade. In her current roles, she manages SOR grant funding, oversees compliance, and ensures opioid treatment providers meet the needs of communities across Idaho. Prior to her current role, she also worked on multiple teams over her years at the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, including the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team, the Adult Mental Health Recovery team, and the Children's Mental Health Crisis team.

Mrs. Clark received her Master of Social Work from Boise State University and is a proud 4th generation Idahoan. She has a passion for helping underserved populations in urban and rural areas get equitable access to mental health and SUD care. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor activities like hiking, boating, and traveling.

NASADAD Recognizes September as Recovery Month

NASADAD is pleased to share the 2024 NASADAD Recovery Month Collage!

National Recovery Month is an annual observance held each September to celebrate people in recovery from substance use disorder (SUD) and raise awareness for critical recovery support services. National Recovery Month has adopted a permanent theme of “Every person. Every family. Every Community.” Through this theme, Recovery Month seeks to elevate recovery practices and the effectiveness of SUD services to educate the public, stakeholders, and communities that recovery from SUD is possible for everyone.



NASADAD members are the lead agency in each State or jurisdiction responsible for managing federal funds dedicated to addressing substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery. This month, our Members wear purple to celebrate recovery and promote awareness of SUD issues. NASADAD is grateful for the work all our members do in their States and jurisdictions to support recovery every day of the year.

Thank you to all who participated.

NASADAD Attends 2024 Walk for Recovery

On September 5, NASADAD staff participated in the second annual Walk for Recovery hosted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Office of Recovery in Washington, DC. SAMHSA’s Walk for Recovery is an annual march across DC celebrating National Recovery Month and raising awareness about recovery among the public, people with mental health and substance use disorder (SUD), and their allies.



The event began with remarks from Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Assistant Secretary for Substance Use and Mental Health, and Paolo del Vecchio, Director, Office of Recovery. During the walk, participants marched from Freedom Plaza to the Washington Monument spreading messages to counter stigma and instill hope in the public that recovery is real and possible. The event concluded with a Rally for Recovery at the Sylvan Theater that featured speeches from leaders in the recovery field, including Tom Coderre, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, people with lived experience, and advocates for recovery.

Around the Agencies

Inaugural SAMHSA Trailblazers in Advancing Recovery Awards Event

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced that the inaugural [SAMHSA Trailblazers in Advancing Recovery \(STAR\) Awards](#) event will

be hosted on September 24, from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET. The STAR Awards honor leaders in recovery with lived experience of mental health and substance use disorders (SUD), including youth and family members who have been affected, as well as organizations that have demonstrated exceptional efforts to promote recovery and equitable access to recovery support services. The event will feature remarks from Dr. Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, SAMHSA's Executive Leadership Team, and senior Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) officials. The event will also include performances and an art exhibit by people in recovery.

The event will be livestreamed by HHS, [here](#).

NIDA Releases New Health Education Resources to Address Overdose and Promote National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week



The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) recently released new health education resources to address overdose and promote [National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week® \(NDAFW\)](#). These new resources are tailored for youth, educators, and other community members to provide information on recognizing and responding to overdose in various community settings. The resources also promote NDAFW 2025, which will be held March 17-23, 2025, and provide material to incorporate into curriculum or community plans for NDAFW 2025. The new resources include:

- [Guide to Hosting a Naloxone Demonstration](#)- NIDA's Guide to Hosting a Naloxone Demonstration and slide presentation offer engaging, educational content about overdoses and the use of naloxone—a lifesaving medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose.
- [Naloxone Education for School Nurses Toolkit](#)- Developed by the National Association of School Nurses, this toolkit offers resources to assist school nurses and other school leaders in evaluating and responding to the drug overdose crisis.
- [Kahoot! Quiz: Overdose: Know the Facts](#)- The newest NIDA Kahoot! quiz, Overdose: Know the Facts, tests teens' knowledge and helps them learn more about opioids, including fentanyl. This resource also covers health risks associated with opioids, including fake pills, and how you as a bystander could help save the life of someone experiencing an overdose.
- [Why are Drugs so Hard to Quit? Kahoot! Quiz](#) and [Video](#)- The Why are Drugs so Hard to Quit? video and Kahoot! quiz help youth understand the science of addiction, why stopping drug use can be difficult, and that help is available.

PCSS-MAUD Online Module: Pharmacotherapy for Alcohol Use Disorder: Best Practices and Clinical Strategies

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded Providers Clinical Support System - Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder (PCSS - MAUD) released an online training module on [Pharmacotherapy for Alcohol Use Disorder: Best Practices and Clinical Strategies](#). This two-hour on-demand training module is designed for clinical healthcare professionals who prescribe medications for alcohol use disorder (MAUD) in outpatient and inpatient settings and gives background and tools to integrate pharmacotherapy into treatment plans for patients with alcohol use disorder (AUD). Specifically, the module offers considerations for selecting Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved MAUD, initiating and monitoring treatment, and medication adherence. Learning objectives include:

- “Examine the barriers in prescribing practices of non-addiction medicine prescribers and stigma in the context of health disparities and cultural factors.
- Identify screening tools and criteria for diagnosis of AUD and co-morbidities.
- Determine the most suitable FDA-approved medication (naltrexone PO and ER, acamprosate, disulfiram) based on the patient's clinical presentation.
- Apply strategies for addressing patient's concerns with MAUD.
- Discuss the rationale for combining medications for AUD.”

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

Research Roundup

NIDA-supported Monitoring the Future Survey Reports Cannabis and Hallucinogen Use Among Adults Remained at Historic Highs in 2023

The University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, Ann Arbor, published the latest findings from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)-supported 2023 [Monitoring the Future \(MTF\) Survey](#). The [MTF survey](#) is an ongoing annual study of Americans' behaviors and attitudes toward substance use from adolescence through adulthood that polls more than 25,000 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students and 20,000 adults aged 19 to 65. The 2023 study reports that past-year cannabis and hallucinogen use remained at historically high levels in 2023 among adults aged 19 to 30 and 35 to 50. Key findings include:

- “Cannabis use in the past year and past month remained at historically high levels for both adult age groups in 2023. Among adults 19 to 30 years old, approximately 42% reported cannabis use in the past year, 29% in the past month, and 10% daily use. Among adults 35 to 50, reports of use reached 29%, 19%, and 8%, respectively.
- Cannabis vaping in the past year and past month was reported by 22% and 14% of adults 19 to 30, respectively, and by 9% and 6% of adults 35 to 50 in 2023. For the younger group, these numbers represent all-time study highs and an increase from five years ago.
- Nicotine vaping among adults 19 to 30 maintained historic highs in 2023. Reports of past-year and past-month vaping of nicotine reached 25% and 19%, respectively. For adults 35 to 50, the prevalence of vaping nicotine remained steady from the year before (2022), with 7% and 5% reporting past-year and past-month use.
- Hallucinogen use in the past year continued a five-year steep incline for both adult groups, reaching 9% for adults 19 to 30 and 4% for adults 35 to 50 in 2023.
- Alcohol remains the most used substance reported among adults in the study. Past-year alcohol use among adults 19 to 30 has showed a slight upward trend over the past five years, with 84% reporting use in 2023. However, past month drinking (65%), daily drinking (4%), and binge drinking (27%) all remained at study lows in 2023 among adults 19 to 30.”

Additional data can be found in the MTF report, [here](#).

Webinars to Watch

HRSA Emerging Issues Behavioral Health NTTAP Virtual Learning Collaborative: Crisis Intervention and De-escalation in Primary Care



The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-funded Emerging Issues Behavioral Health National Training and Technical Assistance Partner (NTTAP) Renaye James Healthcare Advisors (RJHA) announced a four-session virtual Learning Collaborative on [Crisis Intervention and De-escalation in Primary Care](#). This no-cost virtual learning collaborative is intended to help healthcare workers identify, de-escalate, and intervene in crisis behaviors among patients with mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) conditions in health care settings. Specifically, speakers will offer evidence-based preventive interventions that reduce the risk of unsafe crisis behaviors in health centers. Further, each session will reserve time for participants to plan de-escalation and crisis interventions that promote patient and staff safety. Each session is 90 minutes. Session topics and dates include:

- “Session 1 (10/1/2024 at 1 pm ET): How to Identify and Prevent Crisis Behaviors

in Health Care Settings

- **Session 2 (10/15/2024 at 1 pm ET):** Implementing Evidenced-Based De-escalation and Crisis Intervention Techniques in Health Care Settings
- **Session 3 (10/29/2024 at 1 pm ET):** Developing Crisis Prevention Policies and Procedures
- **Session 4 (11/12/2024 at 1 pm ET):** Ask the Experts”

[Registration](#) is required.

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