

September 6, 2024



**D.C. Update: NASADAD Federal Update: Overview of FY 2025 Proposed Funding, Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$81.3 Million to Support Expansion of SUD Services, New SAMHSA Webinars, and More.**

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## Meet The Member

### **Kira Kennedy, National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Arkansas**

Kira Kennedy currently serves as Substance Use Services Director at the Arkansas Department of Human Services. She brings over three decades of experience in clinical and administrative roles in the provision of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care. Ms. Kennedy also serves as National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Arkansas and the Region VI NTN Representative.

In her current role, Ms. Kennedy manages grant funding, oversees compliance, and ensures treatment services meet the needs of Arkansans. Her role involves not just administrative duties but staying engaged with evidence-based trends to advance treatment for all populations.

Prior to her current role, Ms. Kennedy served as a Therapy Manager at CHI St. Vincent Addiction Recovery Program and Clinical Director at Bradford Health Services during her tenure as a social worker. In these roles, she managed complex clinical programs, crisis intervention services, and group and individual therapy.

Ms. Kennedy holds a Master's in Social Work, Summa Cum Laude, from Radford University and is a Licensed Certified Social Worker (LCSW) and holds certifications as a Licensed Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselor (LADAC) with the State of Arkansas and a



Master Addiction Counselor (MAC) through NAADAC - the Association for Addiction Professionals.

Ms. Kennedy is also President Elect for the Arkansas Addiction Professionals Association (ARAPA) with NAADAC and serves as an executive board member of the Arkansas Problem Gambling Council (ARPG). She is an active member of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) and the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP).

## NASADAD News

### NASADAD Deputy Executive Director Melanie Whitter Attends White House International Overdose Awareness Day Celebration

On Wednesday, August 28, NASADAD Deputy Executive Director, Melanie Whitter, attended an event cohosted by the White House Office of Public Engagement (OPE) and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD). The event highlighted the commitment and significant strides made to address the overdose epidemic.



Official White House Photo by Abe McNatt.

### NASADAD Federal Update: Overview of Proposed Funding for FY 2025

NASADAD has developed a chart that outlines the proposed funding levels for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 (October 1, 2024 - September 30, 2025) for NASADAD's priority programs in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), as well as the Department of Justice (DOJ) and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

**NASADAD** National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors



Fiscal Year 2025 Budget: Congressional Recommendations

September 2024

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Congress has yet to pass a final appropriations bill for FY 2025.

#### Next steps:

The House Appropriations Committees has passed all 12 of its appropriations bills to fund the federal government for FY 2025. The Senate Appropriations Committee has passed all its appropriations bills aside from the Homeland Security bill.

The next step will be for scheduling to take place for the House and Senate to separately consider and pass their 12 appropriations bills and then reconcile any differences in their bills before approving them to be brought to the President to sign into law. The deadline for passage of appropriations is the start of the next fiscal year, in our case, October 1, 2024. If all appropriations bills are not enacted before the fiscal

year begins, federal funding will lapse, resulting in a government shutdown.

To avoid a government shutdown, Congress may opt to pass a continuing resolution (CR), which temporarily extends funding to allow federal government operations to continue and provide additional time for Congress to complete the appropriations process. At this point, trade press is reporting that a CR will likely be needed next month to avoid a government shutdown. NASADAD will follow up as more details arise.

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

If you have any questions or require additional information, please reach out to [rmorrison@nasadad.org](mailto:rmorrison@nasadad.org) or [ddiana@nasadad.org](mailto:ddiana@nasadad.org).

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## Around the Agencies

### Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$81.3 Million in Awards to Support the Expansion and Integration of SUD Services Across the Continuum

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), awarded \$81.3 million in grant funding to several programs designed to promote the integration of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care in primary care, expand the capacity of drug treatment courts, and support the delivery of services across the continuum. The \$81.3 million in funding is split between the following eight programs to promote mental health and SUD care delivery, prevent substance use, and expand access to treatment and recovery services:

- [\*Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care: States\*](#) (\$9.2 million) - This program promotes full integration and collaboration in clinical practices between physical and behavioral health care; supports the improvement of integrated care models for physical and behavioral health care to improve overall wellness and physical health status; and promotes the implementation and improvement of bidirectional integrated care services.
- [\*Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care: Collaborative Care Model\*](#)- (\$7.1 million) - The goal of this program is to support implementation of the Collaborative Care Model, an evidence-based, integrated care approach that addresses mental and substance use conditions in primary care settings.
- [\*Expand Substance Use Disorder Treatment Capacity in Adult and Family Treatment Drug Courts\*](#)- (\$24.6 million) - The goal of this program is to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and recovery support services in existing drug courts.
- [\*Building Communities of Recovery\*](#)- (\$6.7 million) - This program works to mobilize and connect a broad array of community-based resources to increase the availability and quality of long-term recovery support for persons with substance use disorders and co-occurring substance use and mental disorders.
- [\*Tribal Behavioral Health\*](#)- (\$10.2 million) - This program works to prevent and reduce suicidal behavior and substance use/misuse, reduce the impact of trauma, and promote mental health among American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth, up to and including age 24, by building a healthy network of systems, services, and partnerships that support youth.
- [\*Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral to Treatment\*](#)- (\$9.4 million) - This program implements the screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment public health model (or SBIRT) for children, adolescents, and/or adults in primary care and community health settings and schools, with a focus on screening for underage drinking, opioid use, and other substance use.
- [\*Prevention Technology Transfer Centers Cooperative Agreements\*](#)- (\$8.1 million) - This program works to maintain and enhance the Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network to provide training and technical assistance services to the substance misuse prevention field, including professionals/pre-professionals, organizations, and others in the prevention community who serve and support children, youth, young adults, families, parents, and other adults.
- [\*First Responders - Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act\*](#)- (\$6 million) - This



program provides resources to support first responders with training, administering, and distributing naloxone and other Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved overdose reversal medications or devices.”

SAMHSA’s press release announcing the funding can be found [here](#).

## SAMHSA Highlights Resources Recognizing National Suicide Prevention Month

# SAMHSA

Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) [Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center \(EBPRC\)](#) is highlighting a set of its resources on suicide prevention and mental health wellness in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month this month. These resources focus on raising awareness for suicide risk factors, breaking the stigma on mental health conditions, and offering support to people in crisis to prevent suicide and advance mental health wellness. The resources also cover prevention and treatment services at SAMHSA to support those in crisis, including the [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#). EBPRC is highlighting the following resources regarding suicide prevention:

- [“Prevention and Treatment of Anxiety, Depression, and Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors Among College Students](#): This guide reviews literature on treating college students’ mental health concerns, such as anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors; distills the research into recommendations for practice; and provides examples of the ways that these recommendations can be implemented.
- [Advisory: Addressing Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors in Substance Use Treatment \(based on TIP 50\)](#): This advisory provides strategies for identifying and addressing suicidal thoughts and behaviors among individuals with substance use disorders.
- [Treatment for Suicidal Ideation, Self-Harm, and Suicide Attempts Among Youth](#): SAMHSA is dedicated to advancing behavioral health by implementing best prevention practices that are rooted in respect, compassion, and innovation. It prioritizes culturally responsive approaches to ensure that all communities receive effective and relevant support. By fostering a supportive and inclusive approach, SAMHSA aims to promote effective prevention strategies that resonate with and benefit all individuals.”

Additional resources on suicide prevention can be found on SAMHSA’s webpage, [here](#).

## SAMHSA Advisory: Preventing Substance Use Among Young Adults with Disabilities

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) issued a new Advisory on [Preventing Substance Use Among Young Adults with Disabilities](#). The new Advisory highlights the need for primary substance use prevention efforts among young adults ages 18 to 25 with disabilities who are at a higher risk for initiating or increasing substance use with the potential to develop substance use disorder (SUD). The Advisory outlines the factors affecting the delivery of substance use prevention services to young adults with disabilities and provides guidance on designing programs tailored to meeting that population’s needs. The Advisory is intended for substance use prevention staff and ultimately seeks to promote training on incorporating the unique needs of young adults with disabilities into prevention programs and other SUD services across the continuum.

The Advisory can be downloaded [here](#).

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## Webinars to Watch

[PCSS-MAUD Webinar: Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder in Individuals with Advanced Liver Disease](#)



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded Providers Clinical Support System - Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder (MAUD), in collaboration with the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) - University of Missouri - Kansas City, is hosting a case-based discussion webinar on [Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder in Individuals with Advanced Liver Disease](#). This no-cost webinar is on September 16, at 12:00 pm ET. The webinar is intended for providers and will explore key considerations around providing MAUD to treat patients with co-occurring alcohol use disorder (AUD) and advanced liver disease. Further, the webinar will have a portion dedicated to case-based discussions of treatment strategies that have been implemented across the country for patients with both AUD and early, mid-, and late-stage liver disease. Learning objectives include:

- “Outline the options and benefits of MAUD for patients with advanced liver disease.
- Discuss safe MAUD implementation among patients with advanced liver disease.
- Use clinical reasoning to apply the evidence for MAUD in specific case scenarios”

The session is available for up to one Continuing Education (CE) credit.

Registration is required.

### **SAMHSA Webinar: Infectious Disease Management in Behavioral Health**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Office of the Chief Medical Officer (OCMO), in collaboration with SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), and the National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHHSTP) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is hosting a webinar on [Infectious Disease Management in Behavioral Health](#). This no-cost webinar is on September 19, at 3:00 pm ET. The webinar will feature CAPT Chris Jones, Director, CSAP, and Dr. Jonathan "Jono" Mermin, Director, NCHHSTP, who will offer an overview of the syndemic of infectious diseases, substance use, and substance use disorder (SUD). Speakers will also outline various harm reduction approaches, interagency collaboratives, and other strategies for leveraging resources to prevent adverse infectious disease-related outcomes among people who use drugs.

Registration is required.

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