

April 3, 2025



**DC Update: NASADAD Attends Congressional Briefing on Funding for the Overdose Epidemic, April is Alcohol Awareness Month, HHS Fact Sheet: HHS' Transformation to Make America Healthy Again, and More.**



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## Meet the Member

### **LeeAnne Cornyn, SSA for Ohio, Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services**

LeeAnne Cornyn serves as Director of the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, a position she has held since her appointment in December 2023. She also serves as the Single State Agency (SSA) Director for Ohio.

Ms. Cornyn has over a decade of experience in serving Ohio's most vulnerable populations, including children and individuals with mental health and substance use disorders (SUD). Prior to her appointment, she served as Governor DeWine's Deputy Chief of Staff, where her responsibilities included oversight of the health, mental health, human services, education, and children's issues portfolio. Ms. Cornyn also previously served as Director of Cabinet Affairs, where she acted as a liaison between the Governor and his 26 State agency directors. She first began working on behalf of Governor DeWine when he was Ohio Attorney General, serving as an Assistant Attorney General as well as the Director of Children's Initiatives.



Ms. Cornyn first joined the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services as the Director of Children's Initiatives, where she focused on coordinating efforts between agencies to improve outcomes in maternal and child health, early childhood education,

and foster care. She was instrumental in the creation of OhioRISE, an initiative to keep children with severe mental health and SUD issues in State and ensure that they receive coordinated care services under Medicaid.

Also an educator, Ms. Cornyn taught 8th grade science in Los Angeles as a Teach for America corps member. She is a graduate of Miami University and holds a law degree from Ohio State University.

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## NASADAD News



### 2025 National Prevention Network Conference- Call for Proposals

The 2025 *NASADAD National Prevention Network (NPN) Conference* will be held August 11-13, 2025, at the Grand Hyatt Washington, DC. The NPN Conference highlights the latest research in the substance use prevention field and offers a forum for prevention professionals, coalition leaders, researchers, and federal partners to share research, best practices, and evaluation results for the purpose of integrating research into prevention practice. This year's theme is: *Substance Use Prevention Across the Lifespan: Creating a Monumental Impact*.

The call for workshop proposals is now open through April 4. Additional information on the conference and how to submit an abstract can be found on the project link, [here](#).

### NASADAD Attends Congressional Briefing Hosted by the Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery Caucus on Sustainable Funding to Address the Overdose Epidemic

On April 1, NASADAD Executive Director Rob Morrison and Public Policy Associate Dan Diana attended a congressional briefing co-hosted by the Legal Action Center (LAC) and House Bipartisan Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery (ATR) Caucus on *Sustainable Funding to Address the Overdose Epidemic*. The briefing discussed the current state of federal funding for substance use issues and highlighted resources available to support individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) across the continuum of care. Further, the briefing reviewed the important role Medicaid plays in substance use disorder services.



Opening remarks were provided by ATR co-chairs Representatives Paul Tonko (D-NY-20) and Madeleine Dean (D-PA-04), as well as ATR member Representative Herb Conaway (D-NJ-03). Panelists included:

- **Anita Bradley**, President and CEO, Northern Ohio Recovery Association (NORA)
- **Dr. Malik Burnett**, MD, Medical Director, Recovery Enhanced by Access to Comprehensive Healthcare (REACH) Health Services
- **Jennifer Faison**, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB), Inc.
- **Brandon del Pozo, Ph.D.**, Assistant President of Medicine, The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University; and Assistant Professor of Health Services, Policy, & Practice, Brown University School of Public Health
- **Jonathan Lee**, Founder and CEO, Signature Health, Inc.

- Teresa Miller, National Director of Health Initiatives, Legal Action Center (LAC)

(Pictured L to R: Anita Bradley, NORA; Teresa Miller, LAC; Dr. Malik Burnett, REACH Health Services; Brandon del Pozo, Brown University; Jennifer Faison, VACSB; and Jonathan Lee, Signature Health, Inc.).

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## Capitol Hill Happenings

### Senate Oversight Panel Seeking Information on HHS Actions Through a Hearing with HHS Secretary Kennedy

On April 1, Senator Cassidy (R-LA), Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, and Ranking Member Senator Sanders (I-VT), invited Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. to testify before the Committee on April 10 "...to discuss your proposed reorganization of the Department of Health and Human Services." The Senate HELP Committee has jurisdiction over HHS.

### House Energy and Commerce Committee Minority Leaders Request Hearing with HHS Secretary Kennedy

On April 2, Representative Pallone (D-NJ-06), Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and Representative DeGette (D-CO-01), Ranking Member of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, sent a letter to Representative Guthrie (R-KY-02), chair of the full Committee, requesting a hearing where Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. would testify regarding "... the restructuring of HHS and termination of tens of thousands of civil servants."

### SUPPORT Act Reauthorization Mark-Up Postponed

The House Energy and Commerce Committee announced the postponing of a mark-up of several bills, including the [\*SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act \(H.R.2483\)\*](#), originally planned for April 2, to April 10 at 10:15 am ET. The [\*SUPPORT Act \(P.L. 115-271\)\*](#), signed into law on October 24, 2018, included several provisions designed to address the opioid crisis.

NASADAD will monitor the version of the SUPPORT Act Reauthorization considered by the House Energy and Commerce Committee and keep the membership informed on any developments.

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## Around the Agencies



**ALCOHOL  
AWARENESS  
MONTH**



### April is Alcohol Awareness Month!

Each year, April is recognized as Alcohol Awareness Month. Alcohol Awareness Month is dedicated to acknowledging the adverse effects of alcohol use and misuse on health and wellness, especially for youth. In recognition of Alcohol Awareness Month, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released the [\*social media toolkit\*](#) that contains various resources regarding alcohol use, including links to treatment and support. Specifically, the toolkit provides social media shareables, graphics, and other tools to promote awareness of strategies to address the health and social impacts related

to alcohol misuse. Ongoing SAMHSA initiatives addressing alcohol misuse highlighted in the toolkit include:

- [Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking \(STOP\) Act Grant](#)
- [SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You."® Underage Drinking Campaign](#)
- [Communities Talk to Prevent Alcohol and Other Drug Misuse](#)

Additional SAMHSA information on alcohol use, misuse, and alcohol use disorder (AUD) can be found [here](#).

## HHS Fact Sheet: HHS' Transformation to Make America Healthy Again

- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released a fact sheet on [HHS' Transformation to Make America Healthy Again](#). This new fact sheet highlights the Administration's plans for the restructuring of HHS in accordance with President Trump's Executive Order on ["Implementing the President's 'Department of Government Efficiency' Workforce Optimization Initiative."](#) Specifically, the fact sheet outlines steps taken, plans, and underlying objectives of HHS' restructuring as part of the Administration's efforts to enhance efficiency and address chronic diseases in America.

## NIDA Funding Opportunity: Development & Testing of Novel Interventions to Improve HIV Prevention, Treatment, and Program Implementation for People Who Use Substances



National Institute  
on Drug Abuse

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) recently announced a new funding opportunity for the [Development & Testing of Novel Interventions to Improve HIV Prevention, Treatment, and Program Implementation for People Who Use Substances](#). This program seeks to support research, intervention development, and pilot-testing of novel approaches for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of substance use disorder (SUD), drug overdose, and related health outcomes, with an emphasis on HIV care. Primary outcomes of interest include feasibility, acceptability, and safety of novel or adaptive interventions to a) prevent HIV infection among people who use drugs; b) improve care of HIV infection among people who use drugs; or c) reduce barriers to HIV services among people who use drugs.

Applicants may request direct costs of up to \$450,000 for three years. Applications are due April 7, 2025.

Additional details, including eligibility and how to apply, can be found [here](#).

## HRSA Funding Opportunities: National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Programs

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently announced three new funding opportunities through the [National Health Service Corps \(NHSC\) Loan Repayment Program \(LRP\)](#). The LRP seeks to increase access to quality health care in communities facing significant health professional shortages by providing loan repayments to qualifying providers who commit to serve in a HRSA-identified Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA). Specifically, in exchange for a commitment to serve at a NHSC-approved facility for a specified period, the LRP supports practicing clinicians who provide primary medical, dental, or mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care through loan repayments. Details on the three programs under the LRP can be found below:

- [NHSC Loan Repayment Program](#)
  - "Provides up to \$50,000 to primary medical, dental, and mental and behavioral health care clinicians in exchange for their service in an underserved community."
- [NHSC Substance Use Disorder \(SUD\) Workforce Loan Repayment Program](#)
  - "Provides up to \$75,000 to health care clinicians treating patients with



substance use or opioid use disorders in exchange for their service at an NHSC-approved SUD treatment facility in an underserved community.”

- [NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program](#)
  - “Provides up to \$100,000 to clinicians treating substance use and opioid use disorders in exchange for their service in the nation's rural, underserved communities.”

Applications are due May 1, 2025, at 7:30 pm ET.

A comparison chart of the three LRP can be found [here](#).

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## Webinars to Watch

### PCSS-MAUD & National Council for Mental Wellbeing Webinar: Integrating Medication for Alcohol Use Disorder into Palliative Care



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded [Providers Clinical Support System \(PCSS\) – Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder \(MAUD\)](#) and National Council for Mental Wellbeing are hosting a webinar on [Integrating Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder into Palliative Care](#). This no-cost webinar is on April 8, at 1:00 pm ET. The webinar will cover the benefits of the integration of alcohol use disorder (AUD) treatment into palliative care and novel strategies for improving access to palliative care and MAUD. Specifically, the webinar will feature a pharmacology and palliative care expert who will offer background on MAUD, palliative care, and the benefits of combining the two. Learning objectives include:

- “Review how palliative care fits into the management of patients with AUD.
- Determine therapeutic considerations when selecting MAUD for palliative care patients.
- Identify three ways in which palliative care can support patients with AUD.”

Registration is required.

### Central East ATTC Webinar: Prescribing Buprenorphine: Adapting to New Realities

The [Central East Addiction Technology Transfer Center \(ATTC\)](#) is hosting a webinar on [Prescribing Buprenorphine: Adapting to New Realities](#). This no-cost webinar is on April 9, at 10:00 am ET. The webinar is intended for providers who treat individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) and will review new formulations of buprenorphine and updated initiation strategies to stabilize patients and support lasting recovery. Learning objectives include:

- “Describe the current opioid epidemic landscape
- Assess buprenorphine pharmacology
- Describe unique challenges in buprenorphine initiation
- Define clinical practice and micro (low dose) and macro (high dose) initiation”

1.25 Contact Hours are available for participation in the entire session.

[Registration](#) is required.



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