

May 8, 2025



DC Update: NASADAD Attends Launch of Congressional Mental Health Caucus, NASADAD Releases Fact Sheet on SAMHSA's PPW Residential and State Pilot Program, National Prevention Week: May 11–17, and More.



[Visit our Website](#)

Meet the Member

Elana Habib, State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) and National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Alaska

Elana Habib serves as the State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) for Alaska and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Program Manager for the Division of Behavioral Health at the Alaska Department of Health. She also serves as the National Treatment Network (NTN) Coordinator for Alaska.



Ms. Habib brings over a decade of experience in project management, grant writing and management, and program planning, implementation, and evaluation for substance use disorder (SUD) programming. Specifically, she has spent the last twelve years supporting populations impacted by SUD, including managing syringe service programs, HIV testing and counseling in correctional facilities, and evaluating initiatives for people with severe

mental illness (SMI) and SUD. She also previously served as Opioid Misuse and Addiction Prevention Specialist for Alaska's Division of Public Health.

In her current capacity, Ms. Habib oversees the clinical practices and operations of Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs), ensuring compliance with State and federal regulations. She also serves as the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response (SOR) Project Director, leading statewide program development, implementation, and evaluation of treatment initiatives. In these roles, Ms. Habib fosters strategic partnerships with health professionals, community organizations, policymakers, and other stakeholders to enhance support systems for individuals affected by SUD.

Ms. Habib earned her bachelor's degree in international health administration from Indiana University Bloomington and her Master of Public Health with a focus on Health Behavior and Health Education from the University of Michigan.

NASADAD News

NASADAD Attends Launch of Bipartisan Congressional Mental Health Caucus

On May 7, NASADAD Executive Director Rob Morrison attended the launch of the Bipartisan Congressional Mental Health Caucus held outside the Capitol. The co-chairs of the caucus are Representatives Andrea Salinas (D-OR-06), Don Bacon (R-NE-02), Don Beyer (D-VA-08), and Tony Gonzalez (R-TX-23). The Caucus is designed "...to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and substance use disorders, share resources with our constituents, and pass legislation that will expand access to quality, affordable care for all Americans." Rep. Beyer serves as Co-Chair of the Mental Health Caucus' Suicide Prevention Task Force.




More information about the caucus can be found [here](#).

(Pictured L to R: Julio Abreu, Senior Director, Congressional and Federal Affairs, American Psychological Association (APA); Rep. Salinas (D-OR); Rob Morrison, NASADAD).

NASADAD Releases Updated Fact Sheet on SAMHSA's Pregnant and Postpartum Women's (PPW) Residential Program and State Pilot Program

Today, NASADAD is releasing an updated fact sheet, originally produced in 2021, and most recently updated in 2023, that provides an overview of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Pregnant and Postpartum Women's (PPW) Residential Program and State Pilot Program. The fact sheet "tells the story" behind the PPW Residential Services Program and the evolution of the PPW State Pilot Program- an initiative that NASADAD helped develop with Congress through the *Comprehensive Addiction Treatment and Recovery Act (P.L. 114-198)*. This round of updates to the fact sheet includes the latest available outcomes data, recent grantees, and recent Congressional action related to both programs.


The fact sheet can be found on the NASADAD public site, [here](#).


NATIONAL ADDICTION SERVICES AND RECOVERY

SAMHSA's PPW PROGRAM (UPDATED)
Comprehensive Substance Use Disorder Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Women: A Closer Look at SAMHSA's Pregnant and Postpartum Women (PPW) Program
* Includes an overview of recent actions taken by Congress and current legislative proposals *
Substance Use in Women
Women face unique issues related to substance use disorders (SUD) due to biological, psychological, and social conditions. Women have unique physical responses to substances; are more susceptible to physical health risks from substance use; more likely to experience abuse and violence that may cause trauma; are more likely to have relational factors impact their substance use and treatment-seeking behavior; are more likely to encounter barriers to care because of gender expectations and caregiver roles; face higher levels of stigmatization; and more (SAMHSA, 2023).
Based on 2023 data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH, 2023) among pregnant women aged 15-44 in the United States:

- 9.4% (179,000) used tobacco products or vaped nicotine in the past month
- 8.4% (161,000) used alcohol in the past month
- 4.9% (93,000) used illicit drugs in the past month
 - 4.4% (85,000) used marijuana in the past month
 - 0.2% (4,000) used opioids in the past month
 - 0.2% (4,000) used cocaine in the past month

Parental Substance Use: The Impact on Children
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
Substance use during pregnancy can be harmful for babies, and can increase the risk of miscarriage and stillbirth (CDC, 2023). From 2010 to 2017, the most recent available estimate, the number of women with opioid-related diagnoses at delivery increased by 131% (HHS, et al., 2023). When a woman regularly uses certain substances, such as opioids, during pregnancy, the baby may be born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). NAS is a treatable condition with symptoms including severe irritability, difficulty feeding, respiratory problems, and seizures (Leshbegian et al., 2023). According to 2020 data from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's (AHRQ) Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), approximately six newborns were diagnosed with NAS for every 1,000 newborn hospital stays, which equates to approximately one baby being diagnosed with NAS every 24 minutes in the United States, or more than 59 newborns diagnosed every day (CDC, 2023).


Reprinted from "Substance Use, Pregnancy, and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome" by the National Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

NASADAD

SAMHSA's PPW Program (Updated)

May 2023 | 1



2025 National Prevention Network Conference- Early Bird Registration!

The 2025 *NASADAD National Prevention Network (NPN) Conference* will be held August 11-13, 2025, at the Grand Hyatt Washington, D.C. The NPN Conference highlights the latest research in the substance use prevention field and provides 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 practice. This year's theme is: *Substance Use Prevention Across the Lifespan: Creating a Monumental Impact*.

Early bird registration is now open through May 16. Additional information can be found on the registration page [here](#).

Capitol Hill Happenings

Developments Related to “Budget Reconciliation”

House Energy and Commerce Committee sets budget reconciliation mark-up date for Tuesday, May 13

The House Energy and Commerce Committee has set Tuesday, May 13, as the mark-up date for its portion of the budget reconciliation package. As you will recall, the Energy and Commerce Committee has been directed to find \$850 billion in savings across programs under its jurisdiction. There are issues with how the measure may impact Medicaid in general, and substance use services in particular.

Congressional Budget Office (CBO) letter on impact of Medicaid policy options

On May 7, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) sent a letter to Representative Frank Pallone (D-NJ-06), Ranking Member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR), Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee, to respond to an inquiry on the potential impact of certain changes to Medicaid policy. The letter responds with estimates linked to the following 5 scenarios:

- Option 1, Set the Federal Medicaid Matching Rate for the Expansion Population Equal to That for Other Enrollees.
- Option 2, Limit State Taxes on Health Care Providers.
- Option 3, Establish Caps on Federal Spending for the Entire Medicaid Population.
- Option 4, Establish Caps on Federal Spending for the Medicaid Expansion Population.
- Option 5, Repeal Medicaid's Eligibility and Enrollment Rule.

The letter notes the following:

The CBO estimates that under Option 1, which would set the FMAP for the expansion population equal to that for other enrollees, the deficit would be reduced by \$710 billion over the 2025–2034 period (see Table 1). That estimate is the net of a gross decrease in Medicaid spending of \$860 billion and an increase in costs of \$150 billion from enrollment in federally subsidized health insurance obtained through employment or in the marketplaces established by the ACA.

The \$860 billion gross decrease in federal Medicaid spending consists of initial savings of \$516 billion from the FMAP reduction, \$142 billion in savings attributable to states' reducing payment rates for providers and reducing benefits, and \$202 billion in savings from lower enrollments. CBO estimates that, in 2034, 2.4 million of the 5.5 million people

who would no longer be enrolled in Medicaid under this option would be without health insurance.

The CBO letter can be found [here](#).

Around the Agencies



National Prevention Week: May 11 – 17!

Each year, the second week of May is recognized as National Prevention Week. National Prevention Week is dedicated to celebrating communities and organizations across the country that are working to prevent substance use and misuse and promote mental health. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) [National Prevention Week webpage](#) has details on how to participate in the celebration, prevention-focused activities to implement in communities, and prevention resources. In recognition of National Prevention Week, SAMHSA released the [National Prevention Week Toolkit](#), which contains various resources to raise awareness on the importance of substance use prevention. Specifically, the toolkit contains social media shareables, key messaging, and other promotional tools to promote prevention efforts.

Additional SAMHSA information and resources on prevention can be found [here](#).

SAMHSA Highlights Youth Prevention Initiatives and Resources for Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

In recognition of Children's Mental Health Awareness Day on May 8, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is highlighting a series of resources and youth-focused prevention initiatives. These resources seek to raise awareness for mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) in children and support children and their parents in early identification and treatment of youth mental health and SUD. Specifically, SAMHSA is highlighting the following resources:

- [Mental Health, Drug, or Alcohol Issues: Helping your Child](#)
 - Provides background on identifying mental health and SUD in children and links to treatment
- ["Talk. They Hear You."® Underage Drinking Campaign](#)
 - SAMHSA's national youth substance use prevention campaign designed to help parents and caregivers take action to prevent substance use in children
- [Voices of Youth](#)
 - Outlines youth engagement initiatives around substance use prevention, including the [FentAlert Challenge](#) and [#MyPreventionStory](#)

NIH HEAL Initiative Workshop: Health Economics Research to Address the Needs of Those with Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder, and Comorbid Conditions

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Helping to End Addiction Long-term® (HEAL) Initiative, in collaboration with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), is hosting a virtual event on [HEAL Workshop: Health Economics Research to Address the Needs of Those with Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorder, and](#)



[Comorbid Conditions](#). This no-cost virtual event is on May 22, from 9:30 am- 3:30 pm ET. The virtual workshop is open to the public and designed to enable participants to engage with health economics researchers to identify opportunities for health economics research to improve services for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI), substance use disorder (SUD), or both conditions. Topics include:

- “Economic evaluation approaches
- Financing and delivery models
- Special populations
- Integrating treatment
- Experience of persons with lived experiences and families
- Reflections on new directions.”

The full agenda can be found [here](#).

[Registration](#) is required.

HRSA Resource: Video: Communities in Action: Licensure Compacts: Increasing Access to Behavioral Health Care

The Health Resources and Services Administration’s (HRSA) Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) recently released a video as part of its *Communities in Action* series on [Licensure Compacts: Increasing Access to Behavioral Health Care](#). The video offers background on licensure compacts, their role in enabling providers to provide care across States, and how providers can use licensure compacts to expand access to mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care using telehealth. Further, the video contains real-life examples of providers’ use of licensure compacts to provide mental health and SUD care virtually via telehealth in communities across the nation.

Additional information on licensure for mental health and SUD services can be found [here](#).

Research Roundup

FDA Study Finds Educational Efforts Prevented Nearly 450,000 Youth from Starting E-Cigarette Use From 2023-2024



A study, co-authored by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine (AJPM)* on [The Impact of “The Real Cost” on E-cigarette Initiation among U.S. Youth](#) found that FDA’s “The Real Cost” youth e-cigarette prevention campaign successfully reduced e-cigarette use among youth. The study examined the frequency of youth exposure to the campaign and initiation of e-cigarette use from a national sample of US youth aged 11-18 to determine the impact of exposure to the campaign on e-cigarette initiation. Specifically, the study found that the campaign contributed to the nearly 70% decline in e-cigarette use among US youth since 2019, including preventing an estimated 444,252 US youth aged 11-18 from initiating e-cigarettes between 2023 and 2024. Other key findings include:

- “Higher awareness of the campaign was significantly associated with a reduction in the odds of initiating e-cigarettes at follow-up.
 - For every unit increase in the exposure index, there was a 6% reduction in the probability of initiation.
- Among respondents who had never used an e-cigarette at baseline, 232 (6.8%) reported initiating e-cigarette use at follow-up.
 - 23.1% of the analytic sample reported living with a person who used tobacco at follow-up and 36.8% of respondents reported prior exposure to promotional content for e-cigarettes on social media.”

The study highlights the importance of continuing evidence-based e-cigarette prevention initiatives to protect youth from nicotine and reduce health risks associated with tobacco.

FDA’s press release on the study can be found [here](#).

Webinars to Watch

CoE-TFR Webinar: Key Considerations for Optimizing EMRs to Support Tobacco Use Treatment in Behavioral Health



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (CoE-TFR) is hosting a webinar on [*Key Considerations for Optimizing EMRs to Support Tobacco Use Treatment in Behavioral Health*](#). This no-cost webinar is on June 3, at 1:00 pm ET. The webinar will introduce key functional elements and practical strategies for improving electronic medical record (EMR) workflows, optimizing EMR systems, and supporting providers in delivering consistent tobacco use screening, intervention, and follow-up. Specifically, the webinar will feature an EMR expert who will discuss real-life examples of how EMRs are being used in practice and identify opportunities to leverage EMRs to strengthen tobacco use treatment across mental health and SUD settings. Learning objectives include:

- “Explain how behavioral health EMRs can drive workflows to support consistent and evidence-based tobacco use screening, treatment, and follow-up
- Identify opportunities to better align EMRs with evidence-based practice and optimize EMR features and workflows based on real-world experiences shared by a psychiatric provider and behavioral health program specialist
- List strategies for providers to overcome EMR system limitations and enhance tobacco use screening, treatment, and follow-up within existing capabilities.”

[Registration](#) is required.

NASADAD | 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Suite M 250 | Washington, DC 20006 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!