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DC Update: Faces & Voices of Recovery: The RAMSTAD/Kennedy Award DOJ Press Release: "Making America Safe Again: DOJ to Award \$300 Million to Model Cities Dedicated to Restoring Law and Order," CMS Press Release: CMS Launches Nationwide Framework to Implement Medicaid Work Requirements, and More.

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NASADAD News

Faces & Voices of Recovery: The RAMSTAD/Kennedy Award

Faces & Voices of Recovery is now accepting nominations for the [RAMSTAD/Kennedy Award](#). Named after the Honorable Jim



**FACES & VOICES
OF RECOVERY**

ADVOCATE. ACT. ADVANCE.

Ramstad (R-MN, deceased 2020) and the Honorable Patrick Kennedy (D-RI, retired), this award honors their leadership in advancing equitable care for people with substance use disorders and their families. The award is presented annually to a Single State Agency Director who has demonstrated outstanding support for recovery. Nominations close Thursday, July 30. The 2026 award will be presented on Thursday, September 3, in Washington, DC, at the Recovery Month Luncheon. Nomination criteria are as follows:

- “Provided outstanding leadership and innovation in promoting the goals of National Recovery Month during 2024, including support of the permanent tagline, ‘Hope is Real. Recovery is Real.’”
- Strengthened and expanded Recovery Month activities within their agency and throughout other state agencies.
- Provided support to strengthen and expand Recovery Month activities and programs that support individual and family recovery throughout their state.
- Expanded the number and impact of Recovery Month activities in their local communities.”

To submit a nomination, access the Faces & Voices of Recovery webpage [here](#).

Around the Agencies

DOJ Press Release: "Making America Safe Again: DOJ to Award \$300 Million to Model Cities Dedicated to Restoring Law and Order"

On June 3, 2026, the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs issued a press release titled, "[Making America Safe Again: DOJ to Award \\$300 Million to Model Cities Dedicated to Restoring Law and Order](#)." The release announced the Model Cities Initiative (MCI), which will provide nearly \$300 million in federal funds to support strategies that “reduce crime, restore law and order, and enhance public safety.” The MCI emphasizes a “whole of city approach,” requiring city leaders, including the mayor, sheriff, county prosecutor, and others, to collaborate on a single application. This application should present a clear plan for strategically allocating funds to improve law enforcement engagement, victim services, detention and reentry services, and preventive programs. Two to four cities will be selected for awards. Eligible applicants are local government entities serving populations of at least 100,000. Proposals are due by September 1. The MCI allows for a range of activities, including:

- Hiring and retention of sworn and non-sworn personnel directly engaged in or supporting violent crime reduction efforts.
- Purchase or lease of equipment, tools, or technology that reduce crime and restore law and order including but not limited to real-time crime centers; forensic and DNA tools; body-worn cameras; license plate readers; artificial intelligence systems; small unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and counter-UAS; ballistic identification systems; and information technology upgrades.
- Training and professional development that support intelligence-led policing, violent crime investigations, crisis response, correctional practices that strengthen reentry outcomes, and coordination with state and federal law enforcement partners.
- Facility Costs including lease, rental, or renovation expenses for space directly used in program operations, such as service delivery sites, training facilities, real-time crime centers, or intelligence analysis centers.
- Mental health and substance use services that directly support prevention, crisis response, screening and early intervention, treatment, case management, and related services addressing issues linked to public safety outcomes, including services provided in correctional facilities and in the community.”

- Reentry, transitional support, and recidivism reduction programs and services designed to reduce repeat offending, support transitions from custody, and promote successful reintegration into communities, including operational costs for county jails and state prisons that support reentry preparation.
- Victim services for American victims of crime, including, emergency assistance, case management, shelter and temporary housing, medical and dental care, advocacy, transportation, childcare, legal services, and employment assistance.
- Youth crime prevention and intervention services that address risk factors for juvenile delinquency and violence, including gang intervention and suppression programs.”

The press release can be accessed [here](#).

Additional information about the award is available at www.justice.gov/grants.

To apply for this award, please submit application materials to MCIapplications@usdoj.gov.

For any questions related to the MCI Call for Applications, you can send your inquiry to MCIquestions@usdoj.gov.

CMS Press Release: CMS Launches Nationwide Framework to Implement Medicaid Work Requirements



On June 1, 2026, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) announced an Interim Final Rule with Comment (IFC) titled “[CMS Launches Nationwide Framework to Implement Medicaid Work Requirements](#).” Under Public Law 119-21, known as the Working Families Tax Cut (WFTC) legislation, the rule requires certain adult Medicaid applicants and enrollees to complete at least 80 hours per month of work, education, work programs, or community service to maintain eligibility. The rule applies to adults ages 19 through 64, with exemptions for individuals who are pregnant, postpartum, disabled, medically frail – including those with substance use disorders, American Indian or Alaska Native, parents or caregivers of young children, and people with disabilities, and those already meeting similar requirements through SNAP or TANF. States must follow specific standards for eligibility determinations, exemptions, verification, and reporting. The rule also outlines how states must assess and verify compliance and communicate these requirements to applicants and beneficiaries. CMS will support states with federal resources, technical assistance, and private-sector collaboration, including \$200 million in Government Efficiency Grants and over \$600 million in private-sector technology support for system modernization and outreach. States must implement the work requirement by January 1, 2027. The rule is open for public comment, consistent with the WFTC legislative directive and timeline.

The press release can be accessed [here](#).

The Interim Final Rule with Comment can be accessed [here](#).

A fact sheet on the Medicaid Community Engagement Requirement Interim Final Rule can be accessed [here](#).

DTAC Resources: Alcohol Misuse & Disasters

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC) has released resources on alcohol misuse in the context of disasters. These materials address the risks of alcohol misuse following disasters and provide guidance on supporting individuals with current or past experiences of alcohol misuse. Key resources include the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Ready.gov [website](#), which offers information on recognizing disaster-related stress and increased substance use, particularly among teenagers. Additional materials include a

one-page handout from the [Psychological First Aid Field Operations Guide](#), which explains why substance use may increase after a disaster and outlines steps for managing use and recognizing stress symptoms. The SAMHSA [Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series](#) also provides online information, tip sheets, and handouts on alcohol misuse, alcohol use disorders, and available treatment and support options.

CoE-PHI Resources: Introduction to the Federal Privacy Laws



The Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded Center for Excellence for Protected Health Information has released a training session on "Introduction to the Federal Privacy Laws." This session includes a PowerPoint slide deck with embedded trainer notes and a session overview. It also provides FAQs on session content with pre-prepared answers, a participant evaluation, and pre- and post-tests to gauge knowledge gains. Additional related resources are included, such as CoE-PHI's eLearning Modules "[Federal Privacy Regulations When Providing SUD and Mental Health Services](#)" and "[Privacy Basics for Frontline Staff](#)." Learning objectives include:

- "Describe applicable federal privacy laws and key concepts to consider when providing substance use treatment.
- Practice applying concepts related to federal privacy law through case studies.
- Identify where to locate additional related resources."

For information on how to tailor training for your organization, reach out directly to the CoE-PHI to [request individualized technical assistance](#).

Research Round-Up

SAMHSA Publication: Associations Between Maternal Opioid Use Disorder Treatment and Pregnancy Outcomes

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Financing Reform & Innovation (CFRI) released a publication titled "[Associations Between Maternal Opioid Use Disorder Treatment and Pregnancy Outcomes](#)." This one-page fact sheet summarizes data points from a study of Medicaid records of 29,193 women diagnosed with OUD either 6 months before pregnancy or during pregnancy. The purpose of this study was to assess whether receiving OUD treatment, such as medications, talk-based therapies, or both, affects the risk for experiencing adverse pregnancy outcomes such as fetal death, fetal growth restriction, placental abruption, or preterm labor. The study found that pregnant women who received OUD treatment, including medication, talk-based therapies, or both, had significantly better pregnancy outcomes than those who received no treatment. Key findings include:

The fact sheet can be accessed [here](#).

The referenced study can be accessed [here](#).

Webinars to Watch

NCSACW Webinar: Lessons from the Regional Partnership Grants Program: What Works for Families



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Center on Substance Abuse and Child

Welfare (NCSACW) is hosting a webinar on “[Lessons from the Regional Partnership Grants Program: What Works for Families](#).” This no-cost webinar will be held on June 18 from 2:00 pm - 2:30 pm ET. This webinar seeks to provide a guided overview of a [NCSACW brief](#), summarizing key collaboration strategies identified through 20 years of experience with the Regional Partnership Grants (RPG) Program. Specifically, the webinar seeks to provide participants with information on applying strategies such as shared goals, formal structures, integrated services, and data-informed decision-making to their work.

Registration is available [here](#).

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