NASADAD releases fact sheet on discretionary funding supporting primary prevention

NASADAD has released a new fact sheet on federal discretionary grant programs that support primary prevention of substance use. The fact sheet emphasizes the importance of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant’s Prevention Set-Aside, the Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnerships for Success (SPF-PFS) program, and the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) program. While noting that the SAPT Block Grant serves as the cornerstone of the publicly-funded system, the fact sheet states that other federal discretionary grants, such as SPF-PFS and DFC, also play a critical role in supporting prevention services. The document provides an overview of all three of these federal grant programs, including the following highlights:

- Federal statute requires States to direct at least 20 percent of the SAPT Block Grant toward primary prevention services, which was about $371 million in FY 2019.
  - The prevention set-aside represents the single largest source of funding managed by State alcohol and drug agencies, comprising 68 percent of the primary substance use prevention funding in States, U.S. territories, and Washington, D.C.
- Other federal funds, such as SPF-PFS and DFC, account for 13% of State alcohol and drug agencies’ funding for primary prevention, and in some States, these other federal funding sources comprise up to 69% of their total primary prevention dollars.
- In recent years, the purpose of the SPF-PFS program has been to address underage drinking among youth between the ages of 12 and 20, and prescription drug misuse among individuals between the ages of 12 and 25.
  - In 2019, the SPF-PFS program is intended to address underage drinking among 9 to 20 year-old youth, and at their discretion, recipients may also use grant funds to target up to two additional, data-driven substance use prevention priorities, such as the use of marijuana, cocaine, opioids, or methamphetamine, etc.
  - The SPF-PFS program is funded at $119 million in FY 2019.
- The DFC program, funded at $100 million in FY 2019, has two goals:
  - Establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, public and private non-profit agencies, as well as federal, State, local, and tribal governments to support the efforts of community coalitions working to prevent and reduce substance misuse among youth up to the age of 18.
Reduce substance use among youth and, over time, reduce substance use among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance misuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance use.

The SAPT Block Grant, SPF-PFS, and DFC programs have not received substantial funding increases in recent years.

Kevin Moore (SSA, IN) retiring from State service/leaving NASADAD Board of Directors

Kevin Moore, director of the State alcohol and drug agency in Indiana, is retiring at the end of April, after 34 years of service to the State. For the past several years, Kevin served on the NASADAD Board of Directors as Region V director. In this role, Kevin represented the interest of States in his region (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) and engaged in discussions impacting the work of the Association. In addition, Mr. Moore served on the Annual Meeting Committee, Awards Committee, and Public Policy Committee.

Mr. Moore and his staff did a spectacular job hosting the NASADAD annual meeting in Indianapolis in 2017. During that meeting, attendees heard a presentation from Dr. Jerome Adams, then-Indiana State Health Official and current Surgeon General. During the same conference, Mr. Moore received the 2017 NASADAD Service Award for his contributions to the Association and leadership in Indiana.

Mr. Moore helped lead discussions within the Association regarding substance use disorder issues in rural communities. For example, he joined Mark Stringer (SSA, MO) in presenting on this topic at a meeting convened by the Office of National Drug Control Policy’s (ONDCP) Rural Opioid Federal Working Group.

We thank Kevin for his work and contributions to NASADAD and wish him the best as he enters retirement.

Final call for nominations for 2019 Ramstad-Kennedy Award

The Ramstad/Kennedy Award was established in 2008 to recognize a Single State Authority (SSA) Director who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in support of recovery and National Recovery Month and to acknowledge Congressmen Jim Ramstad (R-MN-ret) and Patrick Kennedy (D-RI-ret) for their commitment to recovery and recovery-oriented policies. Award planners are currently seeking nominations for the 2019 award. Applications are due April 26, 2019, and the award will be presented at the NASADAD Annual Meeting in Bethesda, MD, which will be held June 4-6, 2019.

White House Happenings

ONDCP releases resource guide for educators on substance use prevention

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) recently released a resource guide for school staff on substance use prevention. The guide provides an overview of federal resources that can help school staff to identify and address substance use disorders in students. As described in the resource guide, “Evidence-based prevention programs, delivered in school settings, can be a valuable way to reduce drug use among youth and help them succeed academically. The resources included in this guide are available free from the federal government, and can help educators protect students and schools from the impact of illicit substance use and abuse.” The guide has resources specifically for all school staff, teachers, and school administrators.

News from the States

PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, led by Jennifer Smith (SSA), receives Innovation Now Award

Last week, the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), which is led by NASADAD member, Secretary Jennifer Smith, received an Innovation Now Award for their work to implement warm hand-off protocols throughout the state. As described in a press release, “Since January 2017, more than 5,000 individuals have been directly referred to treatment as part of the warm hand-off concept. Counties with successful implementations
are seeing a success rate of 90 percent of overdose survivors directly admitted into drug and alcohol treatment following an overdose."

When accepting her award from the Addiction Policy Forum, Secretary Smith said on behalf of Governor Wolf’s Administration, “The department is proud of each county’s warm hand-off successes and the collaboration between state and local community members to position Pennsylvania as a leader in response to the opioid epidemic. There is still much work to be done but together, as neighbors, we will continue to move Pennsylvania forward through this crisis.”

NY OASAS and Dept. of Health wrap up campaign to raise awareness of addiction treatment services for pregnant women
For the past month, the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)—led by NASADAD Board Member, Commissioner Arlene González-Sánchez—and the New York State Health Department (DOH) held a campaign to raise awareness of the addiction services that are available for pregnant women in the State. The campaign included both English and Spanish public service announcements, as well as posters and palm cards that were distributed in community and medical settings, including OB/GYN facilities. In a press release, Commissioner González-Sánchez said, “For women suffering from addiction during their pregnancy, it is vitally important that they seek treatment as soon as possible. These critical treatment services are available throughout New York State to support women facing challenges related to their addiction, while also helping to increase their chances of having a healthy pregnancy.”

In the News

Volunteers of America releases directory of Family-Based Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs for Parents with Children
Volunteers of America has released a directory of family-based residential programs that serve individuals who are struggling with addiction who also have children. The State-by-State directory has 3 overarching goals: 1) to provide parents seeking treatment with information on family residential treatment centers; 2) to provide child welfare professionals with information about family treatment centers that may be eligible for Title IV-E reimbursement; and, 3) to provide policymakers with information about family-based residential treatment services.