

May 9, 2019



D.C. Update: House Appropriations Committee approves FY 2020 funding bill, Sara Goldsby (SSA,SC) featured on PBS, new federal funding opportunities, and more

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Capitol Hill Happenings

House Appropriations Committee approves FY 2020 funding bill

On May 8, 2019, the House Appropriations Committee, led by Chairwoman Nita Lowey (D-NY) and Ranking Member Kay Granger (R-TX), passed its funding bill for programs within the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education, and Related Agencies for FY 2020 (Oct. 1, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020). The [bill](#) includes funding for all HHS programs, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The bill includes the following funding levels for NASADAD's priority programs within SAMHSA:

- **\$1.858 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant** (level compared to FY 2019; level compared to President's proposed budget)
- **\$1.5 billion for the State Opioid Response Grants** (level compared to FY 2019; level compared to President's budget)
- **\$472 million for the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)**, which is \$13.5 million above the FY 2019 level, and \$42 million above the President's proposal
 - \$4 million for new program, Grants to Develop Curricula for DATA Act Waivers
 - \$2 million for Peer Support Technical Assistance Center, another new program
 - \$31 million for SBIRT, which is \$1 million above the FY 2019 level, and \$31 million above the President's proposed elimination of the program
 - \$89 million for MAT-Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction (PDOA) program (level compared to FY 2019 and President's proposal)
 - \$29.9 million for Pregnant and Postpartum Women program (level compared to FY 2019 and President's proposal)
 - \$70 million for Drug Courts (level compared to FY 2019 and President's proposal)
- **\$212 million for the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)**,

which is \$7 million above FY 2019, and \$68 million above the President's proposal

- \$119 for the Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnerships for Success program (level compared to FY 2019, and \$61 million above the President's proposal)
- \$46 million for the Minority AIDS program, which is \$5 million above FY 2019 as well as the President's budget proposal
- \$10 million for Sober Truth on Underage Drinking program, which is \$2 million above FY 2019 as well as the President's proposal
- Note that the Committee did not accept the President's proposal to include \$100,000,000 for the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) program within CSAP, noting that the program should remain in the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

NASADAD has developed a [preliminary overview](#) providing further details on funding for other HHS programs, including the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), and Administration for Children and Families (ACF).

White House Happenings

ONDCP releases report, "An Update on the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis: One Year Later"

On May 8th, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) released a new report, "[An Update on the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis: One Year Later](#)." As described in a press release, the report outlines the progress the Trump Administration has made to curb addiction and tackle drug demand and the opioid crisis through prevention, interdiction and treatment, including:

- An ad campaign, conducted in partnership with Truth Initiative and the Ad Council, has over 1 billion views, with 58% of young adults ages 18-24 aware of these ads.
 - From January 2017 to February 2019, initial market data suggests that the total amount of opioids being prescribed monthly (by retail and mail-order pharmacies) has dropped by 34%.
 - To stop the flood of deadly fentanyl into our communities, the Administration secured a commitment from China to stop trafficking Chinese fentanyl, and has successfully called over 130 countries to join our efforts against drug trafficking.
 - The number of patients receiving buprenorphine increased 23% and the number of prescriptions for naltrexone increased 42% since 2017.
 - From January 2017 through February 2019, the number of naloxone prescriptions dispensed has increased 484%.
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Around the Agencies

Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, Dr. McCance-Katz, blogs about treating opioid use disorder

Dr. Elinore McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, recently [published a blog post](#) on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) website about treating opioid use disorder (OUD). The blog highlights the issue of providers' willingness to treat individuals who are struggling with addiction. Dr. McCance-Katz writes, "The data tell us that a lack of people trained to treat these disorders is not the issue; a lack of trained individuals willing to do so is what appears to be the problem." She acknowledges the many barriers that providers face when treating OUD, and notes that the federal government plays a role in the treatment gap, stating

that, "We are working to address administrative burden. We are working to mainstream substance use disorder training into our schools. We have expanded efforts to provide you additional training and technical assistance in your communities. This is available to you, at no cost, and I encourage you to take advantage of it."

ONDCP and SAMHSA seeking applications for Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and SAMHSA are accepting applications for the [Drug-Free Communities \(DFC\) Support Program grants](#). The DFC Support Program has two goals:

1. 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 use among youth.
2. Reduce substance use among youth and, over time, reduce substance abuse among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse, and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

Eligible applicants are community-based coalitions addressing youth substance use that have never received a DFC grant. SAMHSA plans to issue 150 grants of up to \$125,000 per year for up to 5 years. Applications are due Monday, July 8, 2019.

News from the States

Sara Goldsby (SSA, SC) featured on South Carolina PBS

Last month, NASADAD Board Member Sara Goldsby (SSA, SC), Director of the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS), was interviewed for "This Week in South Carolina" on PBS. During the interview, Director Goldsby described the scope of the opioid crisis in South Carolina; the impact of the State Targeted Response and State Opioid Response grants on increasing access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services in the State; how individuals and families can prevent opioid misuse through efforts such as participating in drug take back events and securing prescription medications in the home; the role and impact of Governor McMaster's Opioid Emergency Response Team; policies for individuals living with chronic pain; the importance of medication-assisted treatment; the impact of the opioid crisis on infectious disease incidence; and much more. We recognize Director Goldsby for her efforts to address opioid addiction and overdose within the State of South Carolina, and we thank her for her leadership within NASADAD.



Upcoming Events

Office of Minority Health webinar on Advocating for Prevention in Communities of Color: The Role of Providers Amid the Opioid Crisis

The Office of Minority Health is conducting a four-part webinar series for providers aimed at addressing and raising awareness about opioid-related disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations. The first webinar, "[Advocating for Prevention in Communities of Color: The Role of Providers Amid the Opioid Crisis](#)," will highlight key facts and statistics about opioid misuse and mortality, and the disparities that exist among racial and ethnic minority populations. Speakers will discuss principles, strategies and best practices for preventing opioid misuse and

addiction. Additionally, they will provide information on the provider's role in culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention efforts. Objectives of the webinar are to: 1) Gain a better understanding of opioid misuse and addiction and its impact on racial ethnic minority populations; 2) Increase awareness of principles, strategies and best practices for preventing opioid misuse and addiction in communities of color; and 3) Identify and share resources for providers and other stakeholders to facilitate culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention efforts. The webinar will be held on Monday, May 13, 2019, from 1:00-2:30 pm EST.

SAMHSA's National Prevention Week to be held May 12-18

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) [National Prevention Week](#) (NPW) will be held May 12 - 18, 2019. The three primary goals of National Prevention Week are to:

1. Involve communities in raising awareness of substance use and mental health issues and in implementing prevention strategies, and showcasing effectiveness of evidence-based prevention programs;
2. Foster partnerships and collaborations with federal agencies and national organizations dedicated to improving public health; and
3. Promote and disseminate quality substance use prevention and mental health promotion resources and publications.

Dr. Elinore F. McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance, kicks off NPW with a [video about the importance of prevention](#).
