

February 6, 2020



D.C. Update: ONDCP releases 2020 Drug Control Strategy , upcoming National Prevention Network Conference, and more

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### Meet the Member

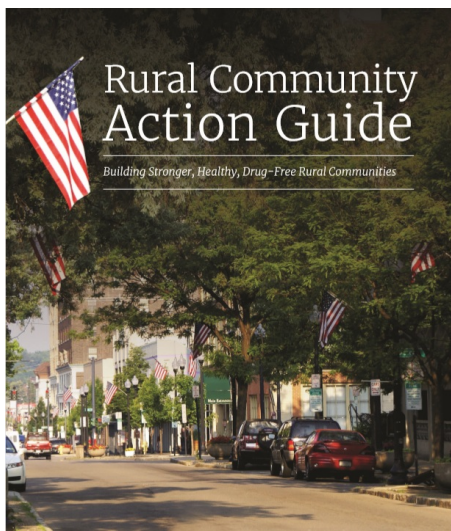
#### Cynthia Seivwright, Vermont Member

Cynthia Seivwright is the Director of the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs within the Vermont Department of Health. She received her Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Antioch New England and is a Vermont Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor. For 20 years she served as a psychotherapist working with adults and adolescents in managed care settings as well as private practice.



In 2000, Cynthia transitioned into working for the Vermont State government. During her nearly 20 years in State government, she has also worked for the Department of Mental Health and Department of Vermont Health Access (Medicaid) in quality improvement. Cynthia's current position involves the development and oversight of a comprehensive system in Vermont to address substance use disorders. Her responsibilities include oversight of State-funded prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services. In October 2019 she was appointed to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Interdepartmental Substance Use Disorder Coordinating Committee (ISUDCC) for a three-year term.

News from NASADAD



## Robert Morrison speaks at White House unveiling of Rural Community Action Guide

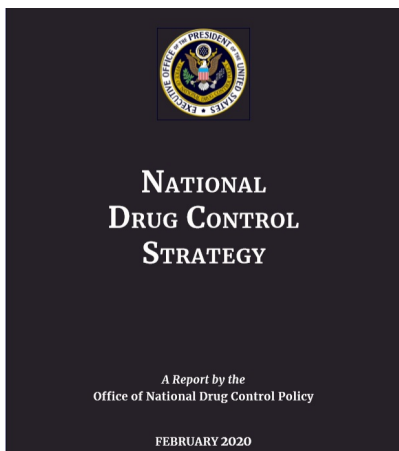
On January 31st, NASADAD's Executive Director, Robert Morrison, spoke at the unveiling of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's (ONDCP) [Rural Community Action Guide](#). The toolkit was developed to assist rural communities in their response to the opioid crisis and includes sections regarding stigma and the "changing face of addiction", the impact of addiction on rural communities, and strategies for use across the continuum of care to address substance use disorders (SUD).

## 33<sup>rd</sup> National Prevention Network Conference to be held August 25-27 in Birmingham, Alabama

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual [National Prevention Network \(NPN\) Conference](#) will be held on August 25-27, 2020 in Birmingham, Alabama. The NPN is a component group of NASADAD that focuses on the primary prevention of substance use. The purpose of the conference is to highlight the latest research in the substance use prevention field and to provide a forum for prevention professionals, coalition leaders, researchers, and federal partners to share research, best practices, and promising evaluation results. The conference theme for 2020 is, "Advancing Prevention Science through the Lens of Change: How Sweet It Is!" The conference will include keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and networking opportunities. Registration information will be available in early May.



## Around the Agencies



## ONDCP releases 2020 National Drug Control Strategy

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) has released their [2020 National Drug Control Strategy](#). The Strategy focuses on three overarching categories: 1) preventing substance use through education and evidence-based prevention programs; 2) increasing access to substance use treatment services; and 3) reducing the availability of drugs through law enforcement and coordinating with international partners to reduce drug trafficking.

This Strategy is being released in conjunction with the following supplemental documents:

- [2020 Performance Reporting System](#)

- [2020 Data Supplement](#)
- [FY 2021 Budget and Performance Summary](#); and,
- [National Treatment Plan for Substance Use Disorder](#)

### **FDA launches interactive database for HIV antiretrovirals**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [announced](#) the launch of an interactive database that will include information about antiretrovirals (ARVs) that are available for purchase under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). While ARVs eligible for purchase have long been available on the FDA website, the new database provides additional information and data for each drug. Health care providers and patients will be able to see the full prescribing information, which drugs are suitable for pediatric populations, where the drug is manufactured, what the shelf-life is, and if the drug has any storage requirements.

### **OJJDP accepting applications for Family Drug Courts Program**

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), located within the Department of Justice (DOJ), is now accepting [applications](#) for the Family Drug Courts Program. The purpose of the program is to support States and communities as they develop and implement effective substance use intervention programs. Eligible applicants include States and territories, State and local courts, units of local government, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Grants are available in three categories: 1) Enhancing Family Drug Courts, 2) Serving Veterans through Family Drug Courts, and 3) State and County Family Drug Courts Expansion.

### **MACPAC submits report on oversight of institutions for mental diseases**

The Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC) submitted a [report](#) to Congress that addresses oversight of institutions for mental diseases (IMDs). The report, required by the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act of 2018, identifies and describes facilities designated as IMDs in seven States: California, Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Ohio, and Texas. The report also provides a summary of State licensure, certification, or accreditation requirements and Medicaid clinical and quality standards.



### **PTTC Network creates marijuana prevention and education toolkit**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) Network has launched a new [Marijuana Education Toolkit](#) that contains several resources for professionals in the prevention field. Created by the PTTC’s Marijuana Risk Work Group, the toolkit includes a facts vs. myths information sheet, a cannabis glossary, and two slide banks for use in educational settings. The toolkit also includes a recorded webinar that provides a detailed overview of each of the four products, goals and intended uses for the toolkit, tips and pointers for implementation, and questions/ comments from webinar participants.

### **CMS to hold listening session regarding supplemental benefits of Medicare Advantage plans**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced an event titled “Substance Use Disorders: Availability of Benefits Listening Session.” As required by the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act, CMS must evaluate the extent to which Medicare Advantage plans offer supplemental benefits to treat or prevent substance use disorders (SUD) not otherwise covered under

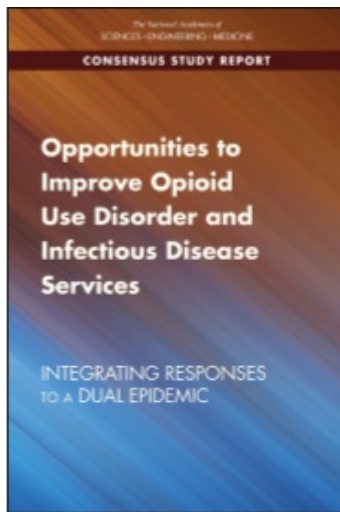
traditional Medicare. Clinicians and State and national associations representing health care providers are encouraged to participate as CMS would like to collect feedback on the following questions:

- What supplemental benefits do you use now to treat your Medicare Advantage patients with SUDs?
- Are there any challenges associated with accessing or using these supplemental benefits to treat patients?
- What benefits currently exist in the medical community for the treatment of SUDs that you would like to see offered by your Medicare Advantage plan in the future?

The listening session will be held on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm EST and registration details can be found [here](#).

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## In the News



### NASEM releases report on the integration of OUD and infectious disease services

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM), at the request of the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Infectious Disease and HIV/AIDS Policy (OIDP), recently released a [report](#) titled "Opportunities to Improve Opioid Use Disorder and Infectious Disease Services: Integrating Responses to a Dual Epidemic." NASEM gathered evidence from 11 programs that are in the process of integrating services for opioid use disorder (OUD) and infectious diseases, as well as additional supporting literature. The report highlighted a set of barriers that inhibit integration: policies at the federal and State level including prior authorization policies and the Drug

Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) waiver requirement, stigma, workforce needs, and lack of adherence to the best available evidence. For each of the identified barriers, the report offers a number of strategies and recommendations to overcome those barriers.

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