

April 2, 2020



D.C. Update: New COVID-19 resources added to NASADAD website, SAMHSA accepting applications for Emergency COVID-19 grants, and more

Visit our Website



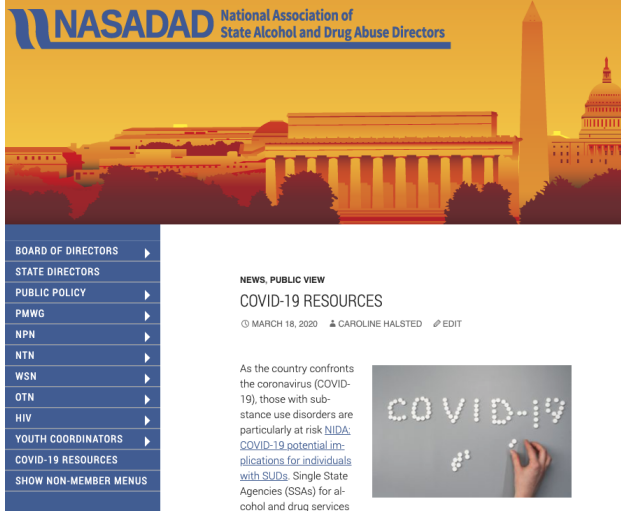
Meet the Member

Lisa Jobe-Shields, NASADAD Member

Lisa Jobe-Shields, Ph.D. is Deputy Director, Community Behavioral Health at the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Current priorities include the implementation of a large-scale State investment in Virginia's public substance use and mental health system (STEP-VA); expanding Medicaid access to evidence-based, trauma-informed interventions for individuals across substance use and mental health conditions and across the lifespan; and the interagency implementation of Family First Prevention Services Act, with an emphasis on the coordination between adult substance use and mental health care with family-based abuse and neglect prevention. Lisa adheres to the scientist-practitioner model and is a licensed clinical psychologist in Virginia. Prior to coming to DBHDS, she worked as an academic, conducting research on intergenerational patterns in violence and mental health difficulties, co-occurring substance use and trauma-related disorders, and community-based participatory research to better serve families impacted by multiple generations of trauma and substance use in the child welfare system.



News from NASADAD
New COVID-19 resources added to
NASADAD website



NASADAD continues to update resources on our COVID-19 webpage. The page provides federal guidance and State actions taken by SSAs to date. It is not intended to be exhaustive but is meant to highlight key actions and resources that may help other States and territories as they prepare for and respond to the virus. This week NASADAD added the following resources:

- CDC's [Guideline for Isolation Precautions: Preventing Transmission of Infectious Agents in](#)

Healthcare Settings

- Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) [COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- Hawaii has provided their Department of Health's Division of Child and Adolescent Mental Health's [guidance for substance use and mental health providers](#)
- Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) & Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) [Buprenorphine and Telemedicine COVID-19 Guidance](#) (March 31, 2020)
- [Fact sheet: Telehealth Coverage Policies During COVID-19](#) from the Center for Connected Health Policy
- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Medicare Provider Enrollment Relief [Frequently Asked Questions](#) (CMS)

Capitol Hill Happenings

President signs CARES Act into law

On Friday, March 27th Congress passed, and the President signed, the [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) to address the impact of COVID-19. The \$2 trillion package provides supplemental appropriations to federal agencies, including:

\$425 million to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- \$250 million to Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs)
- \$50 million for suicide prevention programs
- \$100 million for SAMHSA Emergency Response Grants providing “flexible funding to address mental health, substance use disorders, and provide resources and support to youth and the homeless during the pandemic.”
- \$15 million for tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health or behavioral health services providers to tribes.

\$4.3 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- \$1.5 billion will be dedicated to cooperative agreements with states, locals, tribes for surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities

\$1 billion to the Department of Justice (DOJ)

- \$850 million to the Byrne/JAG program
- \$15 million to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA accepting applications for Emergency COVID-19 grants

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is now accepting applications for Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance

Use Disorders During COVID-19 (Emergency COVID-19). The purpose of the program is to provide crisis intervention services, mental and substance use disorder treatment, crisis counseling, and other related supports for children and adults impacted by COVID-19. Eligible applicants include States, territories, and tribes, and SAMHSA plans to issue 60 grants of up to \$2 million per State or up to \$500,000 for territories and tribes for 16 months. Applications are due **Friday, April 10th** and more information can be found [here](#).

Telehealth learning and discussion series

The Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network, the Center for Excellence on Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI), the National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers, and the Center for the Application of Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT) will be holding national online discussion and resource sharing opportunities for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment providers and peer support specialists to assist in their transition to telephone and videoconferencing methods due to COVID-19. One-hour sessions will be held weekly with at least 45 minutes of peer-to-peer conversation, information exchange, and "Top Five" tips and lessons learned. Professionals and providers with experience providing telehealth services and expertise in protected health information and 42 CFR Part 2 will also participate in the weekly sessions. The live sessions will be held on the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, April 7th: 4:00-5:00pm EST
- Wednesday, April 8th: 1:00-2:00pm EST
- Tuesday, April 14th: 4:00-5:00pm EST
- Wednesday, April 15th: 1:00-2:00pm EST
- Tuesday, April 21st: 1:00-2:00pm EST
- Wednesday, April 29th: 4:00-5:00pm EST

For more information and links to join the sessions, click [here](#).



FDA releases consumer update on fraudulent COVID-19 products

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently released a [consumer update](#) regarding fraudulent COVID-19 products including tests, vaccines, and treatments. As described in the update, because COVID-19 has never been seen in humans before, there are currently no vaccines to prevent or drugs to treat the

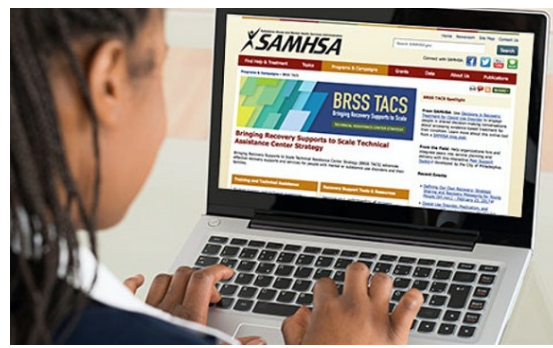
virus that are approved by the FDA. Additionally, the FDA has seen unauthorized fraudulent test kits for COVID-19 being sold online and the agency has not authorized any test kits that are available to purchase for at-home testing. The FDA noted their concern that these products might cause Americans to delay or stop appropriate medical treatment and could also cause adverse effects.

DEA to postpone National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) [announced](#) that their upcoming National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, scheduled for April 25, 2020, will be postponed due to COVID-19. As described in the press release, the overwhelming public response to past Take Back events and the anticipated large turnout for April's event, the DEA determined it would be prudent to suspend the event until safety concerns are mitigated. The event will be rescheduled after the health crisis recedes and national emergency guidelines are lifted. In the interim, for those seeking safe drug disposal options, the agency recommends visiting the DEA Diversion Control Division [locator page](#).

Recovery LIVE! virtual event on providing digital peer recovery support services

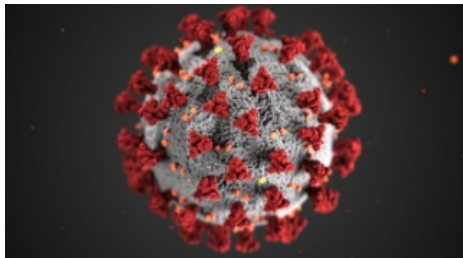
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS TACS) is holding a Recovery LIVE! virtual event on providing digital peer recovery support services for individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders (SUD). As



described in the announcement, the event will cover the practical aspects of using technology to provide peer recovery support services, including assessing which platform to use; how to engage people with technology; digital communication skills; technology literacy and usage skills; and consent, privacy, and confidentiality. The virtual event will be held on Thursday, April 9th from 2:00-3:30 pm EST and registration can be found [here](#).

DOJ releases FOA for Byrne JAG coronavirus emergency funding

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) released a funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for the FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program. Eligible applicants include States, territories, units of local government, and federally recognized tribal governments that were eligible for funding under the FY 2019 State and Local Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. As described in the announcement, the funding can be used for overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses, and addressing the medical needs of inmates in State, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers. Applications are due May 29, 2020 and more information can be found [here](#).



NIDA director publishes blog post on implications of COVID-19 on individuals with substance use disorder

Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), released a new [blog post](#) on the potential implications of COVID-19 on individuals with substance use disorders (SUD). Noting the virus' impact on the

respiratory system, Dr. Volkow points out that COVID-19 could be an especially serious threat to those who smoke or vape tobacco or marijuana. Additionally, individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) and methamphetamine use disorder may also be vulnerable due to the effects of those drugs on the lungs. The blog post also notes that individuals with SUD often face decreased access to healthcare, and a greater likelihood of experiencing homelessness or incarceration. Dr. Volkow urges researchers to collect data and focus on active surveillance of this population during the pandemic.

ONDCP publishes list of virtual recovery resources

Jim Carroll, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), recently sent out a letter that provides virtual recovery resources for individuals in recovery from a substance use disorder. Director Carroll noted in the letter, "We understand that with the need for social distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19, many of you have been unable to attend in-person support group meetings. For those in recovery, continuing to stay connected to your social support communities can be critical in maintaining recovery...During this time, we recommend leveraging technology to remain connected with the communities you've built during your journey...". The list of virtual recovery resources can be found [here](#).

In the News

SAFE Project to hold virtual collegiate recovery meetings

In an effort to support students in recovery during the impact of COVID-19, SAFE Project's SAFE Campuses Collegiate Recovery Leadership Academy will be leading virtual recovery meetings three times a week. Participation is open to all students and alumni in recovery. Meetings will be held Mondays at 7pm EST, Wednesdays at 1:30pm EST, and Fridays at 3pm EST. For more information and to access meetings, click [here](#).

STARTING MARCH 16TH

VIRTUAL COLLEGIATE ALL-RECOVERY MEETINGS

LED BY SAFE COLLEGIATE RECOVERY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY STUDENTS

MON 7 PM ET	WED 1:30 PM ET	FRI 3 PM ET
-----------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------

SAFEProject PLEASE SHARE WITH STUDENTS AND ALUMNI IN RECOVERY: <https://zoom.us/j/328951750>

The graphic is a promotional poster for virtual recovery meetings. It features a light blue background with a dark blue header and footer. The main title is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below the title, there are three columns representing the days and times of the meetings: Monday at 7 PM ET, Wednesday at 1:30 PM ET, and Friday at 3 PM ET. The footer contains the SAFEProject logo and a request to share the information with students and alumni, along with a Zoom link.