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D.C. Update: Study examines trends in methamphetamine use at treatment admission, Children's Bureau releases guidance on applying for Family First Prevention Services Act Transition Grant, and more

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Meet the Member

Kody Kinsley, NASADAD Member

Kody Kinsley serves as the Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health & Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities at DHHS where he works to achieve a future in which all North Carolinians have access to high-quality and integrated mental health, substance use disorder, and intellectual or developmental disability supports. His work focuses on re-designing the public insurance system, combatting the opioid epidemic, and improving operations of State organizations and the broader delivery system. Deputy Secretary Kinsley's past experience spans the public and private sectors, including positions at the White House, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, leading operations for a mental health and substance use service provider in western North Carolina, and most recently serving as the presidentially appointed Assistant Secretary for Management for the United States Department of the Treasury. He earned his bachelor's degree from Brevard College in Brevard, NC his Master of Public Policy from the University of California, at Berkeley, and is a native of Wilmington, NC.



News from NASADAD
NPN Planning Committee seeking
workshop proposals for annual conference
by April 10th



The National Prevention Network (NPN), a component group of NASADAD, will hold its annual conference from August 25-27, 2020 in Birmingham, Alabama. The NPN Planning Committee is still accepting workshop proposals to present at the 2020 NPN Conference. The proposals should address the conference theme, *Advancing Prevention Science Through the Lens of Change: How Sweet It Is!*, and fit into one of the following six topics: evidence-based programs and strategies to prevent or reduce substance use;

innovative evidence-informed approaches to prevent or reduce substance use; prevention workforce development; community empowerment and capacity building; drug trends and emerging issues; or cross-sector collaboration for substance use prevention. For more information and to submit workshop proposals, click [here](#).

Around the Agencies

Children's Bureau releases guidance on applying for Family First Prevention Services Act Transition Grant

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Children's Bureau recently released [guidance](#) on the actions required to apply for the Family First Prevention Services Act Transition Grant. The Family First Transition Act, passed in December 2019 as part of a larger package, aims to help States transform their child welfare systems and keep more children safely at home by providing States with the tools to successfully implement the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). As described in the guidance, Transition Grant funds may be used for the development and expansion of coordinated child and family service programs; to develop and establish, or expand, and to operate coordinated programs; activities directly associated with implementing FFPSA; and activities previously funded under a child welfare waiver demonstration. The Transition Act authorized a total of \$500 million for a six-year project period from October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2025.

Upcoming webinar series on implementing peer support services

The Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center Network (ATTC), in collaboration with NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, announced an upcoming webinar series on peer recovery support services. Each webinar will discuss a different topic related to implementing peer support services including information on organizational culture, hiring, understanding the role of peers, supervision and management, and a look at recovery coaching. The six webinars include:

- March 27th at 12:00pm EST – Building a Successful Culture in Your Organization
- April 10th at 12:00pm EST – Hiring, Onboarding, and Integration
- April 15th at 3:00pm EST – Understanding the Pathway and the Process
- April 17th at 12:00pm EST – The Participatory Process for Solutions to Addiction
- April 24th at 12:00pm EST – Supervision and Management
- May 15th at 12:00pm EST – A Deeper Dive into Coaching Recovery

For additional information and registration click [here](#).

HRSA to hold Q&A on loan repayment programs

The Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) National Health Service Corps (NHSC) is currently accepting [applications](#)

for three loan repayment programs: the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, the NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program, and the NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program. Applicants are required to work for 2-3 years at NHSC- approved sites in order to be eligible for loan repayment. HRSA recently announced an upcoming Facebook Chat opportunity that will give attendees the opportunity to ask questions regarding the various loan repayment programs. The chat will be held on March 12th from 8-9:30pm EST and can be accessed through the Facebook [event page](#).



U.S. Preventive Services Task Force issues new recommendation regarding hepatitis C screening

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), within the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), has issued a new [recommendation](#) regarding hepatitis C screening for adolescents and adults. The Task Force now recommends that clinicians screen all adults aged 18 to 79 years for hepatitis C which will expand access to hepatitis C screening, reduce the proportion of people who are unaware that they have hepatitis C, and enable more individuals to seek treatment sooner. Additionally, the new recommendation requires Medicaid expansion States and most private health insurance plans to cover hepatitis C screening without cost-sharing. The Task Force noted that this recommendation received a B grade, indicating that the USPSTF has concluded with moderate certainty that screening for hepatitis C infection in this age range has substantial net benefit.

Research Roundup

Study examines trends in methamphetamine use at treatment admission

A new [study](#) published in the *American Journal of Public Health* examined methamphetamine trends in the United States from 2008-2017. Using data from the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS), researchers determined that methamphetamine-related admissions increased from 15.1% in 2008 to 23.6% in 2017 among nearly all demographic groups. Methamphetamine injection also increased from 17.5% in 2008 to 28.4% in 2017. Additionally, among methamphetamine-related admissions, heroin use increased from 5.3% in 2008 to 23.6% in 2017. Characteristics determined to be associated with methamphetamine use at admission included female sex; admissions aged 35-44 years; admissions in the Midwest, South, and West; unemployment; not in the labor force; living dependent or living homeless; and having a referral from the criminal justice system, a healthcare provider, or other treatment source.

NIH study uses drug-delivery technology to produce sustained HIV antibody protection

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced in a [press release](#) that researchers with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) have developed drug-delivery technology that leads to sustained HIV antibody production. As described in the press release, the technology uses a harmless virus to deliver an anti-HIV antibody gene into human cells, enabling the body to generate the antibody over an extended period of time. Results from a clinical trial indicated that this process led to sustained production of the antibody for more than a year. The press release noted that, with further development, this method could be used to prevent and treat a wide variety of infectious diseases.

Additionally, the ability of the antibodies to continue generating over an extended period of time could be beneficial in resource-limited settings.
