

August 5, 2021



D.C. Update: NASADAD releases updated SAPT Block Grant fact sheet, SAMHSA releases updated report on medications for opioid use disorder, and more

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Meet the Member

Nancy Navarretta, State Director for State of Connecticut

In June 2021, Nancy Navarretta was appointed as Acting Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS). Prior to this, she served as Deputy Commissioner of the department from 2015-2021. In this role she was responsible for project management and strategic planning as part of executive leadership, while managing several divisions/initiatives including evidenced-based practices supporting the recovery of individuals living with mental illness and the State's opioid response efforts. Ms. Navarretta came to the Department with many years of experience as a direct service mental health and addictions provider and administrator. She previously served as Chief Operating Officer of Liberation Program Inc., a private non-profit, and Chief of Behavioral Health Services for Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center, a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC). Ms. Navarretta received her BA in Psychology from Boston College and completed her graduate studies at Fordham University with a MA in Clinical Psychology.



News from NASADAD

NASADAD releases updated SAPT Block Grant fact sheet

The NASADAD Policy Department recently released an updated fact sheet on the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The updated fact sheet includes the following:

- An overview of the SAPT Block Grant
- Positive outcomes of the Block Grant (i.e., abstinence from alcohol/drug use,

stable housing, no arrests)

- Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on SUDs
- Review of the COVID-19 relief packages
- A description of why multi-year investments in the SAPT Block Grant is beneficial to States, providers, and individuals with SUDs
- Recent data on the financial burden of SUDs and cost-effectiveness of investing in the SAPT Block Grant
- A description of the prevention set-aside
- Overview of the Block Grant's role in bolstering recovery support services
- Description of the role of the State Alcohol & Drug Agency

To view the fact sheet, click [here](#).

News from the States



OhioMHAS announces new role to support veterans in recovery

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) announced a new partnership with the Ohio Department Veterans Services (ODVS) to create a Certified Peer Recovery Supporter (PRS) role to help support veterans. As described in the Departments newsletter, the new position enables ODVS to offer guidance and help to former service members who are recovering from substance use disorders (SUD), with special emphasis on individuals in recovery from an opioid use disorder (OUD). The position will be full-time and offer State of Ohio employee benefits. The application and additional information about the new position can be found [here](#). The NASADAD Member for the State of Ohio is Lori Criss, Director of OhioMHAS and Vice President for Internal Affairs on the NASADAD Board of Directors.

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA releases updated report on medications for opioid use disorder

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently released an updated version of their [Treatment Improvement Protocol \(TIP\) 63: Medications for Opioid Use Disorder](#). The TIP reviews the use of the three Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medications used to treat opioid use disorder (OUD) and other strategies and services needed to support recovery for individuals with OUD. Updates to the report include information about the qualifications of practitioners who are eligible to apply for a waiver to prescribe buprenorphine and explains exceptions under the latest buprenorphine practice guidelines. Other updates include clarification that naltrexone can result in decreased opioid cravings; clarification of whether discussion about naltrexone refers to the oral or extended-release injectable formulation; updated statistics on opioid-related deaths, overdoses, accidents, and hospitalizations; and updated online resources.



HRSA announces \$103 Million in funding to reduce burnout and promote resiliency among health workforce

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has announced the availability of \$103 million over a three year period under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) designated to help reduce burnout and promote mental health among the health and public safety workforce. Health care and public safety providers have seen such challenges due to high patient volume and long work hours amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding will help organizations and

providers respond to stressful situations, endure hardships, avoid burnout, and foster healthy workplace environments that promote mental health and resiliency.

HRSA is accepting applications for three funding opportunities:

- [Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training Program](#)
 - Watch the Technical Assistance Webinar [recording](#)
- [Promoting Resilience and Mental Health Among Health Professional Workforce](#)
 - Watch the Technical Assistance Webinar [recording](#)
- [Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Technical Assistance Center](#)
 - Watch the Technical Assistance Webinar [recording](#)

[SAMHSA awards \\$250 million to CCBHCs](#)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently [awarded](#) \$250 million to 100 Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs), with \$77 million in funding provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed in March 2021. As described in the [announcement](#), the CCBHC expansion program increases access to and improves the quality of community mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services. CCBHCs provide person- and family-centered integrated services, including 24/7 crisis intervention services for those with SUDs, children and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances, and individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. This new funding will help the program establish services in new facilities and make services more robust at existing facilities.

[Webinars to Watch](#)



[Upcoming webinar on survey results related to drinking patterns during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

RTI International announced an upcoming webinar titled “How Has Drinking Behavior Changed During the COVID-19 Pandemic?” In the summer of 2020, RTI presented the results of a survey of nearly 1,000 individuals showing an overall increase in alcohol consumption, and that women, people with minor children in the home, and Black Americans increased their drinking after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. This webinar will cover a follow-up survey, sponsored by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), which re-surveyed respondents from the original study and provides longitudinal data from February 2020 to November 2020. The webinar will be held on August 10th from 1:00pm-2:00pm ET and registration can be found [here](#).
