

February 25, 2021



D.C. Update: Upcoming webinar on treatment for methamphetamine use disorder, SAMHSA releases toolkit for employee assistance programs, and more



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### Meet the Member

#### Amanda Stehura, Women's Services Coordinator from State of Virginia

Amanda Stehura has been working in treatment for mental health and substance use disorders for over 13 years. Ms. Stehura is currently working with the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services in the Office of Adult Community Behavioral Health as the Lead Behavioral Health Consultant and the State Women's Services Coordinator. In her dual role, she provides support and technical assistance to community services boards, which make up the public mental health and substance use disorder system for the Commonwealth of Virginia. She directly supports 10 women's programs in the State in areas of training, compliance, program management, and development. She continues to serve on the Virginia Maternal Mortality Review Team, as a subject matter expert in mental health and substance use disorder services, in the public sector for women's health care, and plays an active role in the Virginia Neonatal Perinatal Collaborative. She most recently has been a partner with the national nonprofit group, Open Table, to increase access to care for Pregnant and Parenting Women with substance use disorder and provides assistance with establishing "referral tables" in various counties throughout Virginia.



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### Around the Agencies

[NHSC and SAMHSA release toolkit on MAT training and loan repayment](#)

The National Health Service Corps (NHSC),

## RECEIVE AWARD PREFERENCE

when applying to the NHSC SUD Workforce LRP by completing a free MAT training and obtaining the DATA 2000 waiver

[nhsc.hrsa.gov/mat-training](https://nhsc.hrsa.gov/mat-training)



within the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in collaboration with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Providers Clinical Support System (PCSS), released a new medication-assisted treatment (MAT) training and loan repayment [toolkit](#). The agencies have partnered to increase the number of Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000) Waiver-certified clinicians

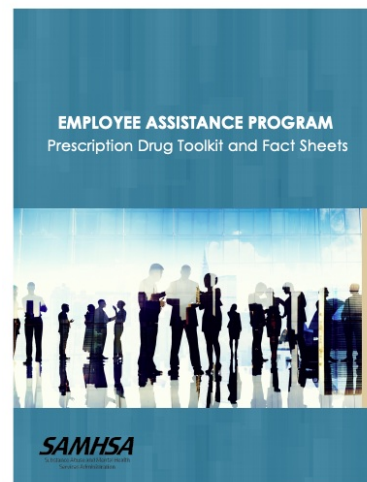
in high-need communities. The toolkit provides information on obtaining free MAT training to become DATA 2000 waived and includes information on how participants can receive award preference for the NHSC Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Program and the Rural Community Loan Repayment Program.

## DOJ accepting applications for the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is now accepting applications for the FY 2021 Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS). As described in the [funding opportunity announcement](#) (FOA), the purpose of CTAS is to provide federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia an opportunity to apply for funding to aid in developing a comprehensive and coordinated approach to public safety and victimization. CTAS is not a program but a single solicitation under which tribes can apply to seven separate grant programs to reduce the number of applications required to access funds. The solicitation covers the Public Safety and Community Policing program, Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning program, Tribal Justice Systems Program, Tribal Justice System Infrastructure Program, Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities, Juvenile Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts, and the Tribal Youth Program. Applications are due March 16, 2021.

## SAMHSA releases toolkit for employee assistance programs

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently published a new toolkit titled [Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\) Prescription Drug Toolkit and Fact Sheets](#). The toolkit provides guidance related to counseling, referrals, and follow-up services that EAPs can offer employees whose substance misuse has affected the workplace environment. The toolkit also includes the scope of employee prescription drug misuse, information on prescription drugs in combination with illicit drugs and alcohol, workplace drug misuse and relapse prevention information, employee programs and services for prescriptions drug misuse and addiction, screening tools, pain relief strategies, and evaluations for employees returning to work.



## DOJ accepting applications for Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative

The Department of Justice's (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is accepting [applications](#) for the fiscal year (FY) 2021 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Initiative. The purpose of the program is to enhance or implement performance-based and outcomes-based contracts with reentry, permanent supportive housing, or recovery housing providers to reduce recidivism and address substance use disorders (SUDs) impacting individuals who were formerly incarcerated. Eligible applicants include State governments, city or township governments, county governments, public housing authorities, and Native American tribal governments. A total of four awards, each at \$1.1 million, will be awarded to assist in enhancing or implementing permanent supportive housing or

reentry services. Two awards, also at \$1.1 million, will be awarded to assist in enhancing or implementing recovery housing. Applications are due on March 30, 2021.



### DEA announces launch of Operation Engage

Today, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced the launch of a new law enforcement and substance use prevention initiative called [Operation Engage](#). As described in the press release, the purpose of Operation

Engage is to reduce substance misuse and overdose deaths and replaces DEA's 360 Strategy, which was exclusively aimed at reducing opioid misuse. Field divisions will now be able to customize substance use prevention strategies and resources to target the most prevalent substance of misuse in a local community. The objectives of the Operation include identifying and affecting local drug threat enforcement priorities and drug use trends, support and contribute to local drug use prevention efforts, and bridge public safety and public health efforts.

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## Webinars to Watch

### SAMHSA virtual learning community on early diversion

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) GAINS Center announced an upcoming [Virtual Learning Community](#) featuring webinars and discussion groups on early diversion. The five-part series will discuss enhancing systems responses for people with mental health and

substance use disorders (SUDs) who are justice-involved or at risk for justice involvement. The first session, to be held on March 25<sup>th</sup>, will cover specific strategies, services, and practices that communities have developed to address the needs of individuals who have difficulty engaging in services. The second session, with dates to be announced, will cover the critical housing needs for individuals experiencing homelessness who are in crisis and at risk for justice involvement.



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## In the News

### Legal Action Center releases report on Medicare coverage for substance use disorders

The Legal Action Center (LAC) recently released a new report titled [Medicare Coverage of Substance Use Disorder Care: A Landscape Review of Benefit Coverage, Service Gaps, and a Path to Reform](#). As described in the resource, the purpose of the report was to examine the substance use disorder services that may be reimbursed under Medicare, identify the gaps in coverage, and offer initial recommendations to address these services gaps through the application of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) to Medicare. The Legal Action Center concludes the report by recommending that Congress and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) cover services provided in all settings in which SUD services are appropriately and effectively delivered, covering services provided by all practitioners authorized by State law to deliver SUD care, adopting reimbursement standards based on the service delivery models, and applying MHPAEA standards to protect beneficiaries.

