

July 15, 2021



D.C. Update: President Biden nominates Dr. Rahul Gupta as Director of ONDCP, SAMHSA releases new webpage for individuals struggling with substance use, and more

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Meet the Member

Walesca Marrero, Prevention Coordinator for State of Florida

Ms. Marrero currently serves as the Prevention Coordinator for the Florida Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health. She provides guidance in the area of substance use primary prevention for seven Managing Entity prevention coordinators and is the administrator for the Performance Based Prevention System (PBPS) for quality assurance. As the subject matter expert for several contracts, her duties include monitoring service deliverables, providing technical assistance to State, local, and community groups for effective implementation of alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention strategies and programs. Prior to her current work, Ms. Marrero spent four years working in primary prevention, survey development, and statewide coordination as the Partnership for Success Grant analyst. In addition, Ms. Marrero spent time as as the Executive Director of the Taylor County Collaborative Family Resource Network in West Virginia, where she focused on grant writing and research, community needs assessment, planning and development, business operations, increased awareness of cultural diversity, and strategic planning to bring economic development to the county. Ms. Marrero has a master's degree in education from Fairmont State University with a focus on Digital Media Literacy Learning.





Emily Diehl steps into role of Policy Analyst

Emily Diehl recently stepped into a new role serving as Policy Analyst for the NASADAD Public Policy Department. Ms. Diehl is a graduate of Georgetown University with a B.S. in Healthcare Management and Policy and came to the Association as an intern in January of 2019 before accepting a position as a Policy Associate. Before arriving at NASADAD, Emily spent four years as a Patient Care Coordinator in a residential treatment facility in California and is a certified alcohol and drug counselor. Her knowledge of the substance

use field and passion for helping others led her to Washington D.C., in order to promote effective addiction-related policies

New leadership of NASADAD Public Policy Committee announced

NASADAD would like to announce that, shortly after the NASADAD and SAMHSA Annual Meeting, current NASADAD President Sara Goldsby (SC) asked Cassandra Price (GA) to lead the Association's Public Policy Committee. Ms. Price has accepted the position and previously served on the board as NASADAD President for six years. In addition, Sara asked Arlene González-Sánchez (N.Y.) to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee, a position which she accepted. Ms. González-Sánchez also has a number of years of service on the board and with the Public Policy Committee. Finally, Ms. Price appointed Rosie Andueza (ID), a former member of the NASADAD Board, to the Public Policy Committee.

Capitol Hill Happenings

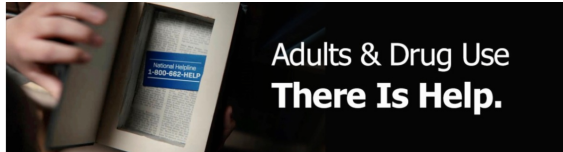
House Appropriations Committee releases FY 22 L-HHS Report

Yesterday, the House Appropriations Committee, led by Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Ranking Member Kay Granger (R-TX), released the report to accompany the FY 2022 (Oct. 1, 2021-Sept. 30, 2022) Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill. The bill includes funding for all HHS programs, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Highlights of the report include:

- **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant:** \$2.858 billion (increase of \$1 billion from FY 2021). The Committee also included a directive that would require States to spend at least 10 percent of SAPT Block Grant funds on recovery services.
- **State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Program:** \$2 billion (increase of \$500 million from FY 2021)
- **Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT):** \$651 million (increase of \$157 million from FY 2021)
 - MAT for Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction (MAT-PDOA): \$136.5 million (+\$45.5 million)
 - Drug Courts: \$105 million (+\$35 million)
 - Pregnant and Postpartum Women: \$49.4 million (+\$16.5 million)
 - SBIRT: \$30.5 million (+\$510,000)
 - Building Communities of Recovery (BCOR): \$20 million (+\$10 million)
- **Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP):** \$243.5 million (+\$35.3 million)
 - SPF-PFS: \$139.5 million (+\$20 million)
 - Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking: \$15 million (+\$5,000,000)
 - Tribal Behavioral Health Grants: \$25 million (+\$4.25 million)
- **Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS):** \$727 million (+\$168 million)
 - Community Mental Health Services Block Grant: \$1.58 billion (+\$825 million)

The report was posted on the House Appropriations Committee's website yesterday and the Full Committee is set to consider the bill today. Next, if the Full Committee approves the measure today, the bill will move to the full House for consideration. The Appropriations Committee's bill and accompanying report can be found [here](#). At this point, the Senate has not publicly announced a schedule

Around the Agencies



SAMHSA releases new webpage for individuals struggling with substance use

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

(SAMHSA) released new resources to help reduce substance use disorders (SUDs) including a new webpage, [Adults and Drug Use: There is Help](#). Prompted by the rise in drug use as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, SAMHSA released the webpage that outlines the risks of using substances such as cocaine, methamphetamine, prescription and illicit opioids, and marijuana. The webpage includes a list of relevant resources including fact sheets about substance use and addiction. Additionally, the website includes a link to SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator.

In the News



President Biden nominates Dr. Rahul Gupta as Director of ONDCP

On Tuesday, the Washington Post released an [article](#) reporting that President Biden has nominated Dr. Rahul Gupta, a former West Virginia health official, to serve as Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Dr. Gupta is a primary care physician who previously served as West

Virginia's health commissioner where he led efforts to address the States opioid crisis. In addition, Dr. Gupta helped lead the Biden-Harris transition efforts for the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Dr. Gupta currently serves as the top health official for the group March of Dimes, a maternal and child advocacy group. If confirmed, Dr. Gupta would replace Regina LaBelle and would be the first physician to serve as drug czar.

Research Roundup

New Study: Within-Hospital Concordance of Opioid Exposure Diagnosis Coding in Mothers and Newborns

The *American Academy of Pediatrics* recently published a [study](#) measuring within-hospital concordance of mothers with opioid use disorder (OUD) and newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) or opioid exposure (OE). Researchers also sought to describe the demographics of mothers and newborns in the study. The data analyzed in this study was used from hospital discharge abstracts from California, Florida, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania in 2016. Results of the study indicate more infants were identified than mothers with opioid related diagnoses, despite the strong correlation of the frequency of mothers and newborns with opioid related diagnoses. Additionally, mothers identified with OUDs were more likely to be white, on Medicaid, and received care in rural hospitals compared to mothers without OUD. Newborns with NAS had similar demographics to mothers with OUD, however, newborns with OE were disproportionately Black or Hispanic.



