D.C. Update: NASADAD celebrates National Recovery Month, SAMHSA accepting applications for Director of CSAP, and more

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Meet the Member

Gabrielle Richard, Prevention Coordinator for State of Arizona
Gabrielle Richard currently serves as a Grants Manager at the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS). In her role, she serves as the Western Regional Representative for Western NPNs. Ms. Richard provides oversight for all substance use prevention efforts related to AZ's Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG), and Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) activities, including leading statewide strategic planning, policy development, providing technical assistance and training to contractors, and program development and oversight. Ms. Richard also serves as a Peer Grant Reviewer for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as well as the Department of Justice (DOJ). Ms. Richard has a Masters of Prevention Science from the University of Oklahoma, and a Bachelors of Health Sciences in Addiction Studies from the University of South Dakota. Ms. Richard is also a Certified Prevention Specialist with the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC).

News from NASADAD

NASADAD celebrates National Recovery Month
During the month of September, National Recovery Month, NASADAD Members, Component Group Members, and Staff submitted pictures of themselves wearing purple to help celebrate recovery and spread awareness of substance use disorder issues. Many thanks to Jen Smith (SSA, PA), Secretary and Region III representative on NASADAD’s Board of Directors, for developing this idea. NASADAD is grateful for the work that Members do in their respective States throughout the month of September, and for their ongoing efforts to support recovery every day of the year. To view the collage, click here.

NASADAD 2021 Awards Event Celebrates Leaders in the Field Including Ramstad/Kennedy Award
On Thursday, September 23rd, NASADAD held their annual awards event to recognize members and leaders in the substance use disorder field, including the Ramstad/Kennedy Award.

Doug Thomas (UT), served as the Awards Chair. Other members of the Awards Committee included Val Mielke (NJ), NASADAD Board Member; Cassandra Price (GA), Past President of NASADAD; and Sara Goldsby (SC), NASADAD President.

An overview of the winners is included below and a slide show from the event can be accessed here.

The Ramstad/Kennedy Award for Leadership Related to Recovery Month presented by Mrs. Kathryn Ramstad, wife of the late Rep. Jim Ramstad (MN); Sis Wenger, President/CEO, National Association for Children of Addiction (NACoA); and Marie Dyak, President/CEO, Entertainment Industries Council (EIC), on behalf of the Recovery Month Planning Partners.

- Kirk Lane, State Alcohol/Drug Agency Director, Arkansas

The State Service Award is intended for a State Director who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in their respective State.

- Jen Smith, State Alcohol/Drug Agency Director, Pennsylvania
- Janice Williams, PhD, State Alcohol/Drug Agency Director, Louisiana

The NASADAD Service Award goes to a State Director who has made outstanding contributions to the Association. This service is often in the form of work on a committee, service on the Board of Directors, or other forms of work that
The Henrick J. Harwood & Robert E. Anderson Service Award recognizes a person’s distinguished service in the field of addiction research, training, or evaluation.

- Chris Jones, PhD, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

The Friend of NASADAD Award is given to an individual or organization who has demonstrated outstanding service and leadership to the field of substance use disorders in general, and partnership with State alcohol and drug agencies in particular. This organization’s service and leadership is well known as a result of their teaching, research, and policy/program development.

- Cynthia Moreno-Tuohy, Executive Director, NAADAC
- Arthur Evans, PhD, CEO, American Psychological Association (APA)

President’s Award announced by Sara Goldsby (SC), NASADAD President.

- Shane Garrard, State Alcohol/Drug Agency Director, Mississippi, Posthumously
- Rod Bragg, State Alcohol/Drug Agency Director, Tennessee, Posthumously

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA accepting applications for Director of CSAP

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) released a job announcement for the position of Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). As described in the posting, the Director of CSAP plans, develops, implements, and reviews disease prevention and health promotion policies related to alcohol and other drug use, and analyzes the impact of Federal activities on State and local government and private program activities. In addition, the Director provides leadership in establishing and maintaining liaisons with other agencies and organizations and serves as the principal advisor on all CSAP policy and program activities. The application is open through November 11th and more information can be found here.

SAMHSA releases PSA flyers for parents and caregivers

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently expanded their Talk. They Hear You substance use prevention campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to help parents and caregivers start talking to their children early about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs. In addition to an app, public service announcement (PSA) videos, and guides, the campaign has now introduced PSA flyers. Each PSA flyer encourages parents to talk to their children at different times throughout the day. For example, there are flyers for talking to children before dropping them off at a party, before getting behind the wheel, and on the way to sports practice.

Research Roundup

NIDA study finds increases in methamphetamine overdose deaths

A study from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) found that overdose deaths involving methamphetamine nearly tripled from 2015 to 2019. As described in a press release, researchers analyzed data from the National Vital Statistics System and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) and found that the number of overdose deaths involving psychostimulant drugs other than cocaine rose from 5,526 to 15,489, a 180% increase. However, the number of people who reported using methamphetamine only increased by 43% over the same period. Researchers noted that the discrepancy between overdose deaths and reports of use could be a result of increases in methamphetamine use disorder, frequent use, and polysubstance use. Finally, researchers also found that...
American Indians/Alaska Natives had the highest prevalence of methamphetamine use which contrasts with historical trends of use concentrated in middle-aged white persons.

Study examines polysubstance use among patients treated with buprenorphine

A recently published study examined polysubstance use among patients treated with buprenorphine. Over 150,000 urine drug tests were examined from a national database and nearly half of all patients prescribed buprenorphine also tested positive for at least one nonprescribed substance. However, when compared with patients whose specimens were not positive for buprenorphine, those with positive specimens had significantly lower odds of testing positive for nonprescribed substances, with the strongest associations for fentanyl and heroin.

In the News

CoE-PHI releases resource on 42 CFR Part 2

The Center of Excellence for Protected Health Information (CoE-PHI) released their first resource to help healthcare professionals and administrators who provide substance use disorder (SUD) services to determine if 42 CFR Part 2 applies to them or their practice. The resource includes a decision tree called “I Provide SUD Services in an FQHC: Does Part 2 Apply to Me?” and provides definitions for key terms used in the decision tree. CoE-PHI also announced that their second eLearning module, “Does Part 2 Apply to Me or My Practice?”, will be released in the near future.