

March 24, 2022



D.C. Update: 988 Implementation Act, HHS Funding Opportunities, RX Summit, and More

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## Meet the Member

### Patricia Lincourt, Associate Commissioner, New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports

Patricia Lincourt currently serves as the Associate Commissioner for Addiction Treatment and Recovery Services at the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports. In her role she oversees treatment and recovery services. She implemented program aspects of several Medicaid reform initiatives, including managed care carve-in, Delivery System Reform and Incentive Payment, and Value Based payment approaches to addiction care. She has worked with state agency and private entities to develop training, clinical support tools and technical assistance for programs. She has worked with Office of Addiction Services and Supports providers to improve care through continuous quality improvement, and the development of client and program level metrics. She has supported the development and implementation of recovery centers and the integration of peers into certified outpatient settings.



She has overseen several Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) grant funded projects, National Institute on Drug Abuse funded research and implemented innovative programs to decrease opioid overdose. She has published several articles in peer reviewed journals on Motivational Interviewing, Quality Improvement in substance use disorder programs, and Level of Care Determination. She has over 30 years of clinical and administrative experience in addiction, mental health and child welfare settings. Her interests include implementation of evidence-based practice, service integration and financing of substance abuse services to improve outcomes. She has a Master's degree in Social Work from the State University of New York at Albany and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker.

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### NASADAD Supports *988 Implementation Act* Introduced in Congress

On March 17, 2022, Congressman Tony Cárdenas (D-CA) introduced the *988 Implementation Act* ([H.R.7116](#)) to provide federal funding and guidance for States to implement their crisis response infrastructure before the July 2022 launch of the new 988 national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline. [The 988 Implementation Act packet](#) includes a summary of the legislation, a section-by-section of the bill, and a social media toolkit. According to Rep. Cárdenas [press release](#), if passed, the legislation:

- “Solidifies funding for the 988 national hotline and a national backup system to ensure a timely 24/7 response to callers anywhere in the country.
- Provides funding for community-based crisis response, including local call centers, mobile crisis teams and crisis centers.
- Supports crisis workforce development with increased funding for training and scholarship opportunities.
- Increases access to care by requiring that all health insurance plans cover crisis services.
- Allows all States to have the opportunity to establish certified community behavioral health clinics (CCBHCs), which provide comprehensive mental health and substance use services, including 24/7 crisis services.
- Implements a national suicide prevention awareness campaign in partnership with a wide array of stakeholders.
- Provides technical assistance for states to implement crisis services and supports research for continuous quality improvement.”

NASADAD supports the *988 Implementation Act*, alongside 105 other organizations. The legislation is co-sponsored by Congresswoman Doris Matsui (D-CA), Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Congressman Seth Moulton (D-MA), Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA), Congressman Don Beyer (D-VA) and Congressman Jamie Raskin (D-MD).

### THE 988 IMPLEMENTATION ACT

SOMEONE TO CALL.  
SOMEONE TO COME.  
SOMEWHERE TO GO.



LED BY  
CONGRESSMAN TONY CÁRDENAS  
CONGRESSMAN  
TONY CÁRDENAS

## Around the Agencies

### HHS Announces Funding for Substance Use Treatment and Prevention Programs

On March 15th, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) [announced](#) two grant programs totaling \$25.6 million to expand access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and prevent the misuse of prescription drugs. As described in the press release, the two grant programs are:

- The Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs ([SPF Rx](#)) grant program provides funds for State agencies, territories, and tribal entities that have completed a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant plan or a similar State plan to target prescription drug misuse. The grant program will raise awareness about the dangers of sharing medications, fake or counterfeit pills sold online, and over prescribing. The grant will fund a total of \$3 million over five years for up to six grantees.
- The Medication-Assisted Treatment – Prescription Drug and Opioid Addiction ([MAT-PDOA](#)) grant program provides resources to help expand and enhance access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD). It will help

**SAMHSA**  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

increase the number of individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD) receiving MOUD and decrease illicit opioid use and prescription opioid misuse. The grant will fund a total of \$22.6 million over 5 years for up to 30 grantees. No less than \$11 million will be awarded to Native American tribes, tribal organizations, or consortia.

## HHS Announces Nearly \$44 Million to Strengthen Mental Health and Substance Use Services for Populations at Risk for or Living with HIV/AIDS



On March 18<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), [announced](#) \$43.7 million dollars for three funding opportunities to strengthen mental health and substance use services for individuals at risk for or living with HIV/AIDS. The funding targets areas of the country with the greatest disparities related to HIV-related health outcomes. Funding for all three opportunities will be awarded in the fall. As described in the press release, the three grant programs are:

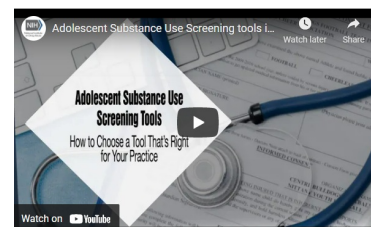
- [Substance Use Disorder Treatment for Racial Ethnic/ Minority Populations at High Risk for HIV/AIDS](#): This program increases care for racial and ethnic minority individuals with co-occurring substance use and mental health challenges who are at risk for or are living with HIV/AIDS and receive HIV primary care and other services. This grant will fund up to \$30.5 million over five years for up to 61 grantees.
- [Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention Navigator Program for Racial Ethnic Minorities](#): This program provides training and education around the risks of substance use and HIV/AIDS, as well as the integration of a range of services for individuals with HIV/AIDS. The program uses a navigation approach – working through community health workers, neighborhood navigators, and peer support specialists – to expedite services for these populations. This grant will fund up to \$4.5 million over five years for up to 18 grantees.
- The [Minority AIDS Initiative – Service Integration](#): This program reduces the co-occurring epidemics of HIV, Hepatitis, and mental health challenges through accessible, evidence-based, culturally appropriate treatment that is integrated with HIV primary care and prevention services. The grant will fund \$8.7 million over four years for up to 18 grantees.

## COSSAP Peer Recovery Support Services Program Evaluation



The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), in collaboration with the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) is hosting a webinar on March 30, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., ET. on peer recovery support services program evaluation. This webinar will highlight how COSSAP grantees are currently collecting data and evaluating their peer programs, as well as some of their preliminary outcomes. Registration can be accessed [here](#).

## NIDA Launches Two Brief Online Validated Adolescent Substance Use Screening Tools



The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) [launched](#) two brief online screening tools that assess for substance use disorder (SUD) risk among adolescents 12-17 years old. The Screening to Brief Intervention and Brief Screener for Tobacco, Alcohol, and Other Drugs ask patients about frequency of past year use and triages them into one of three levels of substance use disorder risk: no reported use, lower risk, and higher risk. Dr. Geetha Subramaniam from NIDA also discusses how these tools are different, how providers can choose which one, universal and targeted screening, and shares information about considerations for confidentiality among teen patients.



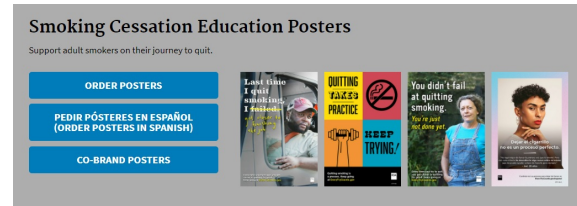
## COSSAP & IIR on 10 Tips to Facilitate a Successful Overdose Fatality Review

Institute for Intergovernmental Research – the connecting point for COSSAP training and technical assistance (TTA) efforts – recently released the [10 Tips to Facilitate a Successful Overdose Fatality Review](#). This document offers tips for selecting a facilitator and for facilitating an effective overdose fatality review.



## FDA's Center for Tobacco Products is Offering Free Smoking Cessation Education Posters

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released new posters as part of the agency's ongoing efforts to reduce the enormous public health burden of tobacco use. [Cigarettes](#) are responsible for the vast majority of tobacco-related disease and death in the United States.



The posters use a positive, motivational tone to support smokers on their journey to quit cigarettes, while underscoring the health benefits of quitting. You can find posters in English and Spanish for diverse audiences, including LGBTQ+ smokers.

Check out the posters on the [Tobacco Education Resource Library](#) and learn how you can request to co-brand them.

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## Research Roundup

### NIH: Analysis of Reddit Forum Suggests Experience of Non-Suicidal Self-Harm Shares Characteristics With Addiction

The findings from a recent National Institute of Health (NIH) [study](#) found that a large majority of individuals who reported and discussed non-suicidal self-injury on the social media platform Reddit described similar experiences to those used to diagnose substance use disorder (SUD). The study analyzed more than 350,000 post comments in a forum dedicated to discussion of self-harm from 2010 to 2019 and found that Reddit contributors referred to their self-injuring activities as an "addiction," citing cravings and escalating severity or tolerance, and regularly used terms employed by people recovering from substance use disorders, such as getting "clean" or "relapsing." NIH reported that "the findings also suggest that clinicians may better support people living with non-suicidal self-injury by adopting strategies used to diagnose and treat SUD."

### University of Michigan Medicine Model for Opioid Use Post-Surgery

A [new risk prediction model](#) developed by Michigan Medicine researchers is designed to pinpoint individuals at risk of persistent opioid use after surgery and allow health care practitioners to take prevention measures before surgery. Published in [Surgery](#), the objective of this study was to develop and validate a model to predict persistent opioid use after surgery. Participants included surgical patients enrolled in a cohort study at an academic medical center between 2015 and 2018. Predictors included electronic health record data, state prescription drug monitoring data, and patient-reported measures. Overall, researchers reported that the model "achieved strong performance."



4 Days.  
9 Focused Tracks.  
90+ Educational Sessions.  
250+ National Expert Speakers.  
**1 Mission: To Create Solutions.**

Join us at the largest, most influential annual event  
addressing the opioid and addiction crisis.  
**Reserve your spot today at [rx-summit.com](https://rx-summit.com)**



**Rx Drug Abuse  
& Heroin Summit**  
April 18-21 | Atlanta

[Rx Summit](#) – the largest, most influential event addressing the opioid and addiction crisis – is returning to Atlanta, April 18-21. More than a million too many lives have been lost to this epidemic, and the annual Summit is where solutions are formulated and change begins. It is *the* event for stakeholders from federal to family to work together and share best practices for prevention, treatment, and recovery. [This year's agenda](#) features 90+ Educational Sessions led by 250+ National Expert Speakers. There are 9 Focused Tracks covering everything from Advocacy and Overdose Prevention to Technology and Public Safety. Learn more about Rx Summit and reserve your spot today: <https://rx-summit.com/>