

August 11, 2022



D.C. Update: Nominations Open for Ramstad-Kennedy Annual Award, August Congressional Recess, SAMHSA Notice of Funding Opportunities for FY23, and More

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Meet the Member

John Valera, SSA for Hawaii, Acting Administrator of the Hawaii Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division



John Valera, AICP, is the Acting Administrator of the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD). He has served at ADAD in various capacities since 2016 and still serves as its planning manager. Prior to that, he has over two decades of experience at the HDOH in various policy development initiatives and projects in environmental management, including early implementation of the Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container law. He has a Master's in Urban Planning from the University of Hawaii, a Bachelor's in Planning and Public Administration from the University of Southern California, and is certified with the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is committed to the HDOH/ADAD mission to provide the leadership necessary for the development and delivery of quality substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services for Hawaii.

NASADAD News

Nominations Open for the Ramstad-Kennedy Annual Award!

The National Recovery Month Planning Partners is currently calling for nominations for the Ramstad-Kennedy Annual Award. The Award will recognize a State Agency Director

who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in support of recovery and *Recovery Month* and to acknowledge Congressmen Ramstad and Kennedy for their commitment to recovery and recovery-oriented policies. The Award will be presented on Thursday, September 22, 2022, as part of the NASADAD Quarterly Board Meeting.

To nominate an SSA director, complete and return the [application](#) form by 11:59 pm (ET), Tuesday, September 6, 2022.

Capitol Hill Happenings

August Congressional Recess: Senate on Recess, House to Vote on IRA

The Senate adjourned for its annual monthlong August recess on Sunday, August 7, 2022, after passing the [Inflation Reduction Act \(IRA\) of 2022](#) and will resume Session following the Labor Day holiday on September 6, 2022. As a result of the Senate's approval of the \$740 billion reconciliation bill, the House will reconvene on Friday, August 12, 2022, to vote on the Act, which is expected to pass, before resuming its five-week recess. The House is set to return to Session on September 13, 2022.

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA: Notice of Funding Opportunities Forecast for Fiscal Year 2023



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently released the list of forecasted grants for FY 2023. As of August 2nd, 28 Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) are forecasted for FY 2023. Note these opportunities are currently only forecasted and, as such, are subject to change. Refer to the [FY 2023 NOFO Forecasts page](#) to stay up to date.

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research Announces Launch of the Reaching Rural Initiative



The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR), in co-sponsorship with the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State Justice Institute (SJI), and the National Association of Counties (NACo), recently announced the launch of the [Reaching Rural: Advancing Collaborative Solutions](#) initiative. The one-year initiative aims to strengthen cross-sector partnerships in rural communities to address the impact of substance use by learning from rural practitioners and fostering collaboration. The Reaching Rural initiative seeks individual practitioners or cross-sector teams from the same community/region and is designed for rural agency leaders or mid-level professionals working in counties, cities, or tribes as justice, public safety, public health, or other health practitioners. The deadline to apply is September 30, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. (ET). Participation in the Reaching Rural initiative includes:

- “Travel and per diem costs to participate in an orientation, a field visit to observe the implementation of evidence-informed practices in a rural setting, and a closing session at the end of the 12 months. This is not a grant opportunity.
- Monthly mentorship and guidance aimed toward your local needs.
- Monthly assignments that help you apply core concepts to your local community or region.
- Access to a diverse network of rural peers, innovative rural communities, and technical assistance providers.
- Formal recognition for completing the planning initiative.”

BJA, CDC, and SJI support the initiative as part of an ongoing interagency partnership to bolster public safety and public health collaboration under BJA's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP). COSSAP will hold a [webinar](#) with details on the initiative and application process on August 31, 2022, at 2:00 pm (ET).

Research Roundup

Study Finds Unique Barriers to Implementing Rural Emergency Department-Based Peer Services For Opioid Use Disorder

A group of researchers from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago published a [study](#) in the journal *Addiction Science & Clinical Practice* on the unique barriers to implementing rural emergency department-based (ED) peer services for opioid use disorder (OUD) compared to urban sites. The researchers identified implementation differences across 4 rural and 6 urban hospital systems participating in Indiana’s Recovery Coach and Peer Support Initiative (RCPSI), a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) funded initiative that offered novel ED-based peer support services to link those with OUD to treatment and services. The study reported differences between rural ED-based peer services and urban sites, primarily:

- “Intervention characteristics: rural sites questioned intervention fit with their context, required more adaptations, and encountered unexpected costs.
- External context: rural sites were not appropriately staffed to meet patient needs, encountered logistical and legal barriers regarding patient privacy, and had limited patient transportation options.
- Inner setting: rural sites lacked strong mechanisms for internal communication and difficulties integrating with pre-existing culture and climate.
- Characteristics of individuals: some rural providers resisted working with peers due to pre-existing attitudes and beliefs.
- Implementation process: rural sites spent more time identifying external partners and abandoned more components of their initial implementation plans.”

Their findings indicate that rural programs face greater challenges implementing ED-based peer support services for OUD over time and require flexibility to adapt interventions developed in urban settings to ensure successful adaptation to local rural contextual constraints.

Webinars to Watch

Great Lakes PTTC Webinar: Cannabis: New Conversations for a Changing Landscape



The Great Lakes Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) will host a [webinar](#) on changes to cannabis policy and the industry that require a new approach to cannabis prevention services and how prevention specialists can stay ahead of the curve. This no-cost webinar will be offered on August 16, 2022, at 11:00 am (ET). The training will highlight prevention strategies applicable to a variety of State regulatory frameworks and skills for more effective dialogue about cannabis. Learning objectives include:

- “Describe the current cannabis landscape and industry marketing trends
- Identify prevention strategies for a variety of cannabis regulatory frameworks
- Craft messages that resonate with a range of audiences
- Curate content from available tools and resources for the prevention field.”

AOAAM Webinar Series: Hot Topics in Addiction Medicine



The American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine (AOAAM) will host a [webinar series](#), funded by the Opioid Response Network (ORN), on “hot topics” in addiction medicine today. The series will cover several ongoing developments in the field of addiction, including the initiation of buprenorphine, the rise of fentanyl, managing opioid complexity in those with serious illness, the state of harm reduction in the U.S., and many more addiction-related issues.

The first episode in this no-cost series is on August 17, 2022, at 5:00 pm (ET), and the last on September 21, 2022, at 5:00 pm (ET), with one webinar each week. The topics, webinar times, and speakers for all 6 episodes can be found below:

- Trials and Tribulations of ED Initiation of Buprenorphine in the Age of Fentanyl
 - August 17, 2022 - 5:00 PM ET
 - Jeanmarie Perrone, MD, and Lewis Nelson, MD
- Case Studies and Q&A - Trials and Tribulations of ED Initiation of Buprenorphine in the Age of Fentanyl
 - August 24, 2022 - 5:00 PM ET
 - Jeanmarie Perrone, MD, and Lewis Nelson, MD
- Managing Opioid Complexity in Individuals with Serious Illness
 - August 31, 2022 - 12:00 PM ET
 - Jessica Merlin, MD
- Case Studies and Q&A: Managing Opioid Complexity in Individuals with Serious Illness
 - September 7, 2022 - 12:00 PM ET
 - Jessica Merlin, MD
- The State of Harm Reduction in the US: Progress, Barriers, and What's Next.
 - September 14, 2022 - 5:00 PM ET
 - Brandon Marshall, PhD
- Case Studies and Q&A: The State of Harm Reduction in the US: Progress, Barriers, and What's Next.
 - September 21, 2022 - 5:00 PM ET
 - Brandon Marshall, PhD