D.C. Update: New NASADAD Fact Sheet, DOJ Fact Sheet on RSAT, HHS Telehealth Toolkit, SAMHSA Announces Finalists of the Recovery Innovation Challenge, and More

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Meet the Member

Joanna Champney, Director, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services

Joanna Champney is the Director of Substance Abuse and Mental Health at the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services. Prior to joining the Division, Champney served as Chief of Planning, Research & Reentry at the Delaware Department of Correction (DOC). During her tenure at DOC, Champney established and led the Department’s new Office of Reentry following Governor Carney’s issuance of Executive Order 27 to improve reentry. As part of the Governor’s Executive Order, she served as a Commission member of the Delaware Correctional Reentry Commission (DCRC) and is currently Chairing the Commission’s Transition Team.

At DOC, Champney oversaw implementation of several large federal grants that supported system improvement, program evaluation, and cognitive behavioral therapy and vocational training for incarcerated people. In partnership with the Bureau of Prisons, Champney also implemented compliance tracking processes for provision of clinical care to incarcerated people who have mental illness. She was also instrumental in the recent redesign of the DOC’s prison based substance use disorder treatment program, Road to Recovery (R2R), which has now implemented modern, evidence-based set of curricula and has adopted a treatment track system to differentiate between levels of care.

Prior to joining State government, Joanna served as the Executive Director of the Delaware Center for Justice (DCJ), which serves a variety of justice-involved populations through direct services, advocacy, and policy reform work. While at DCJ, she oversaw a combination of direct service programs and policy reform initiatives. Previously, she worked with a criminal defense law firm in Maryland and with a finance company in Delaware. She earned a Master’s Degree in Criminology from the University of
Pennsylvania and a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science from the University of Delaware.

**NASADAD News**

**New Fact Sheet on the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant Reauthorization**

We are pleased to share with you a new fact sheet on the status of reauthorization of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant and an analysis of key provisions in the House and Senate bills. The SAPT Block Grant, housed within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is a federal block grant distributed by formula to all States, Territories, and jurisdictions to “plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance [use].” The Block Grant was last reauthorized in the 21st Century Cures Act in December 2016 and the authorization applied through 2022. As a result, Congress is considering legislation to reauthorize the program through 2027.

This fact sheet is a “living document” and will continue to be updated as legislation progresses through Congress.

**White House Happenings**

**Coalitions in 38 States Receive Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program Funding**

Today, Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) announced $12.4 million in grants for 99 new coalitions in 38 States as part of the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program.

The DFC Support Program mobilizes communities to prevent youth substance use. Directed by ONDCP in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the DFC Program provides grants to community coalitions to strengthen the infrastructure among local partners to create and sustain a reduction in local youth substance use.

The press release is available here and the list of grant recipients is available here.

**Around the Agencies**

**DOJ Releases Fact Sheet on the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program**

The Bureau of Justice (BJA) within the Department of Justice (BJA) recently released a fact sheet describing the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program. RSAT was first authorized in 1994 to support States in providing residential and after care services to help justice-involved adults with substance use disorder services. In general, State Administering Authorities (SAAs) manage the RSAT funds. In FY 2022, Congress allocated $34.9 million to this program. As you may know, NASADAD has been working with the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) - an Association representing the country’s SAAs - to help promote agency-to-agency coordination on substance use disorders and
criminal justice collaboration. In 2021, NASADAD and NCJA joined the National Governors Association (NGA) to convene some States to talk about SSA-SAA initiatives. In September, an issue brief was released describing lessons learned from the initiative.

The RSAT Fact Sheet is available here. The Issue Brief, “Lessons Learned in State Collaboration to Address Substance Use Disorder and Justice-Involved Individuals” is available here.

**Practical Toolkit for Preventing Drug Overdose and Supporting Recovery in Faith and Community Settings**

The Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), recently released their newly revised [Practical Toolkit for Preventing Drug Overdose and Supporting Recovery in Faith and Community Settings](https://example.com), including a Spanish version that is intended as a guide to the practical actions community groups can take to support persons with substance use disorders - from harm reduction efforts and connecting to treatment to rebuilding lives and livelihoods.

Overdose deaths accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic, with CDC estimating that more than [105,000](https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/index.html) people died from overdose in the 12 months ending in October 2021, the highest number ever recorded in a 12-month period. The HHS Partnership Center’s newly revised and released document support those in treatment and recovery and lean into the hope of primary prevention efforts - both those that may save a person from overdose or prevent a young person from future misuse.

The primary mission of the Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships at HHS is to strengthen the response of faith and community organizations to critical public health issues and crises – such as the opioid and drug overdose epidemic.

**SAMHSA Announces Finalists of the Recovery Innovation Challenge**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced [20 finalists of the Recovery Initiative Challenge](https://example.com). The goal of the challenge is to identify practices developed by peer-run or community-based organizations and entities they partner with, such as local or State governments and health systems, that promote recovery services.

These 20 finalists will advance to the final round of judging, scheduled for the week of September 12.

**HHS Telehealth Partner Toolkit**

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released the [Telehealth Partner Toolkit](https://example.com) to help partners connect patients and providers to important telehealth resources. The toolkit offers ready-made, customizable content about telehealth to help users prepare for virtual health care, including best practices for providers, tips for new patients, and latest developments. The toolkit includes:

- National Telehealth Conference Sessions
- Newsletter Articles
- Social Media Assets
- Sample Email
- Web Badges
- Tip Sheets
More information on telehealth can be found [here](#).

**Webinars to Watch**

**Northeast & Caribbean PTTC Webinar: Cultural Humility and Responsiveness in Behavioral Health Care**

The Northeast & Caribbean Prevention Technology Transfer Center (PTTC) will host a [webinar](#) on the need for culturally responsive services and providers with cultural humility to ensure quality care for racial and ethnic minority groups. This no-cost webinar will be offered on August 19, 2022, at 10:00 am (ET). The training will explore “cultural humility” as a strategy to help providers identify and diffuse personal bias, increase person-centered care, and normalize the delivery of culturally informed care for racial and ethnic populations.