

October 27, 2022



D.C. Update: NASADAD and CoE-IHS Webinar on Effective State Integration Models, ONDCP Report on SUD in Pregnancy, SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Cooperative Agreements for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics, and More

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Meet the Member

Jennifer Shuler, Nurse Practitioner, State Opioid Treatment Authority for Arkansas, Arkansas Department of Human Services

Jennifer Shuler serves as the State Opioid Treatment Authority (SOTA) for the State of Arkansas. Shuler is an acute care nurse practitioner with 19 years of clinical experience in direct patient care as a patient care technician, LPN, RN, and APRN. Shuler has worked as a nurse practitioner since 2011 in diverse practice areas including pain management, hospital medicine, cardiology, neurology, and oncology. Her goals include increasing access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), promoting awareness of the need for these treatments locally, and facilitating state policy supporting treatment services.



Shuler joined the Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) in 2018. During Shuler's time with DHS, the number of X DEA waived providers increased from 86 to over 500 through a partnership with the UAMS Center for Addiction Services and Treatment. She also worked closely with the DHS Division of Medical Services to create MOUD policies that are supported by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and reimbursable by Medicaid in accordance with the SUPPORT act.

She holds a Masters of Nursing Science from the UAMS and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Arkansas State University. Shuler serves as Region 6 Representative on the Opioid Treatment Network (OTN) Executive Committee with NASADAD.

NASADAD News

Farewell to Kimmie Figone

Join us in saying goodbye and good luck to Kimmie Figone on October 28th. Kimmie joined NASADAD in September 2021 as a Research Associate II. Kimmie will be joining the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) within their Healthcare Delivery and Disparities Research program as a Program Associate. In this role, she will provide project management of comparative clinical effectiveness study portfolios related to healthcare delivery and disparities. Please join us in sending well wishes to Kimmie!



CoE-IHS Webinar: Effective State Integration Models: Hub and Spoke and Bridge



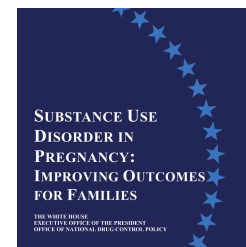
NASADAD and the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's Center of Excellence for Integrated Health Solutions (CoE-IHS) hosted a webinar on State models that integrate recovery and support services to bolster clinical and recovery outcomes for those with opioid use disorder (OUD). This webinar highlighted two effective State integration models used today; California's CA Bridge Program and Tennessee's Hub and Spoke Model. Specifically, the webinar reviewed the State models' core components, functions, staffing, and service activities; strategies for integrating medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) into primary care and community organizations; the role of peer recovery support staff on integrated care teams; and the benefits of recovery support service in integrated care models.

This information is also described in detail in NASADAD and CoE-IHS' issue brief: [State Models for Addressing Opioid Use Disorders: Recovery Support in Integrated Care Settings](#).

White House Happenings

ONDCP Releases Report on SUD in Pregnancy

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) recently released [Substance Use Disorder in Pregnancy: Improving Outcomes for Families](#). The report outlines how overdose-related deaths in pregnant and postpartum women can be prevented with evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD) like buprenorphine and methadone.



The report also describes the systemic and cultural barriers that make accessing care difficult and outlines key actions the Biden-Harris Administration will take to connect pregnant women with substance use disorder to care through actions to:

- “Develop coordinated training and technical assistance to inform the use of medications for SUD treatment for grantee recipients of the Department of Justice’s Office of Juvenile Programs (OJP) Family Treatment Court Program and the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA) drug treatment court programs.
- Offer SUD education to women’s health primary care providers throughout the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).
- Enhance transparency by publicly reporting data on access to SUD treatment for pregnant and postpartum women nationwide using data obtained from Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG) related the number of

waivered buprenorphine prescribers who self-report as obstetricians and midwives.

- Expand access to medications for OUD for pregnant women and women of reproductive age within Tribal nations and living in Tribal communities.
- Provide grants to foster partnerships between hospitals and community-based organizations to implement evidence-based interventions that strengthen perinatal and postnatal support structures for individuals with SUD through HHS's Office on Women's Health (OWH).
- Hire a dedicated Associate Administrator for Women's Services in HHS's SAMHSA to lead its efforts focused on pregnancy and the postpartum period.
- Develop model national certification standards for peer recovery support specialists as part of the implementation of the President's [National Drug Control Strategy](#) and his [mental health strategy](#).
- Reduce the incidence and impact of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), a drug withdrawal syndrome that occurs shortly after an infant is born.
- Improve maternal mental health and outcomes for pregnant, lactating, and postpartum women with SUD."

One-pagers summarizing the importance of addressing stigma and barriers to treatment can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Around the Agencies

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Extension

On October 13, Xavier Becerra, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), renewed the [COVID-19 public health emergency declaration](#).

CMS Releases New Resource for States on the Optional COVID-19 Group Coverage



The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recently released a [resource](#) for States that adopted the optional COVID-19 Medicaid eligibility group on ending coverage when federal authority for the group expires on the last day of the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). The new resource discusses the coverage of the optional COVID-19 group, redetermination and notice strategies for COVID-19 group beneficiaries, and expectations for ending coverage in the group in States' unwinding plans, as well as renewal distributions and data reporting.

SAMHSA Funding Opportunity: Cooperative Agreements for Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Planning Grants

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), announced a new [funding opportunity](#) for States to develop [Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics \(CCBHCs\)](#). Adding to the \$296.2 million HHS recently awarded to communities to [develop new CCBHCs](#) and [enhance existing clinics](#), \$15 million in new grants will be awarded to 15 recipients in one year. These cooperative agreements aim to support States' development of CCBHC certification systems, Prospective Payment Systems (PPS) for Medicaid's reimbursable services, and applications to participate in a four-year CCBHC Demonstration program. Eligible entities include State Mental Health Authorities (SMHAs), Single State Agencies (SSAs), and State Medicaid Agencies (SMAs), including the District of Columbia. The application deadline is Monday, December 19, 2022.

States must receive a CCBHC planning grant to be eligible for the demonstration program. Ten States already received one-year planning grants from HHS. The remaining ones can still apply. In early 2023, up to 15 States will be awarded up to \$1 million for one-year planning grants, and from those, ten will be selected for the demonstration, starting in 2024.

12th Annual National Red Ribbon Week Photo Contest Accepting Submissions



Submissions are still open for the [12th Annual National Red Ribbon Week Photo Contest](#). The contest aims to raise visibility for living drug-free and will be held in conjunction with [National Red Ribbon Week](#), the largest substance use disorder (SUD) prevention campaign in the United States. Participants decorate the front of their homes or school campuses with double-looped red ribbons and must incorporate this year's Red Ribbon theme: Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free.™ Twenty winners will be selected from both home and school entries and be awarded \$1,000 for the school of their choice and an Apple iPad for personal use. The event is co-sponsored by the National Family Partnership (NFP) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Participants must be 18 years old to enter. The contest ends November 1, 2022, at 9:00 p.m. (ET). The voting period is November 2, 2022- November 16, 2022. Winners will be announced on December 2, 2022.

23rd National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Announced for October 29th



The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), announced that Saturday, October 29, 2022, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, local time, is the [23rd National Prescription Drug Take Back Day](#). Take Back Day is an opportunity to anonymously drop off prescription drugs for safe, proper disposal at DEA collection locations. These locations can be searched for anonymously on the DEA site, [here](#). Due to COVID-19 concerns, different geographic locations may have different levels of participation. More information can be found by reaching out to your [DEA State Tack Back point of contact](#).

Webinars to Watch

2022 NIDA-NIAAA Frontiers in Addiction Research Mini-Convention

The National Institutes of Health's (NIH) National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) will host the [annual NIDA-NIAAA Frontiers in Addiction Research Mini-Convention](#) on topics of emerging scientific interest in neuroscience and addiction research. This no-cost, 2-day virtual meeting will be held from November 1, 2022, at 11:00 am (ET) to November 2, 2022, at 3:00 pm (ET). The Mini-Convention will also highlight research by premier early stage or junior investigators in the fields of alcohol and substance use disorder (SUD) research through the [Early Career Investigator Showcase \(ECIS\) symposium](#). The virtual meeting will offer a keynote address by the recipient of the annual Jacob P. Waletzky Memorial Award, given to a young scientist (within 15 years of their Ph.D. or MD degree) whose research has led to significant conceptual/empirical contributions to the understanding of SUD.

HRSA Tobacco Cessation Webinar Series

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) is hosting a two-part webinar series on menthol products and tobacco cessation. The webinars will discuss menthol's harmful effects and evidence-based strategies and resources to support menthol smokers in pursuing tobacco cessation. Part 1 of this no-cost webinar series, [What's the Deal with Menthols?](#), will be offered on November 2, 2022, at 2:00 pm (ET). Part 2 of the series, [Quitting Menthol Cigarettes: Do We Know What Works?](#), will be held on November 9, 2022, at 2:00 pm (ET). Registration is required to attend.

SAMHSA Elevate CBOs Webinar Series: Where's the Date? An Overview of the Behavioral

Health Services Information System



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Office of Behavioral Health Equity will host a [virtual workshop](#) featuring SAMHSA's Center for Behavioral Statistics and Quality about SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Services Information System (BHSIS) and Online Treatment Locator on November 2, 2022, at 3:00 pm (ET). This virtual workshop is a continuation of the Office of Behavioral Health Equity's Elevate Community-based Organizations (CBOs) Webinar Series that began in 2021. The workshop will supply an overview of how to access data on SAMHSA's BHSIS and Online Treatment Locator and seeks to provide technical assistance to National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) members and minority-serving and under-resourced CBOs. This workshop will enable participants to:

- “Describe the different components of the BHSIS.
- Understand how to access BHSIS data and their potential use in research and grant writing.
- Explain the interaction between BHSIS and SAMHSA's Online Treatment Locator.”