

June 1, 2023



**D.C. Update: SAMHSA Resources For Pride Month, DEA National Take Back Day Results, Applications Now Open: STAR Loan Repayment Program, and More.**

Visit our Website



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## Meet the Member

### Jennifer Robertson-Hill, LMHC, WSC for Iowa, Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

Jennifer Robertson-Hill serves as the Women's Services Coordinator (WSC) for Iowa and currently leads federal discretionary projects such as the Promoting the Integration of Primary and Behavioral Health Care Grant and the Emergency COVID-19 Response Projects at the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services. Jennifer's prior experiences to this position include the provision of treatment and therapy services as a certified alcohol and drug counselor as well as her time as a licensed mental health therapist at an Iowa non-profit that specializes in services to pregnant, postpartum, and parenting women and their children. Jennifer received her Bachelor of Arts degree and her Masters of Rehabilitation and Community Counseling degree from the University of Iowa.



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## Around the Agencies

### SAMHSA Releases Resources for Pride Month

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is recognizing June as Pride Month by highlighting their [webpage](#) on *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI+)*. This webpage includes national survey reports, agency and federal initiatives, and other resources for supporting LGBTQI+ individuals.



### SAMHSA Awards Grants to Build Out Crisis Response Services

Last week, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) [awarded 13 grants](#) to communities to foster new and improve existing mobile crisis response teams. According to the press release, "the awarded teams will respond to mental health and substance

use crises in high-need areas, in coordination with local law enforcement.”

Awardees are required to strengthen crisis system capacity by “...providing post-crisis follow-up, developing and implementing protocols for coordination with law enforcement, providing evidence-based crisis training to providers and first responders, mapping community crisis systems, and improving the use of data.” These efforts aim to establish timely access to trained mental health professionals for individuals in crisis and to help ease the burden on law enforcement. Visit SAMHSA’s website here [to learn more about this opportunity](#).

## DEA National Take Back Day Results for April 2023



The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) released the results from the 24th National Take Back Day from April, 2023. The agency saw 4,497 Law Enforcement Agencies participating across 4,955 total collection sites. At these sites, a total of 663,725 pounds of prescription medication was collected, bringing the all-time total collected to 17,300,454 pounds. To read more about these results, visit the DEA website [here](#).

## Applications Now Open: STAR Loan Repayment Program

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced funding for the [Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Loan Repayment Program \(STAR-LRP\)](#). The program offers up to \$250,000 in educational loan repayment in exchange for awardees agreeing to work full-time for six years in a STAR LRP-approved facility. Applicants must be a United States citizen, fully licensed, credentialed in an eligible discipline, or a registered SUD professional, and a full-time employee at a [STAR LRP-approved facility](#). To determine eligibility and apply for this program, visit the HRSA website [here](#).

## New HRSA Funding Opportunity: Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training-Children, Adolescents, and Transitional Aged Youth (BHWET-CAY) Program for Professionals



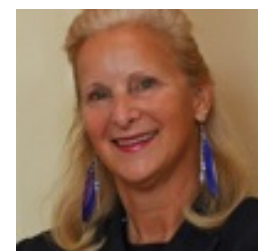
The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) recently announced an \$8.4 million funding opportunity for the [Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training-Children, Adolescents, and Transitional Aged Youth \(BHWET-CAY\) Program for Professionals](#). The program aims to “...address the behavioral health needs of children, adolescents, and transitional-aged youth by increasing the supply and distribution of behavioral health providers in rural and underserved communities.” HRSA will offer up to 16 awards. Applications are due June 1st.

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## Other News

### Cynthia Moreno Tuohy Stepping Down as NAADAC Executive Director

This week, Cynthia Moreno Tuohy announced she will be stepping down from her role as Executive Director of the National Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) in 2024. Cynthia has served in the role for over 18 years and has been working with NAADAC since she became a member in the late 1970s. In her time at NAADAC, she has served as NAADAC President, Certification Board Commissioner, International Chair, Treasurer, and Legislative Chair. Moreno Tuohy was awarded the Friend of NASADAD Award in September of 2021 for her national work with the Association. We thank Cynthia for her unwavering dedication and enthusiasm in helping addiction professionals provide support to others.



## Webinars to Watch

### PTTC Webinar: Using ACE Data to Impact Substance Misuse Prevention

The [South Southwest Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network \(PTTC\)](#) is hosting a webinar on [Using ACE Data to Impact Substance Misuse Prevention](#). This no-cost webinar will “...demonstrate how adverse childhood experiences (ACE) data can be used to identify risk factors that contribute to substance misuse in a community and how the data can be used by prevention professionals to plan.” This webinar will be offered on June 8, 2023, at 10:30 AM (ET). Registration is required.

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