

August 17, 2023



D.C. Update: SAMHSA Releases 2023-2026 Strategic Plan, FDA Approves Second Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray Product, CDC Recognizes National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day, and More.

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Meet the Member

Mariah Ogden, WSC for Vermont, Manager, VT Helplink & IDRP Programs, Division of Substance Use Programs, Vermont Department of Health



Mariah joined the Vermont Department of Health's Division of Substance Use Programs (DSU) in 2018 but took on the role of Women's Service Coordinator (WSC) for Vermont just last year. Vermont's small population means most Single State Agency (SSA) staff "wear several hats," and her scope of work includes Vermont's centralized substance use resource & referral service (VT Helplink) and the Impaired Driver Rehabilitation Program (IDRP), in addition to WSC duties. Prior to DSU, Mariah worked with the State of Vermont's Medicaid case management program, including implementation of the Medicaid Obstetrical & Maternal Support (MOMS) service, and held roles in community non-profit organizations supporting children, youth, and families. Outside of her work with DSU, she serves as Board Chair for a community domestic violence advocacy organization and is passionate about supporting people as they disrupt the cycles of generational trauma/adverse childhood experiences.

NASADAD News

NASADAD Participates in SAMHSA Regional Meeting Focused on Recovery

On August 8 and 9, Robert Morrison, NASADAD

Executive Director, attended a meeting in Chicago, Illinois sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) [Office of Recovery \(OR\)](#) where States in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Region 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, and Minnesota) held a dialogue regarding different issues related to recovery support services. SAMHSA's Office of Recovery is led by Paolo DelVecchio. The meeting allowed participants the opportunity to hear presentations and engage in a dialogue about successes, challenges, and ways forward to improve access to recovery support services. Participants spent time together in a larger group and breakout sessions. The discussions touched on many key topics impacting States, counties, and communities, including workforce, data collection, recovery schools, research-to-practice and practice-to-research issues, financing, and more. NASADAD wishes to recognize SAMHSA for holding this dialogue.



Capitol Hill Happenings

Bipartisan, Bicameral Legislation Designed to Prevent Fatal Overdoses and Support Opioid Victims Reintroduced

On July 25th, the [Improving Medicaid Programs' Response to Overdose Victims and Enhancing \(IMPROVE\) Addiction Care Act](#), a bipartisan, bicameral bill that would "...require state Medicaid programs to use jointly-funded Drug Utilization Review programs to help connect patients to treatment and boost safeguards for those on Medicaid who have experienced a non-fatal, opioid-related overdose" was reintroduced. The bill would also close an information gap that currently prevents prescribers from being informed when a patient overdoses. Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV), Markwayne Mullin (R-OK), Tom Carper (D-DE), and Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) reintroduced the legislation in the Senate, while Representatives David Trone (D-MD), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and Annie Kuster (D-NH) reintroduced companion legislation in the House.

Senator Manchin's press release announcing the bill's reintroduction can be found [here](#).

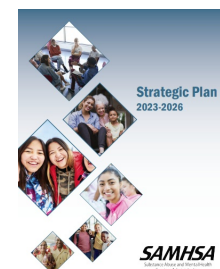
Full text of the bill can be found [here](#).

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA Releases 2023-2026 Strategic Plan

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently released the [2023-2026 Strategic Plan](#). The 2023-2026 Strategic Plan introduces a new mission and vision by prioritizing a person-centered approach with objectives associated with each priority and guiding principle. The five key priority areas include:

- "Preventing Substance Use and Overdose
- Enhancing Access to Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Services
- Promoting Resilience and Emotional Health for Children, Youth and Families
- Integrating Behavioral and Physical Health Care
- Strengthening the Behavioral Health Workforce."



Additionally, SAMHSA's work for 2023-2026 will be guided by four core principles:

- "Equity
- Trauma-Informed Approaches
- Recovery
- Commitment to Data and Evidence"

FDA Approves Second Over-the-Counter Naloxone Nasal Spray Product

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently approved RiVive, 3 milligram (mg) naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray for over-the-counter (OTC), nonprescription use for the treatment of an opioid overdose. RiVive joins [Narcan](#), 4 mg naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray, as the second OTC naloxone nasal spray product approved by the FDA. The timeline for the availability and price of RiVive is still being determined by the manufacturer. Data on the effectiveness of RiVive can be found in the FDA's press release announcing the OTC approval of RiVive, [here](#).

CDC Recognizes National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day™ August 21



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will observe the second annual [National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day™](#) on Monday, August 21, 2023. Established by [Facing Fentanyl™](#), a not-for-profit organization, National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day™ is dedicated to remembrance of "... loved ones lost to overdoses involving illegally made fentanyl, raise awareness of the dangers of fentanyl, and share ways to prevent fatal overdose." This day serves as an opportunity for fentanyl awareness organizations and affected families to highlight lived experiences and inform the youth and public on the dangers of fentanyl. CDC has also released [shareable resources](#) in support of National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day™ to educate the public on fentanyl-related overdose.

2024 Minority Fellowship Program for Addiction Counselors Now Accepting Applications

The National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC), funded by a grant in collaboration with the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is accepting applications for the [2024 Minority Fellowship Program for Addiction Counselors \(MFP-AC\)](#). The MFP-AC pairs awardees with mentors in the substance use disorder (SUD) field and provides professional development resources, including travel to the NAADAC Annual Conference. The 2024 MFP-AC will award up to 40 masters'-level fellowships in addiction counseling worth \$15,000 each. NAADAC is accepting [applications](#) until September 30, 2023.

Eligibility requirements can be found on NAADAC's website, [here](#).

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) can be found on NBCC's website, [here](#).

Research Round-Up

CRS Report: Clinical Fentanyl Testing

The Congressional Research Service (CRS) recently published a report on [Clinical Fentanyl Testing](#). The report covers the regulation of clinical fentanyl tests, including primary oversight mechanisms, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-cleared commercialized tests, and policy considerations for the use of clinical fentanyl testing as one component of the nation's response to the opioid crisis. The report concludes that "on a population level, this testing would facilitate monitoring trends of illicit drug use across and within geographic areas, as well as evaluating relevant health outcomes and their correlation with clinical presentation and treatment."



Webinars to Watch

CMS Medicaid and CHIP Renewals Webinar Series

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Programs (CHIP), supported by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are hosting a [coalition webinar series on Medicaid and CHIP renewals for reaching out to special populations](#). This no-cost webinar series will “...review strategies that partners can use to reach and share information with diverse communities and audiences about Medicaid and CHIP renewals.” Each webinar in the series will include a “train-the-trainer” presentation where CMS will provide downloadable resources for partners to educate other organizations. Each webinar will be from 3:00-4:00 pm (ET). Dates and topics include:

- Thursday, August 17th: Reaching Aging and Disability Populations
- Thursday, August 24th: Reaching Rural Populations
- Thursday, September 7th: Reaching American Indian and Alaska Native Populations

Registration for each webinar in the series is required.

PTTC Webinar: The Role of Prevention in Addressing Alcohol Use in the U.S. Military



The [Pacific Southwest Prevention Technology Transfer Center \(PTTC\)](#) is hosting a webinar on [The Role of Prevention in Addressing Alcohol Use in the U.S. Military](#). This no-cost webinar is being offered on August 22, at 6:00 pm (ET). This webinar is part of PTTC’s Prioritizing Equity in Prevention Series and “...will discuss the risk and protective factors that contribute to the military alcohol environment, drawing parallels between colleges and the military as institutions with unique opportunities for prevention efforts to promote health equity within this population.” The session is designed to help participants assess potential alcohol-related issues specific to the military and develop a plan to address it. Specifically, the webinar will:

- “Describe alcohol consumption and harms specific to military personnel
- Discuss risk and protective factors that contribute to the alcohol environment on and around military installations
- Determine opportunities for collaboration in the prevention of excessive alcohol consumption among military personnel.”

Registration is required.

ATTC Webinar: Crisis and Hope: Trends, Risk Assessment, and Innovation in Overcoming Overdose

The [Northwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center \(ATTC\)](#) is hosting a webinar on [Crisis and Hope: Trends, Risk Assessment, and Innovation in Overcoming Overdose](#). This no-cost webinar is being offered on August 23, at 3:00 pm (ET). The webinar “...will discuss trends and patterns in overdose cases over the last 5 years, factors that can increase overdose risk including identifiable life events and mental health co-occurring conditions, and how different populations are affected across Region 10.” Additionally, the presenters will offer actionable interventions to enhance overdose safety, including medical devices and resources, harm reduction strategies, and collaboration with community organizations. Learning objectives include:

- “Analyze the evolving trends in overdose incidents over the last 5 years.
- Recognize factors that increase individuals’ vulnerability to overdose.
- Apply actionable interventions to enhance overdose safety and prevention.
- Explore new products and resources to manage overdose.”

Registration is required.

We're Hiring!

NASADAD Hiring for Alcohol and Other Drug Research Associate and

Analysts

The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) is hiring for an Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Research Associate I, an AOD Research Analyst II- Treatment Task Leader, and an AOD Research Analyst II- Women's and Youth Services. See the job listings and links to apply below:

Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Research Associate I

NASADAD seeks a team-oriented person interested in substance use disorder (SUD) issues and systems. The candidate should: possess an understanding of substance use issues, have excellent writing and communication skills, and demonstrate strong research and analytic capabilities.

More information on the position, including qualifications, benefits, and how to apply can be found [here](#).

Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Research Analyst II- Treatment Task Leader

NASADAD seeks a knowledgeable and experienced person in substance use disorders (SUD) treatment, who is team-oriented, has excellent writing and research abilities, data analysis experience, and strong communication skills.

More information on the position, including qualifications, benefits, and how to apply can be found [here](#).

Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Research Analyst II- Women's and Youth Services

NASADAD seeks an experienced, team-oriented person with a demonstrated understanding of substance use issues related to women and youth, excellent writing and research abilities, data analysis experience, and strong communication skills.

More information on the position, including qualifications, benefits, and how to apply can be found [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Flinn, Ed.D., Senior Research Analyst, at: tflinn@nasadad.org.

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