

December 7, 2023



D.C. Update: Awards Event: Celebrate Leaders in the Substance Use Disorder Field, SUPPORT Act Mark-Up in the Senate, SAMHSA Recruiting for Three Regional Directors, and More.

Visit our Website



Meet The Member

Donald Hallcom, Ph.D., National Prevention Network (NPN) Coordinator for New Jersey

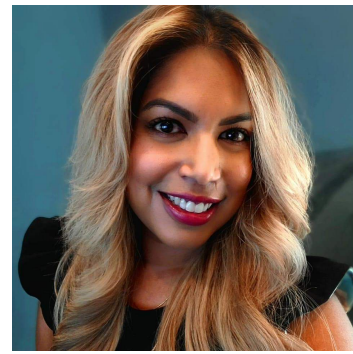
Donald Hallcom, Ph.D., has served as the Director of Prevention and Early Intervention in New Jersey's Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), since 2007. Mr. Hallcom also currently serves as the National Prevention Network (NPN) Coordinator for New Jersey. In his position, he oversees a statewide system of county-based coalitions and prevention agencies. In addition, his office manages contracts with the New Jersey Council on Compulsive Gambling, the New Jersey Prevention Network, and many others. He also manages a number of recovery-focused initiatives, such as the Opioid Overdose Recovery Program, Support Teams for Addiction Recovery, and a program in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Corrections and Rutgers University Behavioral Healthcare that provides pre- and post-release services to inmates with a substance use disorder (SUD) who are incarcerated. Additionally, Donald manages discretionary grants from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), including Strategic Prevention Framework for Prescription Drugs (SPF-Rx), Grants to Prevent Prescription Drug Overdose-Related Deaths (PDO), and Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnerships for Success (SPF-PFS).



Donald earned his Ph.D. in social welfare planning and policy from Columbia University. Outside of work, Donald enjoys his three dogs, working out, and theater. He recently played Max in the musical, *Sunset Boulevard*.

Shanthy Edward, PsyD, Joins NASADAD

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Shanthy Edward, PsyD, joined the NASADAD team on December 4 as a Senior Communications Specialist. Shanthy will be supporting both the Association's communications activities, as well as research and technical assistance projects.



Dr. Edward brings a unique blend of clinical psychology and strategic communication expertise to her role. With a career that started in underserved areas, Dr. Edward quickly realized the crucial role of effective communication in addressing complex issues affecting individuals and communities. This realization led her into non-profit leadership roles, strategic communications positions, and strategic growth roles where she has made a lasting impact. Dr. Edward has worked in direct service environments serving individuals, families, and communities experiencing a broad range of needs, including substance use disorders and mental disorders/intellectual disabilities. In addition, she is an expert in strategic communications, marketing, advocacy, and content development. She has crafted presentations, reports, speeches, white papers, video scripts, podcasts, and more for people and organizations with diverse needs and audiences. She has also led strategic planning, revenue growth, and business development, including within the substance use disorders and mental health fields.

We are thrilled to have Shanthy join NASADAD!

Awards Event: Celebrate Leaders in the Substance Use Disorder Field

Please join us from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST on **Monday, December 11th**, as we convene the [2023 NASADAD Virtual Awards Program](#) that will feature the winner of the 2023 Ramstad-Kennedy Award for leadership related to recovery.

The Honorable Patrick J. Kennedy, former Congressman from Rhode Island, and the founder of [The Kennedy Forum](#), will provide remarks.

Register [here](#).

A zoom link will be sent to the corresponding email address once registration is complete.

Other awards will include:

- **NASADAD Service Award** - The award is given to a State Director (SSA) who has contributed outstanding service to the Association.
- **State Service Award** - This award goes to a State Director (SSA) who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in their respective State.
- **Henrick J. Harwood & Robert E. Anderson Service Award in recognition of distinguished Service in the field of addiction research, training, and evaluation** - This award is given to an individual or organization for exemplary work in the area of substance use disorder research, training, or evaluation.
- **Friend of NASADAD Award** - The award is given to a non-member of NASADAD to recognize outstanding service and leadership to the field of substance use disorders.

Capitol Hill Happenings

SUPPORT Act Mark-Up in the Senate

This week, Chairman Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT) and Ranking Member Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA) of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) introduced legislation to reauthorize the SUPPORT Act. The SUPPORT for

Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act (S.3393) will reauthorize programs such as SAMHSA's Pregnant and Post Partum Women's (PPW) Residential and Pilot Program, First Responder Training Program, and HRSA's Loan Repayment Program for SUD, among others. The bill also includes a section (109) that "Clarifies that State Opioid Response grant program funds may be used for products that may prevent overdose by detecting one or more substances, such as test strips, to the extent such products are permitted under Federal and State law."

A markup for the bill is next Tuesday, December 12, 2023. The press advisory about the bill and mark-up can be found [here](#).

Senate Indian Affairs Committee Hearing on "Fentanyl in Native Communities: Examining the Federal Response to the Growing Crisis"

Yesterday, the Senate Indian Affairs Committee conducted a full committee hearing on [Fentanyl in Native Communities: Examining the Federal Response to the Growing Crisis](#). This oversight hearing was designed to provide federal substance use agencies the opportunity to share their perspectives on the fentanyl crisis in Native communities. Witnesses discussed their agencies' efforts to address fentanyl in Native communities, trends in fentanyl use in Native communities, and population-specific needs to target to respond to the ongoing crisis. Witnesses included:

- Adam W. Cohen, Deputy Director, White House Office of National Drug Policy (ONDCP)
- Roselyn Tso, Director, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Indian Health Service (IHS)
- Vanessa Waldref, U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Washington
- Glen Melville, Bureau Deputy Director, Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services

A recording of the hearing and individual testimonies can be found [here](#).

Around the Agencies

New SAMHSA Resources on Efforts to Identify and Address Challenges Affecting Buprenorphine Access in Pharmacies



The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in collaboration with federal partners, recently released two reports on [Efforts to Identify and Address Challenges Affecting Buprenorphine Access in Pharmacies](#). These new reports are based on conversations SAMHSA had with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH), pharmacies, and State health departments. The reports' release comes as expanding access to buprenorphine has been made a top priority of the [HHS Overdose Prevention Strategy](#). The two new reports include:

- [Policy Priority Roundtable Summary Report](#): "In August 2022, SAMHSA convened a Policy Priority Roundtable with pharmacy organizations, state health departments, nonprofit associations, academic institutions, and people with lived experiences. where pharmacy organizations called for an opportunity to engage directly with federal agencies about challenges affecting buprenorphine supply."
- [Virtual Town Hall Report](#): SAMHSA joined other federal partners to jointly host a town hall where participants, including pharmacy organizations involved in buprenorphine distribution, discussed challenges and solutions to increase access to this life-saving medication."

Other efforts by SAMHSA to encourage pharmacies, manufacturers, and organizations to collaborate on expanding access to buprenorphine in pharmacies can be found [here](#).

HHS Releases Social Media Toolkit on 2023 Medicaid and CHIP Renewals

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) recently released a social media toolkit on [2023 Medicaid and CHIP Renewals](#). The toolkit includes suggested language and graphics to highlight various HHS and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) resources for specific populations, demographic groups, and entities involved in Medicaid and CHIP renewals. In addition to group-specific fact sheets, the toolkit includes CMS' [Partner Call to Action](#) to keep people covered as Medicaid renewals restart. Aside from the communications input, the social media toolkit provides links to slide decks, webinars, and research to train organizations on how to help people learn about Medicaid and CHIP renewals.

The toolkit and resources can be found on CMS' updated [Outreach and Educational Resources webpage](#).

2023 National Red Ribbon Photo Contest Winners Announced



The winners of the [2023 National Red Ribbon Photo Contest](#) were recently announced! Part of Red Ribbon Week, the Red Ribbon Photo Contest is a photo contest co-sponsored by the National Family Partnership (NFP) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The photo contest seeks to raise visibility for drug-free life through photos of students, families, and school decorations. The [2023 Red Ribbon Week theme](#) is "Be Kind To Your Mind. Live Drug Free." This year, the Red Ribbon Campaign received over 200 million messages in support of drug-free life. Winners were selected from homes and schools in each region.

More information on National Red Ribbon Week can be found on NFP's webpage, [here](#).

SAMHSA Recruiting for Three Regional Directors

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is hiring for three Supervisory Public Health Analyst (Regional Director) openings for the following cities: Boston, Massachusetts; Denver, Colorado; and Seattle, Washington. Applications open today, and must be submitted by December 11. The Supervisory Public Health Analyst position's duties include:

1. "Oversees the analysis and evaluation of organization policies, priorities, strategies arising from legislation, regulatory action, and other critical program or policy and plans.
2. Directs the numerous activities of the Regional Office, including formulation, establishment, interpretation, and evaluation of major programs.
3. Provides leadership and direction in the administration of mental health, substance abuse prevention and treatment initiatives including recovery support.
4. Communicates and coordinates activities with other Federal agencies in the Region with interest in identifying priority areas relating to organization programs."

The job listings, including additional information on how to apply, can be found [here](#).

Research Roundup

CDC Report Examines the Impact of Cigarette Smoking Cessation Behaviors on Tobacco-Related Disease and Death



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in collaboration with the [National Cancer Institute \(NCI\)](#) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), published an article in *Preventing Chronic Disease* on [State-Specific Prevalence of Adult Tobacco Product Use and Cigarette Smoking Cessation Behaviors, United States, 2018-2019](#). Self-reported data from the 2018-2019 [Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey \(TUS-CPS\)](#) of American adults across the country was

examined to determine State-specific prevalence of tobacco use, interest and attempts to quit smoking, and the use of cigarette smoking cessation behaviors and their impact on tobacco-related disease and death. Key findings include:

- “Prevalence of current any-tobacco use (use every day or some days) ranged from 10.2% in California to 29.0% in West Virginia.
- Percentage of adults who:
 - currently smoked cigarettes and were interested in quitting ranged from 68.2% in Alabama to 87.5% in Connecticut;
 - made a past-year quit attempt ranged from 44.1% in Tennessee to 62.8% in Rhode Island;
 - reported recent successful cessation ranged from 4.6% in West Virginia and Wisconsin to 10.8% in South Dakota; and
 - used medications and/or counseling to quit ranged from 25.5% in Nevada to 50.1% in Massachusetts.”

Several states with the highest cigarette smoking prevalence reported lower prevalence of interest in quitting, quit attempts, use of counseling or medication, and higher prevalence of e-cigarette, smokeless tobacco, and cigar use.

Webinars to Watch

ONDCP Webinar: 1115 Waiver for Re-Entry Populations: A Conversation with State Leaders

The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) is hosting a webinar on [1115 Waiver for Re-Entry Populations: A Conversation with State Leaders](#). This no-cost webinar is on December 12, at 2:30 pm ET. The webinar will be led by Dr. Rahul Gupta, Director, ONDCP, and Melissa Harris, Deputy Director of Medicaid Benefits and Health Programs Group, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), who will meet with State substance use services leaders from Washington State to “...highlight the work of state correctional and public health leaders, how they worked together in the State of Washington to build their demonstration opportunity applications, and how this opportunity could positively impact their communities.” Questions can be submitted via email to RSVP@ondcp.eop.gov through December 8. Registration is required.

NIDA Webinar: Annual Monitoring the Future (MTF) Survey Data Release Constituents Briefing

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is hosting a webinar on the [Annual Monitoring the Future \(MTF\) Survey Data Release Constituents Briefing](#). This no-cost webinar is on December 13, at 10:00 am ET. The webinar will feature Dr. Marsha Lopez, Chief, Epidemiology Research Branch, Division of Epidemiology, Services and Prevention Research, NIDA, who will provide a briefing for constituents on the results of the [annual MTF Survey](#), which is scheduled for release on December 13, at 10:00 am ET. MTF is an annual NIDA-funded survey that started in 1975 on drug and alcohol use behavior and attitudes among adolescents across the nation. Registration is required.



NASADAD | 1919 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite M 250, Washington, DC 20006

[Unsubscribe ladams@nasadad.org](mailto:ladams@nasadad.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by ladams@nasadad.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!