

October 10, 2024



DC Update: NASADAD Personnel Update, NASADAD Releases Updated Thematic State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Briefs, FDA and NIH Joint Public Meeting: Advancing Smoking Cessation Priorities, and More.

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NASADAD Personnel Update

Maddie Hise Joins NASADAD as Public Policy Intern

It is our pleasure to introduce to you our Public Policy Intern for this fall, Maddie Hise!

Maddie joined NASADAD in September 2024 as the Public Policy Intern supporting the work of the Public Policy Department. She is already taking a lead on the D.C. Update, developing fact sheets, and various other assignments. Please see a brief bio below:

Maddie Hise is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Addiction Policy and Practice at Georgetown University. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Human Dimensions of Organization from the University of Texas at Austin in 2019. Maddie has a diverse background with experience in marketing and paralegal work. In her free time, she volunteers with the Red Cross and at women's shelters.



We are very excited to have her on board!

Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself. Maddie can be reached at: mhise@nasadad.org.

Cara Dufresne Joins NASADAD as Research Associate

It is our pleasure to announce the hiring of Cara Dufresne as a Research Associate!

Please see a brief bio below:

Cara Dufresne, MPH, joined NASADAD in October 2024 as a Research Associate supporting the Prevention, Women's Services, and Youth Coordinators. Before coming to NASADAD, she worked as a Youth Coordinator for a regional coalition outside of Boston focused on substance use initiation prevention strategies. She also has experience with college campus substance use prevention and harm reduction efforts and has previously engaged in policy work surrounding alcohol home delivery. Cara received her Bachelors in Community Health from Tufts University and her Master of Public Health with a concentration in Maternal and Child Health from The George Washington University.



We are very excited to have her on board!

Please do not hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself. Cara can be reached at: cdufresne@nasadad.org.

NASADAD News

NASADAD Executive Director Rob Morrison Awarded 2024 Tom Fellows Award During the Oxford House World Convention

NASADAD Executive Director Rob Morrison was honored to receive the 2024 Tom Fellows Award for service to Oxford House during the Oxford House World Convention held in Orlando, Florida last week. Rob was also privileged to serve on two panels during the conference to educate attendees about the Association and the role of State alcohol and drug agencies. It was great to see NASADAD members Barbara Bazron (DC), Christine Scalise (NJ), Marisa Marino Beard (LA), Melinda Robinson (LA), and others.



Special thanks to Oxford House staff led by Kathleen Gibson, CEO.

NASADAD Releases Updated Thematic State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Briefs

Building upon the information NASADAD recently published on how each State is using State Opioid Response (SOR) grant funding to expand and enhance services across the continuum of care, NASADAD developed thematic briefs that identify common strategies States have used to implement programs and services in specific areas. Three briefs were developed on: [State Harm Reduction Initiatives to Address the Opioid Crisis](#), [State Efforts to Reach and Serve American Indians and Alaska Natives with Opioid and Stimulant Use Problems](#), and [State Initiatives for People with Stimulant Use Problems](#).

The briefs were developed with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) SOR/Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) Technical Assistance grant through the Opioid Response Network

State Efforts to Reach and Serve American Indians and Alaska Natives with Opioid and Stimulant Use Problems
2024 State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant Issue Brief

Background and Overview

The State Opioid Response (SOR) grant is administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to provide resources to states to address opioid misuse, opioid use disorder (OUD), and the opioid overdose crisis. States and territories can use SOR funds to increase access to Federal Drug Administration-approved medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and the continuum of care for stimulant misuse and use disorders (SUOD).

This issue brief will describe common service models and evidence-based practices that states and territories have implemented with SOR funding to provide substance use disorder (SUD) services across the continuum of care for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Most Common Initiatives for American Indians and Alaska Natives Implemented by States with SOR Funds

The National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) conducted an analysis of 2023 SOR-funded initiatives that aim to provide culturally appropriate services across the continuum of care for American Indians and Alaska Natives. The analysis revealed six initiatives and services commonly implemented by the Single State Agencies (SSAs) for alcohol and drugs that administer the SOR Grants. The chart below summarizes these initiatives.

Initiative	Summary	Number of State/Territorial Initiatives
Recovery Support Services	Recovery support services are non-clinical services that support individuals in their efforts to reach and sustain recovery and includes peer support, care coordination, wraparound services, and recovery housing. States have implemented initiatives to provide culturally	17

National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors

(ORN).

These thematic briefs and each State's individual brief are now available on the interactive map on NASADAD's website, [here](#).

Around the Agencies

SAMHSA's Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center Highlights Resources Recognizing Substance Use Prevention Month

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center (EBPRC) is highlighting resources on substance use prevention in recognition of Substance Use Prevention Month. These resources intend to raise awareness for the risks associated with substance use, misuse, and substance use disorder (SUD) among youth and the importance of prevention services in strengthening protective factors, reducing risk, and building resilient communities. SAMHSA remains committed to promoting culturally responsive prevention services rooted in respect, compassion, and innovation. EBPRC is highlighting the following resources regarding substance use prevention:

- [Preventing Marijuana Use Among Youth](#)
- [Advisory: Prescription Stimulant Misuse and Prevention Among Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [Reducing Vaping Among Youth and Young Adults](#)
- [Advisory: Screening and Treatment of Substance Use Disorder among Adolescents](#)
- [Selecting Best-fit Programs and Practices: Guidance for Substance Misuse Prevention Practitioners](#)
- [State Performance & Best Practices for the Prevention and Reeducation of Underage Drinking 2020](#)

Additional resources can be found on EBPRC's website, [here](#).

FDA and NIH Joint Public Meeting: Advancing Smoking Cessation: FDA and NIH Priorities



The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are hosting a joint public meeting on *Advancing Smoking Cessation: FDA and NIH Priorities* on October 21, from 9:00 am ET-4:30 pm ET, at the White Oak Campus in Silver Spring, Maryland. The event will also be livestreamed, [here](#). The meeting will focus on advancing innovation of smoking cessation products for both youth and adults. Specifically, the meeting will feature presentations and panel discussions on the following smoking cessation-related topics:

- Clinical and community perspectives
- Promising target areas for development
- Regulatory paths forward

The meeting will also include an opportunity for public comment.

Additional information on the event, including the agenda, can be found [here](#).

PCSS-MAUD Online Module: Alcohol Use Disorder and Common Co-occurring Psychiatric Conditions

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)-funded [Providers Clinical Support System – Medications for Alcohol Use Disorder \(MAUD\)](#) released an online training module on [Alcohol Use Disorder and Common Co-occurring Psychiatric Conditions](#). This two-hour on-demand training module is designed for clinical healthcare professionals who prescribe medications in outpatient or inpatient settings and

explores the interplay of alcohol use disorder (AUD) and common co-occurring psychiatric conditions, including bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder. Specifically, the module outlines how these conditions interact, diagnostic tools for screening and diagnosis, and treatment strategies. Learning objectives include:

- “Describe the complex interplay between alcohol use disorder and common psychiatric conditions.
- Identify key screening tools and diagnostic criteria for co-occurring conditions.
- Explore integrated treatment plans that incorporate behavioral and pharmacological approaches.
- Evaluate the impact of stigma, socioeconomic, and cultural barriers on treatment engagement and adherence.
- Synthesize knowledge from patient cases and healthcare professional insights to improve clinical practice.”

Continuing Education (CE) credits are available upon completion of the module.

Additional trainings can be found on PCSS-MAUD’s website, [here](#).

Research Roundup

GAO Report: Behavioral Health: Information on Cost-Sharing in Medicare and Medicare Advantage



The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently issued a new report on [Behavioral Health: Information on Cost-Sharing in Medicare and Medicare Advantage](#). The report outlines behavioral health benefit availability under Medicare and Medicare Advantage programs, including the out-of-pocket costs paid by beneficiaries and oversight by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of cost-sharing in Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans for mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) services. Further, the report compares coverage under Medicare and Medicare Advantage programs across both inpatient and outpatient mental health and SUD services. A summary of key findings can be found [here](#).

The full report can be downloaded [here](#).

Webinars to Watch

HRSA-funded NTTAP Webinar: Integrating Behavioral Health into Pediatric Care, Part 1

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)-funded National Training and Technical Assistance Partners (NTTAP) is hosting a webinar on [Integrating Behavioral Health into Pediatric Care, Part 1](#). This no-cost webinar is on October 18, at 12:00 pm ET. The webinar will review the integration of mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) care into pediatric care. Specifically, the webinar will offer background on pediatric mental health and SUD care, including statistics and trends related to the prevalence and impact of mental health and SUD on children, as well as approaches for integrating mental health and SUD assessments and interventions into routine pediatric care.

[Registration](#) is required.



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