FEMA Administrator Approves 30 States and District of Columbia for Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program to Help Residents Struggling with COVID-Related Anxiety

On May 2, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced approval of 30 states and the District of Columbia for its Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training program. The program helps fund state-provided crisis counseling services to residents struggling with stress and anxiety as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The May 2 approvals were for: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Colorado, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin and D.C.

FEMA previously funded crisis counseling in six states:
- $1.6 million for California;
- $464,000 for Massachusetts;
- $371,000 for Michigan;
- $882,000 for New Jersey;
- $1.3 million for New York; and
- $2.1 million for Washington State.

While FEMA also approved the program in Florida, Illinois, Louisiana and Texas, funding for those states is under review. President Trump delegated authority to FEMA Administrator Pete Gaynor to approve requests for the program in order to speed assistance to those in need.

FEMA’s Crisis Counseling program helps people and communities recover from the effects of natural or man-made disasters through short-term interventions that provide emotional support, crisis counseling, and connection to familial and community support systems.

Due to the COVID-19 nationwide emergency and the need to protect the safety and health of all Americans, crisis counseling services will be delivered by phone, internet and social media.

Help is also available to all residents of the United States through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services’ Disaster Distress Helpline by calling 1-800-985-5990 or texting TalkWithUs to 66746. Spanish speakers call 1-800-985-5990 and press “2” or text Hablanos to 66746 from all 50 states.

Callers from Puerto Rico text Hablanos to 1-787-339-2663. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use preferred relay service to call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 or TTY 1-800-846-8517. This toll-free, multilingual, and confidential crisis support service is available to all residents of the U.S. and its territories.

HRSA/CDC Post Database of Recipients of $175 Billion in Provider Relief Funds

The Trump Administration on May 6 posted a database of the 142,419 provider recipients of the $175 billion made available under the HealthCare Enhancement Act and the CARES Act’s Paycheck Protection Program as of May 4.

The payments are being distributed by the Department of Health and Human Services through the Health Resources and Services Administration to hospitals and healthcare providers based on eligible providers’ share of net patient revenue—primarily, if not exclusively—from Medicare. CMS last week asked state Medicaid agency directors to provide Medicaid claims data for 2018 and 2019 that could be used to base payments to Medicaid providers.

The data posted on-line on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, which includes the name, city and state of the provider and how much the provider received, can either be viewed online or downloaded.

The amounts of the payments range from $1 to multiple providers to $180,264,488 to Dignity Health in Arizona and $103,289,897 to the Cleveland Clinic.

Mental health providers listed (as indicated by name search only) receiving funds were:
- 4 providers listed as psychiatric nurse practitioners; receiving from $514 to $56,830
- 27 providers listed as social workers, receiving from $105 to $193,730;
- 36 community mental health centers, receiving from $363 to $418,562;
- 468 providers listed as providing psychiatric services, receiving from $18 to $661,844
- 804 providers of psychological services, receiving from $9 to $1,090,706; and
- 1134 providers listed as providing “counseling services” (caveat: this last category may include genetic counseling and reproductive counseling), receiving from $25 to $383,475.
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Download the PTSD Coach App from the National Center on PTSD

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2019 NASMHPD Technical Assistance Coalition Working Papers

CDC Funding Opportunity Announcement: COVID-19 Funding for Tribes

Student Mental Health: Responding to the Crisis, October 6, London

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June 9 AHRQ Webinar: Role of Telehealth in Increasing Access to Care and Improve Healthcare Quality

Additional NASMHPD Links of Interest

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School for Public Health On-Line Course: Knowledge for Managing County and Local Mental Health, Substance Use, and Developmental Disability Authorities

SAMHSA Mental Health Technology Transfer Center (MHTTC) Network Webinar Series and Newsletter

May MHTTC Webinars

Mental Health Wellness Guide for Public Interest Professionals

NIMH Funding Opportunity Announcement - Implementing and Sustaining Evidence-Based Mental Health Practices in Low-Resource Settings to Achieve Equity in Outcomes (R34 Clinical Trial Required) – RFA- MH-20-401

Zero Suicide International 5 Conference in Liverpool, England – POSTPONED TO EARLY FALL

Nominate a Dr. Jan Mokkenstorm International Zero Suicide Visionary Award Winner

National Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders SAMHSA Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locater
Live Webinar, No Menthol Sunday: Now More Than Ever!

*Tuesday, May 12, 1:00 p.m. to 2 p.m. E.T. / 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. P.T.*

Please join the Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at the University of California, San Francisco

**Delmonte Jefferson**, Executive Director of the National African American Tobacco Prevention Network (NAATPN), will be presenting on this important topic.

**Webinar Objectives:**

- Explain current issues on tobacco, vaping and the role of flavors like menthol
- Describe current policy efforts that can help protect Black health
- Identify the tobacco industry’s tactic to author misinformation and utilize flavors like menthol to addict our kids to vaping and other tobacco products like cigarillos

**Register HERE**

One hour of FREE credit can be earned, for participants who join the LIVE session. You will receive instructions on how to claim credit via the post webinar email.

**PENDING APPROVAL**

**ACCREDITATION FOR RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS**

This program has been approved for a maximum of 1.0 contact hour Continuing Respiratory Care Education (CRCE) credit by the American Association for Respiratory Care, 9425 N. MacArthur Blvd. Suite 100 Irving TX 75063. Course #TBD.

**ACCME Accreditation**

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Medicine is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians.

UCSF designates this live activity for a maximum of 1.0 **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™**. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the webinar activity.

**Advance Practice Registered Nurses and Registered Nurses:**

For the purpose of recertification, the American Nurses Credentialing Center accepts **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™** issued by organizations accredited by the ACCME.

**Physician Assistants:**

The National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA) states that the **AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™** are acceptable for continuing medical education requirements for recertification.
Female physicians have been more likely to die by suicide than women in the general population since 1980, but that trend wasn’t observed among male physicians, according to findings published March 4 in *JAMA Psychiatry*.

Dante Duarte, M.D. Ph.D., Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Harvard Medical School and his colleagues calculated suicide standardized mortality ratios (SMRs) through a ratio of observed and expected suicide deaths among physicians, compared to the ratios in the general population.

Of the 7,877 search results, 32 articles were included in the systematic review and 9 articles in the meta-analysis. Dr. Du rate and his colleagues found that female physicians were 46 percent more likely to die by suicide than females in the general population. In contrast, male physicians were 33 percent less likely to die by suicide versus men in the general population.

Other risk factors associated with physician suicide included being divorced, widowed, or single; either being in the young adult or older adult age ranges; and experiencing career difficulties. The most common suicide methods were poisoning, firearms, and asphyxiation.

The authors found that, from 1980 to 2015, female U.S. medical school graduates increased from 23 percent to 47.6 percent whereas female participation in the general labor force rose from 42.4 percent to 46.8 percent. However, suicide SMR decreased over time in both female and physicians (-1.96 to -0.84) and male physicians (-0.84 to -0.42) when the data were stratified in two time periods—before 1980 and after 1980.

The authors wrote, “This implies that gender dynamics in medicine changed much more rapidly than in the general population during this period, which may have affected female and male physicians’ standardized mortality ratios. However, many additional cultural, socioeconomic and political changes influenced health care during this period, reinforcing the need for action regarding physician suicides.”

Du rate and his colleagues concluded that additional research needs to be conducted to understand suicide patterns and characteristics of physician suicides. Future studies could help understand the root causes of physician distress and provide workplace policies that address career-related stressors and emphasize self-care.

One limitation to the study is the probability of under-reported physician suicide due to inaccurate reporting measures and mortality data in this subpopulation. For example, the authors noted that unintentional poisoning involving prescriptions in their datasets seemed to convey that the overdoses were not accidental.

A national Physician Support Line has been set up to provide free and confidential counseling to provide peer support to physicians during the COVID-19 pandemic. Calls are answered by volunteer psychiatrists from 8:00 a.m. E.T. to 3:00 p.m. E.T.

**Suicide Prevention Resource Center On-Line Course:**

Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention

Effectively preventing suicide requires an understanding of who is attempting and dying by suicide, where the problem is most severe, and under what circumstances attempts and suicide deaths occur. But how do you find the data you need to answer these questions and others? *Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention* presents a variety of data sources that are useful for finding information about suicide deaths, suicide attempts, and suicidal ideation. This course also explains key concepts that will help you better understand the data you find.

After completing this course, attendees will be able to:

- Define and understand the difference between suicide deaths, suicide attempts, suicide ideation, and risk and protective factors for suicide.
- Explain key terms essential to accurately interpreting data and making meaningful comparisons; this includes counts, rates, and trends.
- Identify some commonly used and readily accessible online national data sources, and the type of data that is available from each source.
- Identify some alternative data sources that may be available in states and communities, the type of data available from these sources, and considerations when approaching organizations and agencies for these data.
- Think critically about the strengths and limitations of a given data source.

This course is open to anyone. We highly recommend it for any professional involved in national, state or community suicide prevention.

**Course Length:** This course can be completed in approximately two hours. You do not have to complete the course in one session. You can exit the course at any time and return later to the place where you left off.

**Certificate of Completion:** To receive a certificate of completion, you must do the following online: complete each lesson, pass the posttest (passing score is 80 percent or higher), and answer the feedback survey questions. You can earn a certificate of completion once per year for each course. We do not offer continuing education credits for any of our courses.

[ENROLL HERE](#)
How #CrisisTalk is Transforming Dialogue in Behavioral Health

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) and its Crisis Now partners—the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Vibrant Emotional Health, the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, the National Council for Behavioral Health, and R.I. International—have launched the #CrisisTalk website, sparking much-needed dialogue on behavioral health crises. The new publication provides a platform for diverse experts and people with Lived Experience to exchange thoughts, knowledge, and innovations. Each article shares a person’s perspective, whether that’s an emergency department doctor who tells her story, revealing the challenges emergency physicians experience when faced with a patient in crisis, or a student with suicidal ideation and his university choosing legal self-protection over doing what was best for him.

The objective is to facilitate conversations about mental health crises, including missed opportunities, gaps, tools, and best practices. #CrisisTalk is sharing the diverse stories of people affected by behavioral health crises, including those who have experienced one, loved ones, and stakeholders who need to be part of the conversation, swinging the pendulum worldwide toward awareness and change.

#CrisisTalk interviews reflect the perspectives of mental health experts and first responders. They point out common misconceptions and challenges in their fields and the communities they serve. This includes why some locations do not develop a full continuum of crisis care services. The discussions transcend geography and illustrate ways to make positive changes in the crisis space. Simply having a conversation with a person in crisis, a non-judgmental, empathic approach, along with a willingness to listen and sit with someone, can go a long way.

#CrisisTalk is part of CrisisNow.com, a roadmap to safe, effective crisis care that diverts people in distress from the emergency department and jail by developing a continuum of crisis care services that match clinical needs to care. To learn more, visit www.CrisisNow.com/talk.

THIS WEEK: TRAUMATIC STRESS SPECIALIST DR. APRIL NATURALE ON COVID 19 TRAUMA, GRIEF, AND GROWTH

On December 31, a cluster of people with pneumonia of unknown etiology were identified in Wuhan, China. By January 7, the nation’s health authorities confirmed that the cause was a novel coronavirus, 2019 nCoV. To date, we know the virus has made its way to at least 185 countries and territories, overwhelming healthcare systems and causing governments to implement physical distancing to combat it. What is likely next in mental health, as the unrelenting virus continues moving quickly across the globe, is increases in traumatic grief, PTSD, and posttraumatic growth.

April Naturale, Ph.D., a leading traumatic stress specialist on disaster recovery and community resilience, says disaster experts have primarily centered their response and study on the immediate and intermediate phases after an event. As a result, they know, for instance, that crisis intervention programs, psychoeducational information, and social support as well as the crisis intervention contacts themselves help to decrease people’s anxiety. She says these measures reduce the stigma associated with a community’s typical responses to disasters, helping survivors to feel less like something is wrong with them. “There has also been some momentum looking ahead: experts turning their lens to include the long term impact of disasters. They’ve discovered rises in domestic violence, substance abuse, divorce, and traumatic grief. This is different from the type of grief where a person is missing a loved one and remembering them. Instead, traumatic grief doesn’t change. It stays with people and stops them from functioning, which makes it diagnosable.”


Crisis Now Partners:

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD), founded in 1959 and based in Alexandria, VA, represents the $41 billion public mental health service delivery system serving 7.5 million people annually in all 50 states, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia. NASMHPD (pronounced “NASH-bid”) is the only national association to represent state mental health commissioners/directors and their agencies, and serves as the lead for www.CrisisNow.com.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and Vibrant Emotional Health provides free and confidential emotional support and crisis counseling to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. Funded by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and administered by Vibrant Emotional Health, the Lifeline engages in innovative public messaging, development of best practices in mental health, creative partnerships, and more to improve crisis services and advance suicide prevention for all. www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org www.vibrant.org www.twitter.com/800273TALK

The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention is the public-private partnership working with more than 250 national partners advancing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention with the vision of a nation free from the tragic experience of suicide and a goal of reducing the annual suicide rate 20 percent by 2025. Administered by EDC, Inc., the Action Alliance was the catalyst for the Zero Suicide Healthcare and Crisis w: Transforming Services innovations. www.theactionalliance.org www.edc.org www.twitter.com/Action_Alliance

The National Council for Behavioral Health is the unifying voice of America’s health care organizations that deliver mental health and addictions treatment and services. Together with their 3,000 member organizations serving over 10 million adults, children and families living with mental illnesses and addictions, the National Council is committed to all Americans having access to comprehensive, high-quality care that affords every opportunity for recovery. The National Council introduced Mental Health First Aid USA and have trained more than 1.5 million Americans. www.thenationalcouncil.org www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org www.twitter.com/NationalCouncil

RI International (d/b/a for Recovery Innovations, Inc.) is a global organization that offers more than 50 programs throughout the United States and abroad, characterized by recovery and a focus on what’s strong, not what’s wrong. More than 50% of employees report a lived experience with mental health, and the “Fusion Model” crisis stabilization programs are featured in Crisis Now. The Company also provides training and consulting internationally and supports Zero Suicide International, a partnership with Behavioral Health Link. www.riinternational.com www.zerosuicide.org www.twitter.com/RI_International
Disasters have the potential to cause emotional distress. Some are more at risk than others:

- Survivors living or working in the impacted areas (youth & adults)
- Loved ones of victims
- First Responders, Rescue & Recovery Workers.

**Stress, anxiety, and depression are common reactions after a disaster.**

Warning signs of distress may include:

- Sleeping too much or too little
- Stomachaches or headaches
- Anger, feeling edgy or lashing out at others
- Overwhelming sadness
- Worrying a lot of the time; feeling guilty but not sure why
- Drinking alcohol, smoking or using tobacco more than usual;
- Using illegal drugs
- Feeling like you have to keep busy
- Lack of energy or always feeling tired
- Eating too much or too little
- Not connecting with others
- Feeling like you won’t ever be happy again
TIPS FOR COPING WITH STRESS AFTER A DISASTER:

Take care of yourself. Try to eat healthy, avoid using alcohol and drugs, and get some exercise when you can - even a walk around the block can make a difference.

Reach out to friends and family. Talk to someone you trust about how you are doing.

Talk to your children. They may feel scared, angry, sad, worried, and confused. Let them know it’s okay to talk about what’s on their mind. Limit their watching of TV news reports about the disaster. Help children and teens maintain normal routines to the extent possible. Role model healthy coping.

Get enough ‘good’ sleep. Some people have trouble falling asleep after a disaster, others keep waking up during the night.

If you have trouble sleeping:
- Only go to bed when you are ready to sleep
- Don’t watch TV or use your cell phone or laptop computer while you’re in bed
- Avoid eating (especially sugar) or drinking caffeine or alcohol at least one hour before going to bed
- If you wake up and can’t fall back to sleep, try writing in a journal or on a sheet of paper what’s on your mind.

Take care of pets or get outside into nature when it’s safe. Nature and animals can help us to feel better when we are down. See if you can volunteer at a local animal shelter - they may need help after a disaster. Once it’s safe to return to public parks or natural areas, find a quiet spot to sit in or go for a hike.

Know when to ask for help. Signs of stress can be normal, short-term reactions to any of life’s unexpected events - not only after surviving a disaster, but also after a death in the family, the loss of a job, or a breakup.

It’s important to pay attention to what’s going on with you or with someone you care about, because what may seem like “everyday stress” can actually be:

- Depression (including having thoughts of suicide)
- Anxiety
- Alcohol or Drug Abuse.

If you or someone you know may be depressed, suffering from overwhelming feelings of anxiety, or possibly abusing alcohol or drugs ...

Call 1-800-985-5990 or text ‘TalkWithUs’ to 66746.

You Are Not Alone.
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION GUIDANCE ON THE TELEHEALTH PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCESS (DA-20-394)

On April 2, 2020, the Commission released a Report and Order establishing the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) provides guidance on actions applicants can begin to take to ready themselves for filing an application for COVID-19 Telehealth Program funding.

The COVID-19 Telehealth Program will provide $200 million in funding, appropriated by Congress as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, to help health care providers provide connected care services to patients at their homes or mobile locations in response to the novel Coronavirus 2019 disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The COVID-19 Telehealth Program will provide immediate support to eligible health care providers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by fully funding their telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to provide critical connected care services until the program’s funds have been expended or the COVID-19 pandemic has ended. In order to ensure as many applicants as possible receive available funding, we do not anticipate awarding more than $1 million to any single applicant.

Examples of services and devices that COVID-19 Telehealth Program applicants may seek funding for include:

- Telecommunications Services and Broadband Connectivity Services: Voice services, and Internet connectivity services for health care providers or their patients.
- Information Services: Remote patient monitoring platforms and services; patient-reported outcome platforms; store and forward services, such as asynchronous transfer of patient images and data for interpretation by a physician; platforms and services to provide synchronous video consultation.
- Internet Connected Devices/Equipment: tablets, smart phones, or connected devices to receive connected care services at home (e.g., broadband enabled blood pressure monitors; pulse-ox) for patient or health care provider use; telemedicine kiosks/carts for health care provider site.

Eligible health care providers that purchased telecommunications services, information services, and/or devices in response to the COVID-19 pandemic after March 13, 2020 may apply to receive funding support through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program for eligible services purchased on or after March 13, 2020. In addition, COVID-19 Telehealth Program support will be available to eligible health care providers for services that require monthly recurring charges, such as broadband connectivity or remote patient monitoring services, through September 30, 2020.

Interested health care providers must complete several steps to apply for funding through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program:

1. obtain an eligibility determination from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC); and
2. obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN); and
3. register with System for Award Management.

If an interested party does not already have these steps and accompanying components completed, the Bureau recommends that it gather the necessary information and begin to complete other necessary steps now, so it is prepared to submit applications for program funding as soon as applications can be accepted for filing. The Bureau will release a subsequent Public Notice announcing the application acceptance date immediately following the effective date of the COVID-19 Telehealth Program information collection requirements.

Eligibility Determination

Health care providers seeking to participate in the COVID-19 Telehealth Program must obtain an eligibility determination from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) for each health care provider site that they include in their application. Health care provider sites that USAC has already deemed eligible to participate in the Commission’s existing Rural Health Care (RHC) Programs may rely on that eligibility determination for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. Interested health care providers that do not already have an eligibility determination may obtain one by filing an FCC Form 460 (Eligibility and Registration Form) with USAC. Applicants that do not yet have an eligibility determination from USAC can still nonetheless file an application with the Commission for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program while their FCC Form 460 is pending with USAC.

Consortium applicants may file an FCC Form 460 on behalf of member health care providers if they have a Letter of Agency. The FCC Form 460 is also used to provide certain basic information about consortia to USAC, including: • Lead entity (Consortium Leader); • Contact person within the lead entity (the Project Coordinator); and • Health care provider sites that will participate in the consortium.

Required Information for Application for COVID-19 Telehealth Program

Applicants will be required to submit the following information on their application for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. The actual wording on the electronic application may vary slightly from the wording in this Public Notice.

Applicant Information

- Applicant Name
- Applicant FCC Registration Number (FRN)
- Applicant National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN/Tax ID)
- Data Universal Number System Number (DUNS)7
- Business Type (from Data Accountability and Transparency
- (DATA) Act Business Types) – Applicants may provide up to three business types
- DATA Act Service Area – This information will be required for each line item for which funding is requested. Applicants must enter name of the applicable state(s) or “nationwide”

Contact Information

- Contact name for the individual that will be responsible for the application
- Position title
- Phone number
- Mailing address
- Email address

Continued on next page)
**Health Care Provider Information**
- Lead health care provider name (if part of a consortium)
- Facility name
- Indicate whether facility is a hospital
- Street address, city, state, county
- FCC Registration Number (FRN)
- Healthcare provider number

**Eligibility type**
- National Provider Identifier (NPI)
- Total patient population
- Estimated number of patients to be served by the funding request (and supporting documentation)

**Medical Services to be Provided (applicants will check all that apply)**
- Patient-Based Internet-Connected Remote Monitoring
- Other Monitoring
- Voice Consults
- Other Diagnostics
- Other Services

**Conditions to be Treated with COVID-19 Telehealth Funding**
- Whether the applicant will treat COVID-19 patients directly
- Whether the applicant will treat patients without COVID-19 symptoms or conditions (applicants will check all that apply):
  - Other infectious diseases
  - Emergency/Urgent Care
  - Routine, Non-Urgent Care
  - Mental Health Services (non-emergency)
  - Other conditions

**Application and Request for Funding and Registering to Receive Payments Through COVID-19 Telehealth Program**

Interested parties must submit an application and request for funding through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program to the Commission. The Bureau will make available an online portal for completing and submitting applications and requests for funding through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program. The Bureau will release a Public Notice and post information about the web address and opening date for that portal on the Commission's Keep Americans Connected page: [https://www.fcc.gov/keep-americansconnected](https://www.fcc.gov/keep-americansconnected). A copy of the completed application will be filed by the system in the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at a later date.

To submit an application and request for funding, the applicant must first obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN). Additionally, to receive payment through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program, applicants must be registered with the federal System for Award Management. While interested parties do not need to be registered with the System for Award Management in order to submit an application, the Bureau strongly encourages them to start that process early.

**Obtaining an FCC Registration Number (FRN)**

All applicants, like all other entities doing business with the Commission, must register for an FRN in the Commission Registration System (CORES). An FRN is a 10-digit number that is assigned to a business or individual registering with the FCC. This unique FRN is used to identify the registrant's business dealings with the FCC. To register with CORES, please use the following link: [https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do](https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do).

**Registering with System for Award Management**

To receive payments through the COVID-19 Telehealth Program, applicants must be registered with the federal System for Award Management. The System for Award Management is a web-based, government-wide application that collects, validates, stores, and disseminates business information about the federal government’s partners in support of federal awards, grants, and electronic payment processes. To register with the system, go to [https://www.sam.gov/SAM/](https://www.sam.gov/SAM/) with the following information: (1) DUNS number; (2) Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) or Employment Identification Number (EIN); and (3) Your bank’s routing number, your bank account number, and your bank account type, i.e., checking or savings, to set up Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). You will receive a confirmation email once the registration is activated. Only applicants registered through the System for Award Management will be able to receive COVID-19 Telehealth Program funding. Registration in the System for Award Management provides the FCC with an authoritative source for information necessary to provide funding to applicants and to ensure accurate reporting pursuant to the DATA Act, Pub. L. 113-101.

**Additional Information**

For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Hayley Steffen, Attorney Advisor, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, [Hayley.Steffen@fcc.gov](mailto:Hayley.Steffen@fcc.gov) or at (202) 418-1586.
Federal Government COVID-19 Compliance Resource Links for Providers, Medicaid Administrators, and State Mental Health Agencies

Presidential Emergency Powers
- **Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121 et seq.**, Updated June 2019
- **National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601**
- **COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Health Care Providers Fact Sheet**, March 13
- **COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers for Health Care Providers**, April 29

Responses to Congressional COVID-19-Related Legislation
- **Families First Coronavirus Response Act – Increased FMAP FAQs**, CMS, March 24
- **Notice of Designation of Scarce Materials or Threatened Materials Subject to COVID-19 Hoarding Prevention Measures Under Executive Order 13910 and Section 102 of the Defense Production Act of 1950**, Department of Health and Human Services, March 26
- **FAQs About Families First Coronavirus Response Act and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Implementation Part 42**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, April 11
- **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), Public Law No. 116-127, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Public Law No. 116-136, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**, April 13

Medicaid Waivers & Flexibilities in Fighting the Coronavirus
- **Inventory of Medicaid and CHIP Flexibilities and Authorities in the Event of a Disaster**, August 20, 2018
- **Fact Sheet: Coverage and Benefits Related to COVID-19: Medicaid and CHIP**, March 5
- **COVID-19 FAQs for State Medicaid and CHIP Agencies**, Updated May 5
- **1115 Waiver Opportunity and Application Checklist**, CMS, March 22
- **1135 Waiver Checklist**, CMS, March 22
- **1915(c) Appendix K Template**, CMS, March 22
- **Medicaid Disaster State Plan Amendment Template**, CMS, March 22

Medicare and COVID-19
- **Medicare COVID-19 FAQs**, March 6
- **State Survey Agency Guidance on Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) Requirements and Implications Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**, UPDATED April 28
- **COVID-19 Medicare Provider Enrollment Relief FAQs**, CMS, March 22
- **CMS Announces Relief for Clinicians, Providers, Hospitals and Facilities Participating in Quality Reporting Programs in Response to COVID-19**, CMS, March 22
- **Interim Final Rule: Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, March 30
- **COVID-19 Dear Clinician Letter [includes information on accelerated and advanced payments under Medicare]**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, April 7
- **Memo to State Survey Agency Directors: 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Long-Term Care Facility Transfer Scenarios**, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Quality, Safety & Oversight Group, April 13
- **Frequently Asked Questions on Medicare Fee for Service Billing**, CMS, Updated April 30
- **Frequently Asked Questions from the PACE Community**

Private Insurance Coverage of Testing, Treatment, and Preventive Services for Coronavirus
- **FAQs on Essential Health Benefit Coverage and the Coronavirus (COVID-19)**, March 12
- **FAQs on Catastrophic Plan Coverage and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**, March 18

Department of Education
- **U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights Releases Webinar, Fact Sheet for Protecting Students’ Civil Rights During COVID-19 Response**, March 21
- **COVID-19 (“Coronavirus”) Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel**, U.S. Department of Education, Last Updated April 1
Medicaid Payment for COVID-19 Services

**Families First Coronavirus Response Act – Increased FMAP FAQs**, CMS, March 24

Telehealth and Medicare Payment

**Medicare Telehealth Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) & Fact Sheet**, March 17

**Coverage and Payment Related to COVID-19 in Medicare**, March 5

**CMS Memo to All Medicare Advantage Organizations, Part D Sponsors, and Medicare-Medicaid Plans on COVID-19**, March 10

**OIG Policy Statement Regarding Physicians and Other Practitioners That Reduce or Waive Amounts Owed by Federal Health Care Program Beneficiaries for Telehealth Services During the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak**, HHS Office of the Inspector General, March 17

**Interim Final Rule: Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, April 6

Opioid Treatment and COVID-19

**SAMHSA Opioid Treatment Program Guidance**, March 16

**Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Information on Telemedicine**, January 31

**DEA Letter to SAMHSA on Permitted Doorstep Deliveries of Take-Home Medications by Narcotics Treatment Programs to Quarantined Patients**, March 16


**DEA Letter to Qualifying Practitioners on Flexibility in the Prescribing and Dispensing of Controlled Substances to Ensure Necessary Patient Therapies Remain Accessible**, March 31

**Communicating in a Crisis: Risk Communication Guidelines for Public Officials**, SAMHSA, October 2019

**CMCS Informational Bulletin: Medicaid Substance Use Disorder Treatment via Telehealth, and Rural Health Care and Medicaid Telehealth Flexibilities**, April 2


Treating the Homeless

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness**, March 22

**CDC: Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, March 22

**Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Exchange Webinar: Infectious Disease Preparedness for Homeless Assistance Providers and Their Partners**, March 10

Each of the Following March 2020 Toolkits was Prepared by the Cloudburst Group for the Department of Housing and Urban Development: Infectious Disease Toolkits for Continuum of Care:

- **Preventing & Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease for People Experiencing Homelessness**
- **Preventing & Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease Within Shelters**
- **Preventing & Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease within Encampments**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 4

**Cloth Face Coverings: Questions and Answers**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 4

**Strategies for Optimizing Supply of N95 Respirators**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, April 4

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Coronavirus 2019 Communication Resources**, March 2020

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Mental Health and Coping During COVID-19**, March 2020

**Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Setting & Summary of Changes to the Document**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Updated April 13
Federal Government COVID-19 Compliance Resource Links for Providers, Medicaid Administrators, and State Mental Health Agencies (cont’d)

Infection Control


**Guidance for Infection Control and Prevention of COVID-19 in Hospitals, Psychiatric Hospitals, and Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs): FAQs, Considerations for Patient Triage, Placement, Limits to Visitation and Availability of 1135 waivers**, Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Quality, Safety & Oversight Group, March 30

**Information for PACE Organizations Regarding Infection Control and Prevention of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**, March 17

**SAMHSA Fact Sheet: Tips For Social Distancing, Quarantine, And Isolation During An Infectious Disease Outbreak**, March 16

**Guidelines: OPENING UP AMERICA AGAIN**, White House, April 16

**OPENING UP AMERICA AGAIN: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Recommendations Re-opening Facilities to Provide Non-emergent Non-COVID-19 Healthcare: Phase I**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, April 19

Treatment, Testing, and Personal Health Information: Patient Privacy & Enforcement Discretion

**Bulletin: HIPAA Privacy and Novel Coronavirus**, Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights: February 2020


**Notification of Enforcement Discretion for Telehealth Remote Communications During the COVID-19 Nationwide Public Health Emergency**, March 17


**OCR Announces Notification of Enforcement Discretion for Community-Based Testing Sites (CBTS) During the COVID-19 Nationwide Public Health Emergency**, HHS Office of Civil Rights, April 9

**OCR Issues Guidance on Covered Health Care Providers and Restrictions on Media Access to Protected Health Information about Individuals in Their Facilities**, HHS Office of Civil Rights, May 5

Telehealth and Medicaid Payment

**Medicaid State Plan Fee-for-Service Payments for Services Delivered Via Telehealth**, Updated March 12

**OIG Policy Statement Regarding Physicians and Other Practitioners That Reduce or Waive Amounts Owed by Federal Health Care Program Beneficiaries for Telehealth Services During the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Outbreak**, HHS Office of the Inspector General, March 17

**State Medicaid and CHIP Telehealth Toolkit, Policy Considerations for States Expanding Use of Telehealth, COVID-19 Version**, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, April 22

Nursing Home Care

**Long-Term Care Nursing Homes Telehealth and Telemedicine Tool Kit**, March 27

**Interim Final Rule Updating Requirements for Notification of Confirmed and Suspected COVID-19 Cases Among Residents and Staff in Nursing Homes**, Center for Clinical Standards & Quality, CMS, May 6

SAMHSA Grants

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) Related to COVID-19 for SAMHSA Grant Recipients**, April 15

**COVID-19 Information for SAMHSA Discretionary Grant Recipients**, April 15

**COVID-19 Re-Budgeting Request More Than 25% or $250,000; COVID-19 Sample Revised Budget**, April 15

Assistant Secretary for Preparation and Response

**Telehealth Resources for Behavioral Health Clinicians During COVID-19**, April 28

COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines

**COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines**, National Institutes of Health, April 21, 2020
Federal Government COVID-19 Compliance Resource Links for Providers, Medicaid Administrators, and State Mental Health Agencies (cont’d)

Miscellaneous

**Memo to 42 U.S.C. 233(o) Program Free Clinics: Determination of Coverage for COVID-19-Related Activities by Free Clinic Providers under 42 U.S.C. §233(o)** Associate Administrator, Bureau of Primary Health Care, Health Resources and Services Administration, March 2020

**Tuesday, March 31, 2020, CMS National Stakeholder Call with Administrator Seema Verma (ZIP)**

**COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. April 2

**Training and Technical Assistance Related to COVID-19** Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Updated April 6

**Recording of Physician Lessons from the Front Line of COVID-19** Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. April 3

**Pandemic Preparedness in the workplace and the Americans with Disabilities Act** Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, March 21

**What You Should Know About COVID-19 and the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and Other EEO Laws** Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, April 17

**Memo to State Survey Agency Directors: Upcoming Requirements for Notification of Confirmed COVID-19 (or COVID19 Persons under Investigation) Among Residents and Staff in Nursing Homes** Center for Clinical Standards & Quality. April 19

**Department of Labor Temporary Rule: Paid Leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act** April 1

**What You Should Know About COVID-19 and the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and Other EEO Laws** U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Updated April 23


COVID-19 Public Service Announcements from CDC

General

- **COVID-19 Everyday Prevention Actions**
  - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
  - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

- **COVID-19 Readiness**
  - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
  - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

- **Cleaning and Disinfection** [Transcript]

- **Social Distancing** [Transcript]

- **What To Do If You Are Sick** [Transcript]

People Who Need Extra Precautions

- **People At Risk for Severe Illness**
  - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
  - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

Three Steps for Older Adults [Transcript]

Travel

- **General**
  - **COVID-19 Airport Announcement**
    - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
    - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

- **Stay Home**
  - **Stay Home, Except for Essentials (30 seconds)**
    - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
    - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

  - **How to Avoid Spreading COVID-19 (45 seconds)**
    - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
    - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

  - **How to Avoid Spreading COVID-19 (15 seconds)**
    - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
    - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]

  - **Follow State and Local Guidance (30 seconds)**
    - audio English: [Audio media] | transcript
    - audio Spanish: [Audio media and transcript]
Due to the many unknowns surrounding COVID-19, many people may be experiencing increases in negative emotions like fear and anxiety.

For some, the event may even lead to individuals remembering past trauma. Faith and community leaders themselves may be experiencing some of these same challenges.

This webinar is designed to help participants know how to recognize, acknowledge, and then respond to higher levels of fear and anxiety in individuals. It will also help guide leaders in asking appropriate questions to ascertain the impact of trauma in people’s lives, and suggest responsive strategies.

Finally, the goal of this webinar is to help you understand what research tells us may be coming as a result of the pandemic, the perspective of mental health professionals in this moment, and what faith leaders are preparing to address.

**GUEST SPEAKERS**

- **Jamie Aten, Ph.D.**  
  Founder and Executive Director @Humanitarian Disaster Institute (HDI)

- **Kent Annan, M.Div.**  
  Director @Humanitarian and Disaster Leadership at Wheaton College

- **David H. Rosmarin, PhD, ABPP**  
  Director, Spirituality & Mental Health Program, McLean Hospital, &Founder/Director of the Center for Anxiety

**SAVE THE DATES**

Save the dates for our third and fourth webinars in this series. More details to come!

- **May 26, 12:00 p.m. E.T.** PART 3: "Task-Shifting to Address Increasing Challenges"

- **June 9, 12:00 p.m. E.T.** PART 4: "Connecting Spirituality to Mental Health Services in the Midst of the Crisis"  
  *(Registration will open soon)*
Multi-Part Virtual Learning Community Webinar Series

Data-Sharing among Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Partners: Addressing Data-Sharing Agreements and Confidentiality Concerns

Webinar: Wednesday, June 24, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. E.T.
Discussion Group: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. E.T.

In 2019, SAMHSA released the publication Data across the Sequential Intercept Model: Essential Measures to help support jurisdictions interested in using data to better understand and improve the outcomes of people with mental and/or substance use disorders who come into contact with the criminal justice system. This webinar will provide a deep dive into this publication with further guidance on how to apply the information in practice. We will discuss the recommended measures at each intercept, ways to use the data, challenges in obtaining the data, and more. Presenters will share about the work they are doing locally to facilitate effective data and information sharing.

OBJECTIVES:

- Learn essential measures that are helpful for jurisdictions to prioritize when starting data and information sharing efforts.
- Understand common barriers to data and information sharing and ways to overcome those barriers.
- Apply information provided in the publication, Data across the Sequential Intercept Model: Essential Measures, to efforts being done at the city or county level.

Register to stick around afterward for a discussion group with the following experts:

- Jesse Benet, M.A., LMHC, Deputy Director, Public Defender Association, King County, Washington
- Tyler Corwin, M.A., Behavioral Health Evaluation Lead, Department of Community and Human Services, King County, Washington
- Melissa Neal, Dr. P.H., Senior Research Associate, Policy Research Associates, Inc.
- Stephanie Robertson, M.B.A., M.S.W., Contract Compliance Coordinator, Division of Community Corrections, City and County of Denver, Denver, Colorado

Register HERE For the Webinar
Register HERE for the Discussion Group

Navigating System Cultures Across the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)

Webinar: Friday, June 26, 2:30 p.m. to 4:00pm E.T.

Multiple systems across the SIM serving justice-involved people with mental and substance use disorders employ differing language, procedures, and standards when addressing the complex needs of clients requiring treatment and recovery support. This webinar, hosted by SAMHSA’s GAINS Center, will provide participants with practical strategies for navigating diverse system cultures across multiple points of the SIM to better serve individuals with mental and/or substance use disorders who are interfacing with the justice system.

Register HERE

Ad Council COVID-19 Public Health Public Service Announcements

Radio:
- Social Distancing
- Parent-Targeted
- Additional Messaging

TV and On-Line Videos:
- Higher Risk
- Social Distancing
- Mental Health
- General Tips
- Additional Messaging

State COVID-19 Public Health Public Service Announcements

- Iowa
- Maryland (short)
- Maryland (Long)
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- Tennessee
- Washington State (Seattle/King County)
CO-SPONSORED WEB EVENT

SOCIAL ISOLATION & LONELINESS AMONG OLDER AMERICANS DURING COVID-19
EVIDENCE, POLICY, AND ADVOCACY

MAY 20, 2020 – 12:00 TO 1:30 PM EDT

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
Leading Edge Acceleration Projects in Health Information Technology
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

The Leading Edge Acceleration Projects (LEAP) in Health IT funding opportunity will address well-documented and fast emerging challenges that inhibit the development, use, and/or advancement of well-designed, interoperable health IT. It is expected to further a new generation of health IT development and inform the innovative implementation and refinement of standards, methods, and techniques for overcoming major barriers and challenges as they are identified.

FY 2020 Special Emphasis Notice (SEN)
Description
The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) has published a special emphasis notice (SEN) under the Leading Edge Acceleration Projects (LEAP) in Health Information Technology (Health IT) funding opportunity NAP-AX-18-003 to address the development and testing of data sharing functionalities to support clinical care, research, and improved health care outcomes.

In fiscal year 2020, ONC is particularly interested in applications whose specific aims addresses one of the following areas of interest:

Area 1: Advancing Registry Infrastructure for a Modern API-based Health IT Ecosystem
Area 2: Cutting Edge Health IT Tools for Scaling Health Research
Area 3: Integrating Health Care and Human Services Data to Support Improved Outcomes

View the full Special Emphasis Notice
View the full Notice of Funding Opportunity
Read Frequently Asked Questions
Read more about the opportunity on Grants.gov

Access the Archived Informational Webinar

From personalized photo albums and music playlists, to relaxation exercises, the PTSD Coach app has the tools to help address your needs.

Have you ever considered scheduling a specific time in your day to think about all the issues that are on your mind? This “worry time,” which aims to help you gain control over your own thoughts, is just one of the tools that the PTSD Coach app has that helps you manage symptoms of PTSD.

Other tools include creating a nighttime routine to help sleep come more easily, deep breathing exercises, soothing audio from a custom playlist and more. Download the PTSD Coach app to explore all these tools.

Discover New Tools

This app is also available in Spanish. You can personalize the app through your profile and choose your preferred language.
We strongly encourage you to register online at our website for the fastest and most efficient process.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

8:00 am – 5:00 pm
The Baltimore Convention Center
Pratt and Sharp Streets

Conference Sponsors

Premier
Ammon Analytical Laboratory

Platinum
Ashley Treatment Centers • Behavioral Health System Baltimore
Clinic Management and Development Services, Inc. (CMDS)
Delphi Behavioral Health Group • Gaudenzia, Inc.
Kolmac Outpatient Recovery Centers • Maryland Addiction Recovery Center
Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling • Medmark Treatment Centers
Mountain Manor Treatment Centers • Pathways / Anne Arundel Medical Center
Powell Recovery Center • Project Chesapeake • Recovery Centers of America
Recovery Network • Total Health Care • Tuerk House • Turning Point Clinic
University of Maryland, Drug Treatment Centers
University of Maryland Medical System, EAP
University of Maryland, Psychiatry, Division of Addiction Research and Treatment
Warwick Manor Behavioral Health
NASMHPD continues to receive recognition from the behavioral health community at large, including from our friends at SAMHSA, for our 2017 and 2018 Beyond Beds series of papers highlighting the importance of providing a continuum of care beyond institutional inpatient care.

A 2019 multiple-paper follow-up to the Beyond Beds series is now up on the NASMHPD website. The 2019 papers take the Beyond Beds theme to look at additional innovative approaches offered in the community and factors impacting those services, covering such topics as early antipsychotic prescribing practices in nursing homes, developing a behavioral health workforce, a public health approach to trauma and addiction, addressing behavioral health in traumatic brain injury treatment, recovery-oriented cognitive therapy, integration of mental health and substance use services for those with co-occurring conditions, schools as part of the continuum of care for children and adolescents, and addressing social and mental health needs in transition-age homeless youth.

One of those papers, Lessons from the International Community to Improve Mental Health Outcomes, authored by Deborah Pinals, M.D., chair of the NASMHPD Medical Directors Division and Medical Director, Behavioral Health and Forensic Programs in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, pivots from NASMHPD’s previous work in this series to look beyond the borders of the United States to other countries for examples of successful and promising strategies across nine areas of focus. The paper’s highlighted examples from the international community aim to further illuminate strategies and inspire ongoing crucial dialogue in an effort to improve mental health in the United States.

Following are links to the other reports in the 2019 Technical Assistance Coalition series.

- Effects of CMS’ Measure of Antipsychotic Prescribing Practices for Nursing Facilities on Utilization of Antipsychotic Medications and Changes in Diagnostic Patterns
- Developing a Behavioral Health Workforce Equipped to Serve Individuals with Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
- A Public Health Approach to Trauma and Addiction
- Traumatic Brain Injury and Behavioral Health Treatment
- Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy: a Theory-Driven, Evidence-Based, Transformative Practice to Promote Flourishing for Individuals with Serious Mental Health Conditions that is Applicable across Mental Health Systems
- Integrated Systems and Services for People with Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Conditions: What’s Known, What’s New, and What’s Now?
- Schools as a Vital Component of the Child and Adolescent Mental Health System
- Addressing Intersecting Social and Mental Health Needs among Transition-Aged Homeless Youth

The NASMHPD Technical Assistance Coalition series will continue in 2020.
On March 6, 2020, the President signed the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-123). This bill provides $8.3 billion in emergency funding for federal agencies to respond to the coronavirus pandemic. Of this funding, $950 million is specifically directed for grants or cooperative agreements to states, localities, territories, and tribes, no less than $40 million of which shall be allocated to tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes.

CDC is taking a multifaceted approach to allocate COVID-19 funding to Indian Country. This approach aims to get public health resources out quickly during this declared emergency and enable broad access to the opportunity for COVID-19 resources across all tribal nations. This approach also must reflect the statutory requirements of the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020.

CDC’s Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support (CSTLTS) is coordinating the following funding opportunity to expedite the release of COVID-19 response resources to support tribal communities:

**Noncompetitive Grant: Supporting Tribal Public Health Capacity in Coronavirus Preparedness and Response**

(CDC-RFA-OT20-2004)

**Application Deadline:** May 31, 2020, 11:59 p.m. (E.T.)

This emergency funding opportunity is designed to fund federally recognized tribes that contract or compact with the Indian Health Service under Title I and Title V of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, or consortia of these tribes, or their bona fide agents. All federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations, consortia of federally recognized tribes, or their bona fide agents should apply for this announcement to be considered for future funding under this announcement. During a national emergency, these organizations are uniquely positioned to provide emergency preparedness and response support for tribal health departments and other components of the tribal public health system.

All federally recognized tribes, tribal organizations, consortia of federally recognized tribes, or their bona fide agents should apply for this announcement to be considered for future funding under this announcement. The purpose of this emergency funding is to conduct the following public health activities in response to COVID-19:

- Emergency operations and coordination
- Health Information Technology
- Surveillance and epidemiology
- Laboratory capacity
- Communications
- Countermeasures and mitigation
- Recovery activities
- Other preparedness and response activities to COVID-19.

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**Get Details**

CDC-RFA-OT20-2004
Webinar: Download the Informational Webinar slides [PDF – 254 KB]
Questions and Answers [PDF – 189 KB]
Component A Eligibility List (Indian Health Service) [PDF – 158 KB]
Work Plan Template Guidance [PDF – 229 KB]
Work Plan Template [XLS – 40 KB]
Application Checklist [PDF – 153 KB]

Submit any questions about this funding opportunity to TribalCOVIDnofo@cdc.gov.
This conference will break-down the cultures, economic factors, social and institutional pressures contributing to dramatic rises in disclosures of mental health issues at universities and student suicides.

Delegates will explore why more students are turning to unconventional incomes like gambling and sex work during their studies, how the university experience can compound cultural and environmental conditions that lead students to access and supply drugs; and discussing how cross-institutional co-operation as well as legislative review of attitudes towards information sharing could prevent students reaching a point of crisis.

With just over two months to go to this expected sell out event places are now at a premium. However you can still...
Mental Health Considerations During the COVID-19 Outbreak

In January 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a new coronavirus disease in Hubei Province, China to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. WHO stated there is a high risk of the 2019 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) spreading to other countries around the world.

WHO and public health authorities around the world are taking action to contain the COVID-19 outbreak. However, this time of crisis is generating stress in the population. These mental health considerations were developed by the Mental Health Department as support for mental and psychological well-being during COVID-19 outbreak.

For the General Population

1. COVID-19 has and is likely to affect people from many countries, in many geographical locations. Don’t attach it to any ethnicity or nationality. Be empathetic to those who got affected, in and from any country, those with the disease have not done anything wrong.

2. Don’t refer to people with the disease as “COVID-19 cases”, “victims” “COVID-19 families” or the “diseased”. They are “people who have COVID-19”, “people who are being treated for COVID-19”, “people who are recovering from COVID-19” and after recovering from COVID-19 their life will go on with their jobs, families and loved ones.

3. Avoid watching, reading or listening to news that cause you to feel anxious or distressed; seek information mainly to take practical steps to prepare your plans and protect yourself and loved ones. Seek information updates at specific times during the day once or twice. The sudden and near-constant stream of news reports about an outbreak can cause anyone to feel worried. Get the facts. Gather information at regular intervals, from WHO website and local health authorities platforms, in order to help you distinguish facts from rumors.

4. Protect yourself and be supportive to others. Assisting others in their time of need can benefit the person receiving support as well as the helper.

5. Find opportunities to amplify the voices, positive stories and positive images of local people who have experienced the new coronavirus (COVID-19) and have recovered or who have supported a loved one through recovery and are willing to share their experience.

6. Honor caretakers and healthcare workers supporting people affected with COVID-19 in your community. Acknowledge the role they play to save lives and keep your loved ones safe.

For Health Care Workers

7. For health workers, feeling stressed is an experience that you and many of your health worker colleagues are likely going through; in fact, it is quite normal to be feeling this way in the current situation. Stress and the feelings associated with it are by no means a reflection that you cannot do your job or that you are weak. Managing your stress and psychosocial wellbeing during this time is as important as managing your physical health.

8. Take care of your basic needs and employ helpful coping strategies- ensure rest and respite during work or between shifts, eat sufficient and healthy food, engage in physical activity, and stay in contact with family and friends. Avoid using unhelpful coping strategies such as tobacco, alcohol or other drugs. In the long term, these can worsen your mental and physical well-being. This is a unique and unprecedented scenario for many workers, particularly if they have not been involved in similar responses. Even so, using the strategies that you have used in the past to manage times of stress can benefit you now. The strategies to benefit feelings of stress are the same, even if the scenario is different.

9. Some workers may unfortunately experience avoidance by their family or community due to stigma or fear. This can make an already challenging situation far more difficult. If possible, staying connected with your loved ones including through digital methods is one way to maintain contact. Turn to your colleagues, your manager or other trusted persons for social support- your colleagues may be having similar experiences to you.

10. Use understandable ways to share messages with people with intellectual, cognitive and psychosocial disabilities. Forms of communication that do not rely solely on written information should be utilized. If you are a team leader or manager in a health facility.

11. Keeping all staff protected from chronic stress and poor mental health during this response means that they will have a better capacity to fulfill their roles.

12. Ensure good quality communication and accurate information updates are provided to all staff. Rotate workers from high-stress to lower-stress functions. Partner inexperienced workers with their more experienced colleagues. The buddy system helps to provide support, monitor stress and reinforce safety procedures. Ensure that outreach personnel enter the community in pairs. Initiate, encourage and monitor work breaks. Implement flexible schedules for workers who are directly impacted or have a family member impacted by a stressful event.

13. If you are a team leader or manager in a health facility, facilitate access to, and ensure staff are aware of where they can access mental health

(Continued on page 15)
Mental Health Considerations During the COVID-19 Outbreak (cont’d)

(Continued from page 14) and psychosocial support services. Managers and team leads are also facing similar stressors as their staff, and potentially additional pressure in the level of responsibility of their role. It is important that the above provisions and strategies are in place for both workers and managers and that managers are able to role-model self-care strategies to mitigate stress.

14. Orient responders, including nurses, ambulance drivers, volunteers, case identifiers, teachers and community leaders and workers in quarantine sites, on how to provide basic emotional and practical support to affected people using psychological first aid.

For Caretakers of Children

15. Help children find positive ways to express disturbing feelings such as fear and sadness. Every child has his/her own way to express emotions. Sometimes engaging in a creative activity, such as playing, and drawing can facilitate this process. Children feel relieved if they can express and communicate their disturbing feelings in a safe and supportive environment.

16. Keep children close to their parents and family, if considered safe for the child, and avoid separating children and their caregivers as much as possible. If a child needs to be separated from his/her primary caregiver, ensure that appropriate alternative care is and that a social worker, or equivalent, will regularly follow up on the child. Further, ensure that during periods of separation, regular contact with parents and caregivers is maintained, such as twice-daily scheduled phone or video calls or other age-appropriate communication (e.g., social media depending on the age of the child).

17. Maintain familiar routines in daily life as much as possible, especially if children are confined to home. Provide engaging age appropriate activities for children. As much as possible, encourage children to continue to play and socialize with others, even if only within the family when advised to restrict social contract.

18. During times of stress and crisis, it is common for children to seek more attachment and be more demanding on parents. Discuss the COVID-19 with your children in honest and age-appropriate information. If your children have concerns, addressing those together may ease their anxiety. Children will observe adults’ behaviors and emotions for cues on how to manage their own emotions during difficult times.

For Caretakers of Older Adults

19. Older adults, especially in isolation and those with cognitive decline/dementia, may become more anxious, angry, stressed, agitated, and withdrawn during the outbreak/while in quarantine. Provide practical and emotional support through informal networks (families) and health professionals.

20. Share simple facts about what is going on and give clear information about how to reduce risk of infection in words older people with/without cognitive impairment can understand. Repeat the information whenever necessary. Instructions need to be communicated in a clear, concise, respectful and patient way. and it may also be helpful for information to be displayed in writing or pictures. Engage their family and other support networks in providing information and helping them practice prevention measures (e.g. handwashing etc.)

21. Encourage older adults with expertise, experiences and strengths to volunteer in community efforts to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak (for example the well/healthy retired older population can provide peer support, neighbor checking, and childcare for medical personnel restricted in hospitals fighting against COVID-19.)

For People in Isolation

22. Stay connected and maintain your social networks. Even in situations of isolations, try as much as possible to keep your personal daily routines. If health authorities have recommended limiting your physical social contact to contain the outbreak, you can stay connected via e-mail, social media, video conference and telephone.

23. During times of stress, pay attention to your own needs and feelings. Engage in healthy activities that you enjoy and find relaxing. Exercise regularly, keep regular sleep routines and eat healthy food. Keep things in perspective. Public health agencies and experts in all countries are working on the outbreak to ensure the availability of the best care to those affected.

24. A near-constant stream of news reports about an outbreak can cause anyone to feel anxious or distressed. Seek information updates and practical guidance at specific times during the day from health professionals and WHO website and avoid listening to or following rumors that make you feel uncomfortable.
31st Annual State of the States in Head Injury Conference

For more information visit nashia.org or contact Jill Tilbury.
Centers for Disease Control (NCIPC) Forecast Funding Opportunity Announcement
Preventing Adverse Childhood Experiences through Essentials for Childhood
(CDC-RFA-CE20-2006)

Funding Mechanism: Grant
Anticipated Number of Awards: 5
Length of Project: Up to 5 Years
Estimated Post Date: May 1, 2020
Estimated Award Date: Aug 01, 2020

Anticipated Total Available Funding: $6.3 million
Award Amount: $420,000 to $525,000
Cost Sharing/Match Required?: Yes
Estimated Application Due Date: Jun 30, 2020
Estimated Project Start Date: Sep 01, 2020

The purpose of this funding is to support recipients in measuring, tracking, and preventing adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) in their states. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are preventable, potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood (0-17 years) such as experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect; witnessing violence in the home; and having a family member attempt or die by suicide. Also included are aspects of the child’s environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding such as growing up in a household with substance misuse, mental health problems, or instability due to parental separation or incarceration of a parent, sibling or other member of the household. Currently, ACEs are difficult to track over time because they do not always come to the attention of agencies that compile publicly available administrative data and because the best surveillance data currently available for ACEs, such as those collected through the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), are from retrospective surveys with adults. These challenges make it difficult to assess current prevalence, track change over time, target prevention strategies, and measure the success of prevention strategies. In addition, to date, efforts to implement data-driven, comprehensive, evidence-based prevention strategies have been lacking in communities across the U.S.

This NOFO will support the implementation of data-driven, comprehensive, evidence-based prevention strategies by building a surveillance infrastructure for the collection, analysis, and application of such ACEs data, so that states can monitor the prevalence of ACEs experiences among youth within their states and then use those data to inform prevention efforts at the state and community level. In tandem, this NOFO also provides resources to support states in implementing primary prevention strategies for preventing ACEs. Therefore, there are two overall required components of this award – a surveillance component and a prevention component. The work of these components, and the infrastructure and expertise exerted to accomplish that work, should be interdependent and should be planned and implemented as part of a dynamic system that reflects the 10 Essential Public Health Services promoted by CDC.

Eligibility: State Governments

Contact: Derrick Gervin, (770) 488-5004, vjk8@cdc.gov

State COVID-19 §1135 Medicaid Waiver Links

Alabama  Idaho  Montana  Nebraska  South Dakota  Rhode Island
Alaska  Illinois  Nevada  New Hampshire  South Carolina  South Dakota
Arkansas  Indiana  New Jersey  New Mexico  Tennessee  Texas
Arizona  Iowa  New York  North Carolina  Utah  Vermont
California  Kansas  North Dakota  Northern Mariana  Virgin Islands  Virginia
Colorado  Kentucky  Ohio  Puerto Rico
Connecticut  Louisiana  Rhode Island
Delaware  Maine
District of Columbia  Maryland  North Carolina
Florida  Massachusetts  North Dakota
Georgia  Michigan  Ohio
Hawaii  Minnesota  Oklahoma
Idaho  Mississippi  Pennsylvania
Illinois  Missouri  Puerto Rico
Indiana  Montana  Rhode Island
Iowa  Nebraska  South Dakota
Kansas  Nevada  Tennessee
Kentucky  New Hampshire  Texas
Louisiana  New Jersey  Utah
Maine  New Mexico  Vermont
Maryland  New York  Virginia
Massachusetts  North Carolina  Washington State
Michigan  North Dakota  West Virginia
Minnesota  Ohio  Wisconsin
Mississippi  Oklahoma  Wyoming
Missouri  Pennsylvania

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## Approved COVID-19 §1915(c) Appendix K Waivers

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<tr>
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<th>Approval Letter(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>AHCCCS 1115 Demonstration (1-W-00275/9) Appendix K</td>
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<td>AR.0188 Appendix K, Appendix K - AR 0195, 0400 Combined</td>
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<td>FL.0867 Appendix K, FL.0962 Appendix K, Appendix K - FL 40166, 40205 Combined</td>
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<td>Appendix K - GA 0112, 4170 Combined, Appendix K - GA 0323, 0175 Combined</td>
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<td>HI.0013 Appendix K</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
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<td>Appendix K - KS Combined</td>
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<td>Appendix K - KY Combined</td>
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<td>LA.0121 Appendix K, LA.0866 Appendix K, LA.0889 Appendix K, Appendix K - LA 0401, 0472, 0361, 0453 Combined</td>
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| Mississippi         | Approval Letter    | MS.0225 Appendix K
                    | Approval Letter 2 | MS.0272 Appendix K
                    |                    | MS.0282 Appendix K
                    |                    | MS.0355 Appendix K
                    |                    | MS.0366 Appendix K |
| Montana             | Approval Letter    | Appendix K - MT Combined NEW                             |
| Nebraska            | Approval Letter    | NE.0187 Appendix K
                    |                    | NE.0394 Appendix K
                    |                    | NE.4154 Appendix K
                    |                    | NE.40199 Appendix K |
| Nevada              | Approval Letter    | Appendix K - NV Combined                                |
| New Mexico          | Approval Letter    | Appendix K - NM Combined                                 |
| New York            | Approval Letter    | NY.0238 Appendix K
                    | Approval Letter    | Appendix K - NY 0444, 0269 Combined                      |
| North Carolina      | Approval Letter    | NC.0132 Appendix K
                    |                    | NC.0423 Appendix K
                    |                    | NC.1326 Appendix K
                    |                    | NC.4141 Appendix K |
| North Dakota        | Approval Letter    | ND.0037 Appendix K
                    |                    | ND.0273 Appendix K
                    |                    | ND.0568 Appendix K
                    |                    | ND.0834 Appendix K
                    |                    | ND.0842 Appendix K |
| Oklahoma            | Approval Letter    | OK.0256 Appendix K
                    | Approval Letter 2  | OK.0343 Appendix K
                    |                    | OK.0351 Appendix K
                    |                    | OK.0811 Appendix K
                    |                    | Appendix K - OK 0179, 0399 Combined
                    |                    | Appendix K - OK 0179, 0343, 0399 Combined               |
| Oregon              | Approval Letter    | OR.0185 Appendix K
                    |                    | Appendix K - OR 0117, 0375, 0565, 40193, 40194 Combined |
| Pennsylvania        | Approval Letter    | PA.0147 Appendix K
                    | Approval Letter 2  | PA.0235 Appendix K
                    |                    | PA.0324 Appendix K - Amended
                    |                    | PA.0354 Appendix K
                    |                    | PA.0386 Appendix K
                    |                    | PA.0593 Appendix K
                    |                    | PA.1486 Appendix K |
| Rhode Island        | Approval Letter    | Comprehensive 1115 Demonstration (11-W-00242/1)         |
| South Carolina      | Approval Letter    | SC.0675 Appendix K
                    |                    | Appendix K - SC 0237, 0676, 0284 Combined
                    |                    | Appendix K - SC 0405, 0185, 40181 Combined              |
| South Dakota        | Approval Letter    | SD.0044 Appendix K
                    | Approval Letter 2  | SD.0189 Appendix K
                    |                    | SD.0264 Appendix K NEW                                   |
| Utah                | Approval Letter    | Appendix K - Utah Combined                               |
### Approved COVID-19 §1915(c) Appendix K Waivers (cont’d)

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<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>Approval Letter&lt;br&gt;Approval Letter 2 &lt;NEW&gt;</td>
<td>Appendix K - VA Combined&lt;br&gt;Appendix K - VA Combined 2 &lt;NEW&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Approval Letter (3/19/20)&lt;br&gt;Approval Letter (03/23/2020)&lt;br&gt;Approval Letter (4/21/20)</td>
<td>WA.0049 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.0409 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.0409 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.0410 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.0411 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.0443 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.1086 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.1086 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.1186 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WA.40669 Appendix K</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
<td>WV.0133 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WV.0134 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WV.0876 Appendix K&lt;br&gt;WV.1646 Appendix K</td>
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<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Approval Letter&lt;br&gt;Approval Letter 2&lt;br&gt;Approval Letter 3</td>
<td>Appendix K - WY Combined&lt;br&gt;Appendix K - WY 1060, 1061 Combined&lt;br&gt;WY.0451 Appendix K</td>
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### Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Funding Opportunity Announcement

**Notice of Intent: Revision Supplements to Existing AHRQ Grants and Cooperative Agreements to Address Health System Responsiveness to COVID-19 (NOT-HS-20-007)**

AHRQ intends to publish a new funding notice allowing requests for urgent revision supplements to existing AHRQ grants and cooperative agreements to address health system responsiveness to COVID-19. AHRQ intends to allow grantees with active AHRQ research grants to submit requests for competitive revision supplements to address timely health system and healthcare professional response to COVID-19. Grant activity codes to be included or excluded from the funding notice will specified in the announcement.

It is expected that competitive revision supplement requests will capitalize on the expertise of grant personnel and the institutional environment to expand the specific aims of the on-going research to develop high-impact new knowledge concerning COVID-19. Competitive revision supplements will be limited in duration (perhaps 12 months). The amount of supplemental funds that may be requested will be limited, and will be specified in the funding notice. AHRQ expects to make at least $2.5M available to fund meritorious revision supplements in FY2020. AHRQ plans to release the supplement announcement in April 2020 with an opening date in mid-May.


Please direct all inquiries to:

Lisa Scott-Morring, MS, MSHS, CRA; Director, Division for Policy, Coordination and Analysis, Office of Extramural Research, Education, and Priority Populations, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, HHS. Email: Grant_Queries@ahrq.hhs.gov

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The MHDD-NTC is a collaboration between the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the University of Kentucky, University of Alaska Anchorage, and Utah State University.

Established in 2018 through funding provided by the Administration for Community Living, the training center aims to improve mental health services and supports for people with developmental disabilities. By serving not only as a training center, but also as a national clearinghouse, the training center helps provide access to the most current evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally responsive practices that address the mental health needs of individuals with developmental disabilities. Please visit their website at [https://mhddcenter.org/](https://mhddcenter.org/)
## Approved COVID-19 Medicaid State Plan Amendments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
<th>Summary</th>
<th>Approval Letter</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alabama</strong></td>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to increase reimbursement rates for Nursing Facilities during the COVID-19 state of emergency for all costs associated with staffing, supplies, social distancing standards, cleaning fees, etc. AL noted that this increase equates to approx. $20 per diem rate add-on payment for all NF's.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to remove the requirement for Prior Authorizations for service destinations and non-emergency services for ambulances during the COVID-19 emergency.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td>Benefits</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. In this amendment Alabama elects to suspend Medicaid copayments for all services for all Medicaid beneficiaries during the time of the Public Health emergency and to utilize telehealth for some Medicaid services.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Arkansas</strong></td>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to establish supplemental payments to direct care workers during the COVID-19 public health emergency.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to suspend cost-sharing for all eligibility groups for COVID-19 testing and treatment, add new optional benefits (management and evaluation service for adults with SMI; well-check service for children and adults with developmental disabilities); adjust benefits currently in the state plan (exempt certain services from annual limits when associated with testing or treatment of COVID-19); allow 90-day supplies of drugs and early refills; allow exceptions to the State's preferred drug list in case of shortages; establish payments for the new optional benefits; increase rates for direct care services and day habilitation; establish payments for delivering existing services through telehealth; and establish rates for COVID-19 screening and testing.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td>Eligibility Benefits</td>
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<td>Prescription Drugs</td>
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<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Arizona</strong></td>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to allow physicians and other licensed practitioners, in accordance with state law, to order Medicaid Home Health services and to allow payments for a reserved bed to be made if the absence does not exceed 30 days per contract year.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement Benefits</td>
<td>Proposes to implement temporary policies, which are different from those policies and procedures otherwise applied under your Medicaid state plan, during the period of the Presidential and Secretarial emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 outbreak.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td>Current State Plan Disaster Relief</td>
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<td>Disaster Relief Benefits Eligibility Prescription Drugs Cost-Sharing Outreach &amp; Enrollment</td>
<td>In this time-limited state plan to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency, AZ has elected to temporarily: Expand eligibility to cover COVID-19 testing for uninsured individuals; Streamline enrollment for children whose family income changes during the disaster period; Suspend all cost sharing and premiums; and Expand access to covered outpatient drugs through adjustments to prior authorization and exceptions to the preferred drug list in the event of a drug shortage.</td>
<td><a href="#">Approval Letter</a></td>
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<td>Current State Plan Disaster Relief</td>
<td>Proposes to implement temporary policies, which are different from those policies and procedures otherwise applied under your Medicaid state plan, during the period of the Presidential and Secretarial emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 outbreak.</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
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<td>Cost-Sharing</td>
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<td>Colorado</td>
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<td>Hawaii</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
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<td>Prescription Drs</td>
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<td>Kentucky</td>
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CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, and waive cost-sharing for testing services, testing-related services, and treatments for COVID-19.

This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to allow additional targeted case management services, health care costs for nursing facilities to accommodate emergency workforce changes, and payment flexibilities for nursing facilities.

This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, and waive cost-sharing for testing services, testing-related services, and treatments for COVID-19.

This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to increase payment rates for Inpatient and Outpatient Hospital Services, Physician Services, Home Health Services, Clinic Services for Physicians Services and Other Practitioner’s Services during the Public Health Emergency Period.

This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to lift the day limit for reserved bed days with the prior approval of the Medicaid agency's medical consultant.

This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to allow long-term care facilities to receive an increased reimbursement for COVID19 patients, extend the hold days from 14-30 days and to allow hospitals to be paid for administrative days during the COVID19 state of emergency.

CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, and to waive cost-sharing for testing services, testing-related services, and treatments for COVID-19.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Disaster Relief</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Cost-Sharing</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Financing &amp; Reimbursement</th>
<th>Approval Letter</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to suspend certain premium payments required under Maryland’s Medicaid state plan.</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to expand timeframes for evaluation and re-authorization of Plans of Care for Targeted Case Management (TCM) benefits, expand the duration of TCM benefits, allow the use of telephonic methods in lieu of face-to-face interactions when appropriate, expand the provider types allowed to prescribe Home Health Services, allow Community First Choice providers to temporarily hire family members and legally responsible individuals to provide personal care assistance, expand access to Remote Patient Monitoring, and permit the Department to pay for non-emergency transportation services either directly or through grants to local health departments.</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. In this amendment Minnesota elects to (1) waive cost sharing for COVID-19 testing and treatment, (2) suspend disenrollment due to failure to pay premiums for working disabled BBA group, (3) expand telehealth, and (4) to allow for 90-day refills without prior authorization for certain maintenance drugs.</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing.</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to designate qualified entities to determine presumptive eligibility, and attest that the state does not intend to impose co-pays upon beneficiaries for COVID-19 related services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Dakota</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Premiums, Drugs</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to suspend premiums for the Employed Individuals with Disabilities program eligibility group, make adjustments to prior authorization and the day supply or quantity limit for covered outpatient drugs, suspend the Qualified Service Provider qualifications regarding competency and state criteria, waive the timelines for nursing facility rate reconsiderations and appeals, and waive the 15 day limit for payment for a reserved bed for an inpatient hospitalization.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Benefits</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, impose less restrictive resource tests on certain eligibility groups, and to continue to consider residents who leave the Territory due to the disaster residents of the Territory.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Eligibility</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, impose less restrictive resource tests on certain eligibility groups, and to continue to consider residents who leave the Territory due to the disaster residents of the Territory.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Eligibility, Premiums, Drugs</td>
<td>CMS is approving this time-limited state plan amendment to respond to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purposes of this amendment is to expand eligibility to cover COVID-19 testing for uninsured individuals, make other eligibility and enrollment changes, suspend premiums for the Employed Individuals with Disabilities program eligibility group, automatically renew prior authorization for medications, and adjust post eligibility treatment of income.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement, Disaster Relief</td>
<td>Proposes to update the current Medicaid nursing facility rates for all private and non-state owned governmental facilities by providing for a COVID-19 4% add-on to assist and reimburse nursing facilities for the unanticipated costs incurred in their response to its coronavirus protection of residents as well as facility staff</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<td>Virgin Islands</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Eligibility, Benefits, Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
<td>This time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to cover the new optional group for COVID testing, raise resource standards for the ABD population, expand presumptive eligibility, add Personal Care Attendant Services, add telemedicine services, and add reimbursement methodologies for the added services.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Current State Plan</td>
<td>This SPA amends the Specialized Services section in the State Plan to note that specialized services delivered at the facility or those that take the resident into the community may be suspended due to a state or federal national emergency.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<td>Current State Plan Disaster Relief, Benefits, Program Administration</td>
<td>Updates the payment for professional services in case of a governor-declared state emergency (such as the current COVID-19 outbreak), when the Medicaid agency determines it is appropriate. This SPA also ensures payment for professional services provided via telephone services and/or online digital evaluation and management services at the same rates as for professional services provided face-to-face or via telemedicine, to support the delivery of health care services during a state of emergency.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<td>Financing &amp; Reimbursement Benefits</td>
<td>Addresses supplemental payments for transportation services in case of a governor-declared state emergency (such as the current COVID-19 outbreak), when the Medicaid agency determines it is appropriate.</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<td>Financing and Reimbursement</td>
<td>Nursing Facilities Add-On payment during COVID-19 emergency</td>
<td>Approval Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Disaster Relief</td>
<td>Adoption</td>
<td>Details</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington (cont’d)</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Eligibility, Premiums, Cost Sharing, Benefits, Prescription Drugs, Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
<td>Time-limited</td>
<td>His time-limited state plan amendment responds to the COVID-19 national emergency. The purpose of this amendment is to allow cover the new optional group for COVID testing; apply less strict resource and income methods when determining eligibility for certain individuals; consider individuals evacuated from the state due to the emergency to continue to be residents; provide medical coverage to non-residents who are quarantined in the state due to COVID-19; allow hospitals to make presumptive eligibility decisions for certain individuals; suspend enrollment fees and premiums for all individuals; expand telehealth; add certain benefits and increase some payment rates related to the COVID-19 national emergency.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>Disaster Relief, Financing &amp; Reimbursement</td>
<td>Reimbursement update</td>
<td>Reimbursement update for COVID-19 SPA Template</td>
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</table>
ON-LINE COURSE - 330.610.89 - Knowledge for Managing County and Local Mental Health, Substance Use, and Developmental Disability Authorities

Location: Internet
Term: Summer Inst. Term
Department: Mental Health
Credits: 1 credits
Academic Year: 2020 – 2021

Dates: Tue 05/26/2020 - Wed 06/10/2020
Auditors Allowed: Yes, with instructor consent
Grading Restriction: Letter Grade or Pass/Fail
Course Instructor: Ronald Manderscheid
Contact: Ronald Manderscheid
Frequency Schedule: One Year Only
Resources:
  • CoursePlus
  • Evaluations

Description:
Reviews the key features of successful management of county and local authorities that oversee and conduct mental health, substance use, and developmental disability services. Also explores environmental factors that impact local operations, as well as facility with key tools to plan and implement services. Specifically explores two principal environmental factors, i.e., National Health Reform and Medicaid, and two primary tools for management, i.e., strategic planning and needs assessment. Emphasizes practical knowledge so that managers can apply the information immediately upon returning. No consent required to their programs. Students are expected to bring practical problems to the course and to leave with useful strategies and tools for solving them.

Learning Objectives:
Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

1. Assess the impact of National Health Reform and Medicaid on their own programs and will be able to employ useful strategic planning and needs assessment tools
2. Describe the essential features of National Health Reform and the Medicaid Program
3. Engage successfully in local strategic planning and needs assessment initiatives

Methods of Assessment:
This course is evaluated as follows:

  • 35% Participation
  • 65% Final Paper

Instructor Consent: No consent required.

Special Comments: Project is due June 30, 2020
Webinar Series: Recovery from Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

The Northeast and Caribbean MHTTC is proud to offer a webinar series on: **Recovery from Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and the Practices that Support Recovery.** This series will introduce the participant to recovery from SMI and many of the evidence-based and promising practices that support recovery.

**Upcoming events in the series (all events take place from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. E.T.):**

**May 21** - *Recovery in the Hispanic and Latinx Community: What is the Understanding of Recovery in the Hispanic and Latina Community and How Can We Support It*

**Training and Technical Assistance Related to COVID-19 Resources**


**Responding to COVID-19:** highlight products and resources that can be useful when coping with the effects of widespread public health crises such as:

- Psychosocial Impacts of Disasters: Assisting Community Leaders
- Supportive Practices for Mental Health Professionals During Pandemic-Related Social Distancing

**Recorded Webinars:** • [Substance Use Disorder Services in the Days of a Pandemic: You Need A Bigger Boat!](https://attcnetwork.org/centers/global-attc/otp-questions-during-challenging-times-form)

**ATTC Resources: OTP Questions Regarding Sustaining Operations During the Uncertain and Turbulent Times**

AATOD, ATTCs, and AAAP are collecting questions from OTPs related to sustaining care, providing support and maintaining a safe work environment for staff during these turbulent and uncertain times. We will compile all questions, work with field experts to determine responses, and develop and disseminate a "FAQ" document.


**Compassion Fatigue and the Behavioral Health Workforce Curriculum Infusion Package** - This 5-part Curriculum Infusion Package (CIP) on Compassion Fatigue and the Behavioral Health Workforce was developed in 2020 by the Pacific Southwest Addiction Technology Transfer Center (PSATTC). Part 1 provides a brief overview of the behavioral health workforce and associated shortages, and introduces the demands on the workforce. Part 2 focuses on compassion fatigue and secondary traumatic stress. Part 3 provides a brief overview of how organizations can help individuals avoid experiencing burnout. Part 4 focuses on actions that behavioral health professionals can take to prevent compassion fatigue. And Part 5 focuses on self-care as an ethical duty in order to manage compassion fatigue.

**Educator Wellness Webinars** - (The Educator Wellness Webinar Series is part of The Well-Being Series - Connections During COVID-19: Mental Wellness Webinars for Families and Educator) - Hosted by Northwest MHTTC

- **Trying to Change that Negative Loop of Self-Criticism and Perfectionism? Mindfulness Practices Can help!** May 15, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. P.T./ 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. E.T.  [Register HERE](https:// knmhttc.org/centers/global-mhttc/educator-wellness-webinars)

- **Cultivating a Practice of Gratitude and Appreciation in Your School Community** June 3, 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. P.T. / 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. E.T.  [Register HERE](https://knmhttc.org/centers/global-mhttc/educator-wellness-webinars)

**Sign Up for the SAMHSA Mental Health Technology Transfer Center Network Pathways Newsletter**
Upcoming Webinars

Click here to view a full list of our MHTTC Training and Events Calendar and to Register

Mental Health Mutual Support Calls for Thriving at Work During COVID-19
Northeast & Caribbean MHTTC:
• For Mental Health Providers, held every other Thursday until May 28, 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. P.T. / Noon to 1:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE
• For Mental Health Supervisors, held every Thursday until May 21, 11:00 a.m. to Noon P.T. / 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Trauma Informed and Resilience-Oriented Leadership During a Pandemic
Pacific Southwest MHTTC - May 11, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. P.T. / 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Leadership in Times of Chaos
Pacific Southwest MHTTC - May 18, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. P.T. / 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

National ACT Virtual Meetings to Address Impact of COVID-19 –
Northwest MHTTC - Meetings held every Monday in May, Noon to 1:30 p.m. P.T. / 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Mental Health Providers and Vicarious Trauma During National Emergencies
National Hispanic & Latino MHTTC - May 8, 10:00 a.m.to 11:00 a.m. P.T. / 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Trauma Informed and Resilience-Oriented Leadership During a Pandemic
Pacific Southwest MHTTC - May 11, 3:00 p.m. to -4:00 p.m. P.T. / 6:00 p.m. to -7:00 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Wellness & Self-Compassion: Supporting Mental Health and Substance Use Providers during the Pandemic
New England MHTTC - May 13, 10:30 a.m. P.T. / 1:30 p.m. E.T.  
  Register HERE

Steps Student Training & Education in Public Service

Mental Health & Wellness Guide for Public Service Professionals

Being able to make a positive impact is what makes working in a public service field so special. From the school social worker keeping a group of at-risk teens on track to graduate, to the rookie cop protecting the neighborhood she grew up in, to the critical care nurse pulling a double shift during a healthcare crisis, public service professionals represent the best in all of us. Yet this same capacity and desire to do good often comes at the cost of mental health and wellness. Being overworked, dealing with life-and-death situations, and concerns over funding are just a few of the triggers that can lead to serious issues like compassion fatigue, burnout, and traumatic stress. And when symptoms do arise, it can be hard to ask for help when you’re the one who usually provides it.

This guide explores mental health issues that public service professionals are most at risk for, the common stressors that cause them, and solutions and resources to get well. While this guide is not meant to (and should not) replace professional medical advice, it can help serve as a starting point for understanding and dealing with the mental health challenges of being in a helping career.

Access the Guide HERE
This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) supports pilot work for subsequent studies testing the effectiveness of strategies to deliver evidence-based mental health services, treatment interventions, and/or preventive interventions (EBPs) in low-resource mental health specialty and non-specialty settings within the United States. The FOA targets settings where EBPs are not currently delivered or delivered with fidelity, such that there are disparities in mental health and related functional outcomes (e.g., employment, educational attainment, stable housing, integration in the community, treatment of comorbid substance use disorders, etc.) for the population(s) served. Implementation strategies should identify and use innovative approaches to remediate barriers to provision, receipt, and/or benefit from EBPs and generate new information about factors integral to achieving equity in mental health outcomes for underserved populations. Research generating new information about factors causing/reducing disparities is strongly encouraged, including due consideration for the needs of individuals across the life span. Applications proposing definitive tests of an implementation strategy should respond to the companion R01 announcement RFA-MH-20-400.

This initiative supports pilot work in support of subsequent studies testing the effectiveness of strategies to deliver EBPs in low-resource settings in the United States, in order to reduce disparities in mental health and related functional outcomes (e.g., employment, educational attainment, stable housing, integration in the community, treatment of co-morbid substance use disorders, etc.) for the population(s) served. Of interest are settings where a significant number of children, youth, adults, or older adults with or at risk for mental illnesses can be found and evidence-based mental health treatments or services are not currently delivered. Applications focused on developmental work that would enhance the probability of success in subsequent larger scale projects are also encouraged.

Developmental work might include: refining details of the implementation approach; examining the feasibility of novel approaches and technologies; examining the feasibility of data collection including administration of instruments, obtaining administrative or other types of data, etc.; enhancing the protocol for the comparison group and randomization procedures (if appropriate); examining the feasibility of recruiting and retaining participants into the study condition(s); and developing and testing supportive materials such as training curricula. Therefore, collection of preliminary data regarding feasibility, acceptability and engagement of intervention targets is appropriate. However, given the intended pilot nature of the R34 activity code, conducting fully powered tests of outcomes or attempting to obtain an estimate of an effect size may not be feasible.

The goal of this FOA is to conduct pilot work in support of subsequent studies that develop the effectiveness of scalable implementation strategies to achieve delivery of EBPs with high fidelity in low-resource settings and significantly improve clinical and functional outcomes toward greater equity with outcomes documented the general population studies.

Eligibility

Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education Private Institutions of Higher Education

The following types of Higher Education Institutions are always encouraged to apply for NIH support as Public or Private Institutions of Higher Education:

- Hispanic-serving Institutions
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)
- Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)
- Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions
- Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs)

Nonprofits with and without 501(c)(3) IRS Status (Other than Institutions of Higher Education)

Small Businesses For-Profit Organizations Other Than Small Businesses

State Governments County Governments City or Township Governments Special District Governments

Indian/Native American Tribal Governments (Federally Recognized & Other than Federally Recognized)

U.S. Territories or Possessions Independent School Districts Public Housing Authorities Indian Housing Authorities

Native American Tribal Organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)

Faith-Based or Community-Based Organizations Regional Organizations

**NOT Eligible to Apply:** Non-domestic (non-U.S.) Entities (Foreign Institutions). Non-domestic (non-U.S.) components of U.S. Organizations. Foreign components, as defined in the NIH Grants Policy Statement.
Zero Suicide International 5
May 10 to 12 POSTPONED TO EARLY FALL, 2020, Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, UK
in Partnership with Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

Leaders from countries around the world came together in Rotterdam, the Netherlands in September 2018 for Zero Suicide International 4. As a result, the 2018 International Declaration was produced with a video complement, The Zero Suicide Healthcare Call to Action.

During the fifth international summit, our goal is to identify the three next key steps through inspiration, ideation, and implementation.

Please note a key change for 2020: Prior ZSI events have been invitation only. Our first three events in 2014, 2015, and 2017 were all part of the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL) events and followed their small match meeting format (with 40 to 70 participants only), with Rotterdam in 2018 being the first ZSI event to stand on its own (over 100 leaders joined). For Liverpool 2020, we will partner with Joe Rafferty and, together with the Zero Suicide Alliance hosting up to 500 or more in the Liverpool Football Club. For the first time, no invitation will be required and all interested in advancing safer healthcare are welcome to join.

In order to ensure the Liverpool summit maintains the strong focus on networking and action steps of our prior more intimate convenings, we are working with the Flourishing Leadership Institute and their amazing team experienced in whole-system transformation. We'll be harnessing the complete power of the group’s collective experience and imagination to drive forward the next successes in Zero Suicide Healthcare, and everyone who participates will be engaged.

Interested in becoming a sponsor? Contact karen.jones@riinternational at RI International or justine.maher@merseycare.nhs.uk at Mersey Care for details on available sponsorship packages. We're excited the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention has again committed their support and look forward to connecting with many others who will help us make this event and its outcomes a success.

Nominate a Dr. Jan Mokkenstorm International Zero Suicide Visionary Award Winner

This year's International Zero Suicide Summit will be bittersweet as our first without our beloved colleague Jan Mokkenstorm. During the Summit in Liverpool, the first annual Jan Mokkenstorm Zero Suicide Visionary Award will be presented in his honor. Below is information on the award and instructions for nominating someone. We look forward to seeing everyone in Liverpool and remembering Jan's contributions to making sure no one dies alone and in despair.

Dr. Jan Mokkenstorm played an integral part of the inaugural International Zero Suicide Summit with the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership match in Oxford in 2014. In subsequent years, Dr. Mokkenstorm attended the International Zero Suicide Summits in Atlanta (2015), and Sydney (2017) in his continued commitment to the global Zero Suicide Movement. He provided vital participation in the collaborative development of the "International Declaration for Better Healthcare: Zero Suicide” in 2015. He also continued the push for the initiative to "move beyond the tipping point" by hosting the 4th international Zero Suicide Summit in Rotterdam in 2018.

Jan demonstrated his passionate commitment to reducing suicides through his tireless efforts to promote the belief that suicides should never be an event that occurs. Through visionary leadership he inspired countless others to join this cause themselves on an individual, organizational, and community level. He was instrumental in spreading the global adoption of the Zero Suicide mission as well as set the pace for innovation and substantial change in many countries across the globe. Simply put, Jan demonstrated exceptional service to the betterment of society through his work with Zero Suicide and suicide prevention.

Nomination Requirements

1. Must have shown national/international leadership in the area of suicide prevention
2. Must have participated in fostering substantial change and innovation in the area of suicide prevention
3. Must have challenged/helped shape government policies and supported a wider awareness and discussion around suicide prevention
4. Must be in attendance at the International Zero Suicide Summit when the award will be presented
5. Must have two (2) letters of recommendation from recognized suicide prevention leaders in one’s home country

Judging

1. The announcement of nominations will be handled by the host nation in conjunction with other communications about the Zero Suicide Summit
2. The host nation will convene a Nomination Committee of three individuals who will review the nominations and award one winner

If you have nominations or would like to participate, please contact Becky Stoll, Vice President, Crisis and Disaster Management at becky.stoll@centerstone.org.
The National Center of Excellence for Eating Disorders (NCEED) was created to serve as the centralized hub dedicated to eating disorders education and training for both healthcare providers and the general public. NCEED is partnering with the 3C Institute to develop and launch an interactive, web-based, educational, training platform to ensure that high-quality trainings are provided to health professionals across multiple disciplines.

Visit NCEED’s Website at https://www.nceedus.org/

NCEED is the nation’s first center of excellence dedicated to eating disorders. It was founded in 2018 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), with the mission to advance education and training of healthcare providers and to promote public awareness of eating disorders and eating disorder treatment. Based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, NCEED includes clinicians, researchers, and advocates who specialize in eating disorders care and are committed to providing up-to-date, reliable, and evidence-based information.

The goal of NCEED is to ensure that all individuals with eating disorders are identified, treated, and supported in recovery. Though eating disorders are serious conditions, they can be identified and treated effectively—particularly when providers and the public have the knowledge and skills necessary to make a difference.

Information, Training, and Technical Assistance

The NCEED website (https://www.nceedus.org/) is designed to be user-friendly and easy to navigate for all users. The center’s web platform is divided into four content areas based on the user’s role. These content areas tailor the user’s experience in searching for up-to-date, evidence-based trainings and resources.

Get information on mental health services and resources near you, searchable by state or zip code:

www.samhsa.gov/find-help

Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator
NCAPPS assists states, tribes, and territories to transform their long-term care service and support systems to implement U.S. Department of Health and Human Services policy on person-centered thinking, planning, and practices. It supports a range of person-centered thinking, planning, and practices, regardless of funding source. Activities include providing technical assistance to states, tribes, and territories; establishing communities of practice to promote best practices; hosting educational webinars; and creating a national clearinghouse of resources to support person-centered practice. Visit the new NCAPPS website for more information.

Each month, NCAPPS will host monthly informational webinars on a range of topics that relate to person-centered thinking, planning, and practice. NCAPPS webinars are open to the public, and are geared toward human services administrators, providers, and people who use long-term services and supports. Webinars will be recorded and archived on the NCAPPS website. All webinars will include a panelist who represents the perspective of service users, including our Person-Centered Advisory and Leadership Group members, self-advocates, or other stakeholders with lived experience with the topic.

**Innovative Practices for Outreach and Support to Vulnerable Victims of Crime during the COVID-19 Crisis**

*Tuesday, May 12 at 1:15 p.m. E.T.*

COVID-19 has changed all of our lives in so many ways. Social distancing, decreased contact with loved ones, and disruption of everyday routine is overwhelming and stressful. Our most vulnerable community members are often experiencing the trauma of the coronavirus on top of painful unrelated past events and current levels of uncertainty and lack of safety. Victims of crime undoubtedly have experienced significant trauma before the current crisis developed. Please join us for a Town Hall meeting to learn innovative practices for outreach and support used by programs serving victims during the COVID-19 crisis. This town hall will also provide attendees with the opportunity to share with one another creative ways in which we can continue providing support and care during this unprecedented time.

Dial In Number: 800-289-0462
Participant Passcode: 363486

*the system will prompt you to enter attendance information that will be used to send an mp3 recording after the event*

Captioning: [https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=GUNCCC](https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=GUNCCC)

**Brief presentations by:**

- Lieutenant Jo Ann Wallace, Baltimore City Police Department
- Randy Killings, Director of Peer Support Services, Rainbow Heights Club, Brooklyn, NY
- Dr. Carole Warsaw, Director, Domestic Violence and Mental Health Policy Initiative, Chicago, IL
Updates in Treating Tobacco Use Disorder  
**Friday, May 15, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. E.T.**

Learn about practical techniques for assessment, evidence-based practices for counseling and pharmacotherapy, and other important considerations around tobacco use disorder.

*Earn up to 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™, 1.0 CE credit for psychologists, and 1.0 contact hour of Pharmacology Nursing Continuing Professional Development (NCPD, formerly CNE).*

[Register HERE](#)

Cognitive Skills Training to Improve Quality of Life for People with Severe and Persistent Psychiatric Disorders  
**Thursday, May 21, 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. E.T.**

Hear about cognitive skills training as a recovery oriented, strengths-based behavioral intervention, including feasible and scalable strategies to address cognitive health in people with psychiatric illnesses.

*Earn up to 1.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit™ and 1.0 CE credit for psychologists.*

[Register HERE](#)

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**Physician Continuing Medical Education (CME) Credit**

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The APA designates this enduring activity for a maximum of 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™. Physicians should claim only the credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

**Psychologist Continuing Education (CE) Credit**

The American Psychiatric Association is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. American Psychiatric Association maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

**Nursing Continuing Professional Development (NCPD, formerly CNE) Credit**

The American Psychiatric Nurses Association is accredited with distinction as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

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**Funded by**

SAMHSA  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**Administered by**

American Psychiatric Association

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**Grant Statement**

Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by Grant No. 1H79SM080818 01 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.
Virtual Learning Collaboratives

Treating the Whole Patient: Addressing the Physical Health Needs of Individuals with SMI  
**March 23 to June 14**
Learn about the best evidence-based models of care to improve physical health outcomes in individuals who have serious mental illness (SMI).
Earn up to 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Getting Started Building Your Clozapine Practice  
**March 23 to June 14**
This 12-week, interactive learning experience gives you knowledge and tools to navigate the challenges involved with prescribing clozapine.
Earn up to 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.
[REGISTER HERE](#)

Implementing Tools for Symptom and Functional Assessment of Individuals with SMI  
**March 23 to June 14**
Gain a comprehensive understanding of how to use the Brief Psychiatric Rating Scale (BPRS) and the Role Functioning Scale (RFS) to improve care for individuals who have serious mental illness (SMI)
Earn up to 12.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.
[REGISTER HERE](#)

SMI Adviser Coronavirus Resources

Recorded Webinars
- Managing the Mental Health Effects of COVID-19
- Telepsychiatry in the Era of COVID-19

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The 2020 Patient Advocacy Summit part of the 8th Annual Patient Congress April 6-7 in Philadelphia is just one month away. The conference's topic is "Foster an Integrated Approach to Patient Advocacy through Patient Engagement, Public Policy Education, and Stakeholder Collaboration." This Summit will bring together pharmaceutical manufacturers, patient groups, patient leaders, and policy makers, to discuss ways to tackle the complexities of patient advocacy and the health care market.

Key Themes to be Addressed:

- Patient Advocacy Strategies
- Policy Initiatives and Legislation
- Value Metrics and Measurable Outcomes
- Patient Education and Support Initiatives
- Compliance and Transparency in Advocacy Partnerships
- Social Media and Patient Engagement

Meet Some of the Distinguished Speaker Faculty

Andrea Furia-Helms  
Director, Patient Affairs  
FDA

Scott Williams  
Vice President, Head, Global Patient Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships  
EMD SERONO

Sarah Krug  
Chief Executive Officer  
CANCER CARE 101

WHY ATTEND?

- FIRST-HAND PATIENT INSIGHTS. Hear directly from patients, caregivers, and advocacy groups to inform advocacy strategies
- CROSS-STAKEHOLDER INSIGHTS. C-suite and senior level executives from Payer, Provider, Pharmacy, Pharma, Patient Advocacy Groups, and Patient Leaders share their perspectives on how to improve patient support and raise the voice of patients

THERE’S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE  
Help your whole team stay ahead!  
Register 3 team members, and the 4th attends free
2020 Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health, October 29 to 31

The Annual Conference on Advancing School Mental Health brings together a diverse group including educators, providers, researchers, administrators, advocates, youth, caregivers, and national/state/local leaders to share the latest research and best practices. The 2020 conference will take place Oct. 29-31 in Baltimore.

Register HERE

2020 Training Institutes
July 1 to 3, 2020

For more than 30 years, the Training Institutes, a biennial event, have been the premier convening of leaders in Children's Services. The 2020 Training Institutes, What Could Be: Bolder Systems and Brighter Futures for Children, Youth, Young Adults, and their Families, challenge us to build on existing delivery systems for Children’s Services with new ideas to meet the future.

Register HERE

Mental Health and Human Rights
A New Virtual Series from the National Center for Civil and Human Rights

Live Webinars Every Other Monday at 2:00 p.m. E.T

One in five Americans has experienced a mental health issue. Those from marginalized communities have compounded effects, as mental health illnesses are not uniformly treated. The goal of the 2020 Webinar Series will be to address key areas of disparity in mental health treatment.

These events require a Zoom account. The recorded webinars will be available on the National Center website a week following the live broadcast. The event is free, but registration is required.

Register HERE for the May 18 Webinar on Young People in Marginalized Communities
Register HERE for the June 1 Webinar on Trauma-Informed Care
Register HERE for the June 15 Webinar on Human Rights HIV/AIDS & Mental Health
Register HERE for the June 29 Webinar on Homelessness & Mental Health

Knowledge Informing Transformation

National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care – A Best Practice Toolkit

GET THE TOOLKIT HERE
SAMHSA’s Early Serious Mental Illness Treatment Locator is a confidential and anonymous source of information for persons and their family members who are seeking treatment facilities in the United States or U.S. Territories for a recent onset of serious mental illnesses such as psychosis, schizophrenia, bi-polar disorder, or other conditions. These evidence-based programs provide medication therapy, family and peer support, assistance with education and employment and other services.

Individuals who experience a first onset of serious mental illness - which can include a first episode of psychosis - may experience symptoms that include problems in perception (such as seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting or feeling something that is not real), thinking (such as believing in something that is not real even when presented with facts), mood, and social functioning. There are effective treatments available and the earlier that an individual receives treatment, the greater likelihood that these treatments can lead to better outcomes and enable people to live full and productive lives with their family and friends.

SAMHSA has integrated data on first episode psychosis programs that was provided by NASMHPD and the NASMHPD Research Institute (NRI) into its existing treatment locator. Users receive information on Coordinated Specialty Care and other first episode psychosis programs operating in their state. This tool is designed to help quickly connect individuals with effective care in order to reduce the risk of disability.

You Can Access the SMI Treatment Locator HERE

Social Marketing Assistance Available

Social marketing resources for system of care communities were developed by the SAMHSA-funded Caring for Every Child’s Mental Health Campaign team, which was a collaboration between NASMHPD, Vanguard Communications (link is external), Youth MOVE National (link is external), and the Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health (link is external). The Campaign was funded through Fiscal Year 2018. Below are a sampling of commonly-requested social marketing resources developed by the Campaign.

System of Care Cooperative Agreements that are currently funded by SAMHSA should seek social marketing technical assistance through the University of Maryland’s TA Network.

Other organizations or entities seeking social marketing technical assistance, including State Behavioral Health Agencies, are welcome to contact NASMHPD. Additional social marketing instructional materials, training, and consultation may be available. If you'd like to discuss your needs and/or have questions about how we can help, please contact Leah Holmes-Bonilla. If you would like to submit a request for social marketing technical assistance or training from NASMHPD, please fill out this application form.

Tip Sheets and Workbooks

Getting Started
- Brand Development Worksheet
- Creating Your Social Marketing Plan
- Developing a Social Marketing Committee
- Social Marketing Needs Assessment

Social Marketing Planning
- Social Marketing Planning Workbook
- Social Marketing Sustainability Reflection

Hiring a Social Marketer
- Sample Social Marketer Job Description
- Sample Social Marketer Interview Questions

Engaging Stakeholders
- Involving Families in Social Marketing
- Social Marketing in Rural and Frontier Communities
- The Power of Partners
- Involving Youth in Social Marketing: Tips for System of Care Communities
- The Power of Telling Your Story
Visit the Resources at NASMHPD’s Early Intervention in Psychosis (EIP) Virtual Resource Center

These TA resources, developed with support from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, are now available for download!


Training Guides
Training Videos: Navigating Cultural Dilemmas About –
1. Religion and Spirituality
2. Family Relationships
3. Masculinity and Gender Constructs

Transitioning Clients from Coordinated Specialty Care: A Guide for Clinicians (Jessica Pollard, Ph.D. and Michael Hoge, Ph.D.)

Best Practices in Continuing Care after Early Intervention for Psychosis (Jessica Pollard, Ph.D. and Michael Hoge, Ph.D.)

Training Webinars for Receiving Clinicians in Community Mental Health Programs:
1. Overview of Psychosis
2. Early Intervention and Transition
3. Recommendations for Continuing Care

Addressing the Recognition and Treatment of Trauma in First Episode Programs (Andrea Blanch, Ph.D., Kate Hardy, Clin. Psych.D., Rachel Loewy, Ph.D. & Tara Neindam, Ph.D.)

Trauma, PTSD and First Episode Psychosis
Addressing Trauma and PTSD in First Episode Psychosis Programs

Supporting Students Experiencing Early Psychosis in Schools (Jason Schiffman, Ph.D., Sharon A. Hoover, Ph.D., Samantha Redman, M.A., Caroline Roemer, M.Sc., and Jeff Q. Bostic, M.D., Ed.D.)

Engaging with Schools to Support Your Child with Psychosis
Supporting Students Experiencing Early Psychosis in Middle School and High School

Addressing Family Involvement in CSC Services (Laurie Flynn and David Shern, Ph.D.)

Helping Families Understand Services for Persons with Early Serious Mental Illness: A Tip Sheet for Families
Family Involvement in Programming for Early Serious Mental Illness: A Tip Sheet for Clinicians

Early Serious Mental Illness: Guide for Faith Communities (Mihran Kazandjian, M.A.)

Coordinated Specialty Care for People with First Episode Psychosis: Assessing Fidelity to the Model (Susan Essock, Ph.D. and Donald Addington, M.D.)

For more information about early intervention in psychosis, please visit https://www.nasmhpd.org/content/early-intervention-psychosis-eip
# NASMHPD Board of Directors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Valerie Mielke, M.S.W. (NJ)</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Sheri Dawson, R.N. (NE)</td>
<td>Southern Regional Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Marie Williams, L.C.S.W. (TN)</td>
<td>Northern Regional Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Western Regional Representative</td>
<td>Stephanie Woodard, Psy.D. (NV)</td>
<td>Mid-Western Regional Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Regional Representative</td>
<td>Wendy Morris (KY)</td>
<td>Eastern Regional Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>At-Large Member</td>
<td>Elizabeth Romero (DE)</td>
<td>At-Large Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Doug Thomas, M.S.W., L.C.S.W. (UT)</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Joyce Allen, M.S.W. (WI)</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Western Regional Representative</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Mid-Western Regional Representative</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeastern Regional Representative</td>
<td>Barbara Bazron, Ph.D. (DC)</td>
<td>Northeastern Regional Representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At-Large Member</td>
<td>Tiffany Wolfgang, (SD)</td>
<td>At-Large Member</td>
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# NASMHPD Staff

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<tr>
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<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Brian M. Hepburn, M.D.</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
<td>Jay Meek, C.P.A., M.B.A.</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief of Staff</td>
<td>Meighan Haupt, M.S.</td>
<td>Chief of Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director, Human Resources &amp; Administration (PT)</td>
<td>Kathy Parker, M.A.</td>
<td>Director, Human Resources &amp; Administration (PT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Public Health Advisor (PT)</td>
<td>Raul Almazar, R.N., M.A.</td>
<td>Senior Public Health Advisor (PT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network Manager</td>
<td>Shina Animasahun</td>
<td>Network Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Development Advisor (PT)</td>
<td>Cyntrice Bellamy, M.S., M.Ed.</td>
<td>Senior Development Advisor (PT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Technical Assistance Research Associate</td>
<td>Genna Schofield, M.P.H.</td>
<td>Senior Technical Assistance Research Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Accounting Specialist</td>
<td>Cheryl Gibson</td>
<td>Senior Accounting Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director, Center for Innovation in Behavioral Health Policy and Practice</td>
<td>Joan Gillece, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Director, Center for Innovation in Behavioral Health Policy and Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Policy Associate</td>
<td>Christy Malik, M.S.W.</td>
<td>Senior Policy Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Project Associate</td>
<td>Kelle Masten</td>
<td>Senior Project Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Manager, Center for Innovation in Behavioral Health Policy and Practice</td>
<td>Jeremy McShan</td>
<td>Program Manager, Center for Innovation in Behavioral Health Policy and Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Director</td>
<td>David Miller, MPAff</td>
<td>Project Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Medical Advisor (PT)</td>
<td>Brian R. Sims, M.D.</td>
<td>Senior Medical Advisor (PT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Manager</td>
<td>Greg Schmidt</td>
<td>Contract Manager</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Public Health Advisor (PT)</td>
<td>David Shern, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Senior Public Health Advisor (PT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Training and Technical Assistance Advisor</td>
<td>Timothy Tunner, M.S.W., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Senior Training and Technical Assistance Advisor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Policy Associate</td>
<td>Aaron J. Walker, M.P.A.</td>
<td>Senior Policy Associate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Training and Technical Assistance Adviser</td>
<td>Leah Holmes-Bonilla, M.A.</td>
<td>Senior Training and Technical Assistance Adviser</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# NASMHPD Links of Interest


**Voices from the Pandemic: ‘I Apologize to God for Feeling this Way’,** as told to Eli Saslow, *Washington Post*, May 2

**The COVID Tracking Project**, *The Atlantic* (Tracks U.S. Testing), On-Going

**TIP 63: Medications for Opioid Use Disorder - Full Document**, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Updated May 2020

**HHS Begins Distribution of Payments to Hospitals with High COVID-19 Admissions, Rural Providers**, Department of Health and Human Services Press release, May 1

**National Consortium of Telehealth Resource Centers**, On-Going

**New IHME Forecast Projects Nearly 135,000 COVID-19 Deaths in US**, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington, May 4

**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Situation Update**, COVID-19 HHS/FEMA Interagency Video Teleconference, May 2, as Published May 4 by the *New York Times*

**Worsening Sleep Increases Depression Persistence in Older Patients**, Samara Rosenfeld, *HCP Live*, May 2

**Spreading Depolarizations Predict Future Brain Trauma**, Kenny Walter, *HCP Live*, May 1

**Rearing Environment has Large Impact on Major Depression Risk**, Kenny Walter, *HCP Live*, May 5

**Hospitals and Health Systems Face Unprecedented Financial Pressures Due to COVID-19**, American Hospital Association, May 2020

**Petitioners (Democratic Attorneys General) Opening Brief in 2020 Supreme Court ACA Case 19-840**, May 6