



NASMHPD

ANNUAL 2026 MEETING

Agenda



Sunday, July 26 &
Monday, July 27



Hilton Washington DC
National Mall The Wharf
480 L'Enfant Plaza SW,
Washington, DC 20024

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2026

NASMHPD

Annual Meeting Agenda & Overview

Sunday, July 26 | Monday, July 27

Hilton Washington, D.C. National Mall The Wharf

L'Enfant Plaza

Division Participation

Division representatives are encouraged to join the Commissioners to learn from and contribute to the general meeting sessions

Exhibit Hall

We encourage you to visit our sponsors and exhibitors, which are located throughout the general session hallways on July 26th and July 27th of the meeting. A special thank you to our sponsors and exhibitors. We appreciate your support!

Virtual Attendees

Please note that only the general session presentations will be accessible to virtual attendees. Regional lunches and the reception will not be streamed.

NASMHPD Lounge

Need a quiet place to get away for a moment? Please feel free to visit the NASMHPD Lounge located in the **Archive Lounge** next to Starbucks. This lounge is open during meeting hours.

Meeting Materials

You can find speaker bios, presentations, and other useful meeting materials on our [meeting website](#). PowerPoint presentations will be posted after the sessions have taken place. We will

add materials and other relevant information continuously throughout and immediately following the meeting. Meeting materials will not be printed.

For more information on the Annual Meeting, please contact Meighan Haupt (Meighan.Haupt@nasmhpd.org) and Victoria Peña (Victoria.Pena@nasmhpd.org).

NASMHPD Annual 2026 Meeting Agenda

Together Towards Tomorrow: Innovating Mental Health Solutions

Sunday, July 26 | Monday, July 27

Times are in Eastern Time Zone

All Plenary Sessions are in L'Enfant Ballroom

Thank you to all the presenters for their valuable contributions to this conference.

Please see their biographical statements on our meeting website.

Sunday, July 26

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

(Visit our Sponsor Exhibit Tables 8:00 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.)

Registration Desk Open

Continental Breakfast Sponsored by:



(L'Enfant Ballroom Foyer)

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Welcome & Opening Remarks

Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)

Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., NASMHPD Board Past President;
Director, Department of Behavioral Health, District of Columbia

Ann Sullivan, M.D., NASMHPD Board President; Commissioner,
Office of Mental Health, State of New York

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Panel: Navigating Changing Times and Keeping the Vision

Ann Sullivan, M.D., NASMHPD Board President; Commissioner,
Office of Mental Health, State of New York (Moderator)

Nora Bock, M.S., L.P.C., NASMHPD Board Mid-Western Regional Representative; Director, Department of Mental Health, State of Missouri

Kimberly Boswell, M.S.W., NASMHPD Board Southern Regional Representative; Commissioner, Department of Mental Health, State of Alabama

Nancy Navarretta, M.A., L.P.C., N.C.C., NASMHPD Board Northeastern Regional Representative; Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, State of Connecticut

Marie Williams, L.C.S.W., NASMHPD Board Secretary; Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, State of Tennessee

10:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.

The CCBHC Transformation Project in MI, KS, and IL

Jessica M. Pollard, Ph.D., Senior Behavioral Health Advisor, NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

Andi Smith, Executive Director, Washington & National Behavioral Health, Ballmer Group

Leah Pollack, Partner, McKinsey

Kristen Morningstar, Director, Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Specialty Behavioral Health Services, State of Michigan

Drew Adkins, M.B.A., Commissioner, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

David Albert, Ph.D., NASMHPD Vice President; Director, Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, State of Illinois

Chuck Ingoglia, M.S.W. President & CEO, National Council for Mental Wellbeing

11:10 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

Break and Exhibit Hall Visits

11:35 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.

NRI State Hospitals and Crisis Services Profiles Reports

Carrie Slatton-Hodges, L.P.C., Executive Director/CEO, NRI

Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., NRI Board Member at Large; Director,
Department of Behavioral Health, District of Columbia

12:05 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.

Workforce: System Considerations from State Hospitals to the Community

Wendy Morris, M.S.N., Senior Behavioral Health Advisor,
NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

Keris Jän Myrick, M.B.A., M.S., Ph.D.c., Senior Vice President
of Partnerships and Innovation, Inseparable

Dennis Mohatt, Vice President, Behavioral Health, Western
Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE)

Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D., Vice President, Center for
Training, Technical Assistance and Consultation, Advocates for
Human Potential (AHP)

Justin Volpe, C.R.P.S.-A., C.I.T., Senior Peer Support Coordinator,
NASMHPD

12:50 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Commissioners Regional Lunch (2nd Floor – Lunch Served Upstairs)

**Closed session for Commissioners or their Proxies*

Midwestern Region (Gallery I)

Northeastern Region (Gallery II)

Southern Region (Gallery III)

Western Region (Gallery IV)

Division Meeting Lunches (1st Floor)

**Open to any state attendee not part of the commissioner regional
breakouts*

Older Persons Division (*McPherson*)

Children, Youth, and Family Division (*Archives*)

Medical Directors Division/ Forensic Division (*Potomac*)
Finance Policy Division (*Noma*)

Non-Commissioner/General Attendees Lunch (L'Enfant Ballroom)

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Transition Break

2:30 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

The Abnormal Movements Screening Initiative

Brian Sims, M.D., Senior Medical Advisor, NASMHPD (*Moderator and Presenter*)

Robert O. Cotes, M.D., D.F.A.P.A., Professor and Vice Chair, Chief of Service, Grady Behavioral Health; Co-Director, Clinical & Research Program for Psychosis at Grady Health System, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Emory University School Medicine; Editor-in-Chief, Community Mental Health Journal

Rin Koenig, M.S.Tech., Graphic Designer/Web Developer Manager, NASMHPD

Discussants:

Joseph Parks, M.D., Principle Medical Advisor, Strategy and Growth Office, National Council for Mental Wellbeing

Sheri Dawson, R.N., Senior Behavioral Health Advisor, NASMHPD

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Rural Health Transformation Initiative

David Miller, M.P.Aff., Senior Operations and Project Director, NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

Heather J. Gotham, Ph.D., Director, Center for Mental Health Implementation Support; Clinical Professor, Center for Dissemination and Implementation, Stanford University School of Medicine

Pierluigi Mancini, Ph.D., Interim President & CEO, Mental Health America

Discussants:

Thomas Janousek, Psy.D., Director, Behavioral Health,
Department of Health and Human Services, State of Nebraska

Ragen Latham, Senior Administrator, Behavioral Health Division,
State of Wyoming

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Break and Exhibit Hall Visits

4:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Strategies for Staying in Care by Enhancing Engagement

Ann Sullivan, M.D., NASMHPD Board President; Commissioner,
Office of Mental Health, State of New York (*Moderator*)

Debra Pinals, M.D., Editor-in-Chief, Senior Forensic & Medical
Advisor, NASMHPD

Paul Grant, Ph.D., Director of Research, Innovation, and Practice,
Beck Institute Center for Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy
(CT-R)

Lindsey Pinto, L.S.W., Clinical Consultant, Beck Institute Center for
Recovery-Oriented Cognitive Therapy (CT-R)

Discussant:

Joan Gillece, Ph.D., Director, NASMHPD's Center for Innovation in
Health Policy and Practice

5 p.m. – 5:05 p.m.

Closing Remarks

5:05 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Commissioner Business Meeting (Elections)(Closed Session for
Commissioners or their Proxies)

Networking Reception

5:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Join Us for Light Hors d'oeuvres!**

Please visit Exhibit Tables, open throughout the reception.

Monday, July 27

8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

(Visit our Sponsor Exhibit Tables 8:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

(L'Enfant Ballroom Foyer)

8:45 a.m. – 9 a.m.

Welcome

Ann Sullivan, M.D., NASMHPD President; Commissioner, Office of Mental Health, State of New York

Brian M. Hepburn, M.D., Executive Director, NASMHPD

9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Update

Dr. Timothy Westlake, Chief of Staff, SAMHSA

RDML Christopher Jones, Director, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (CBHSQ) and Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP)

Dr. Tison Thomas, Director, Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)

CMHS Division Directors

10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.

Break and Exhibit Hall Visits

10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

Current Research, Regulatory, and Policy Considerations Regarding Psychedelics as Medicine

Ann Sullivan, M.D., NASMHPD Board President; Commissioner,
Office of Mental Health, State of New York

Peter S. Hendricks, Ph.D., University Professor and Heersink
Endowed Chair. Director of Psychedelic Research, Department of
Psychiatry and Behavioral Neurobiology, School of Medicine,
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Discussant:

Rachel Talley, M.D., Acting Deputy Secretary, Behavioral Health
Administration, State of Maryland

11:35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

***Expanding Access to Brain Stimulation Therapies for Serious
Mental Illness***

Debra Pinals, M.D., Editor-in-Chief, Senior Forensic & Medical
Advisor, NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

Joseph J. Taylor, M.D., Ph.D., Medical Director of TMS and
Director of Clinical Trials, Brigham and Women's Hospital Center
for Brain Circuit Therapeutics; Associate Program Director and
Research Track Co-Director, Brigham and Women's Hospital
Psychiatry Residency Program; Director, Brigham and Women's
Hospital Interventional Psychiatry Research Program; Assistant
Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School

Discussant:

Robert Eilers, M.D., Medical Director, Division of Mental Health
and Addiction Services, State of New Jersey

12:20 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Plenary Lunch Sponsored By:



12:20 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. Get Lunch

12:50 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. ***National Suicide Prevention Initiatives***

Christy Malik, M.S.W., Project Director, NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

12:55 p.m. – 1 p.m. **National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention**

Richard McKeon, Ph.D., Deputy Director for Strategy,
National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention

1 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **Suicide Prevention Resource Center:
Providing National Leadership in Training and
Technical Assistance**

Jenna Heise, M.A., N.B.C.C., Executive Director, Suicide
Prevention Resource Center

1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. **Zero Suicide**

Brandon Johnson, M.H.S., MCHES, Chief, Suicide
Prevention Branch, Division of Suicide Prevention and
Community Supports, Center for Mental Health Services,
SAMHSA

Julie Goldstein Grumet, Ph.D., Vice President for Suicide
Prevention Strategy and Director of the Zero Suicide
Institute, Education Development Center; Senior Health
Care Advisor, Suicide Prevention Resource Center

2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. **Updates from Vibrant Emotional Health on
988**

Wendy-Martinez-Farmer, L.P.C., M.B.A., Vice President
988 Strategy, Quality Improvement & Clinical Standards,
Vibrant Emotional Health

Lula Haile, M.S.W., L.C.S.W., Vice President 988
Operations and Network Engagement, Vibrant Emotional
Health

2:45 p.m. – 3 p.m. **Transition Break**

3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

988, Crisis Services and CCBHCs

3 p.m. – 3:10 p.m. **Introductory Remarks**

James Wright, M.S., L.P.C., Acting Director, 988 and Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

3:10 p.m. – 3:20 p.m. **Crisis Now Summit IV Kick Off**

David Covington, L.P.C., M.B.A., CEO and President of Recovery Innovations, Inc.

3:20 p.m. – 4 p.m. **Debate on 988 Funding**

Brian Sims, M.D. Senior Medical Advisor, NASMHPD
(*Moderator*)

Hannah Wesolowski, Chief Advocacy Officer,
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Tom Betlach, Partner, Speire Healthcare Strategies

Roundtable:

Nick Boukas, M.P.A., Ph.D., NASMHPD
Western Representative, State of New Mexico

Pam Bennett, L.C.S.W., Ph.D., Assistant Director, Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, Department of Health and Human Services, State of Utah

4 p.m. – 5 p.m. **Fireside Chat: 988, Crisis Services, and CCBHCs Reflections and Future**

David Covington, L.P.C., M.B.A., CEO and President of Recovery Innovations, Inc. (*Moderator*)

Margie Balfour, M.D., Ph.D., Executive Policy Advisor, Connections

James Otero, Volunteer, YouthLine, Portland, Oregon

Wendy-Martinez-Farmer, L.P.C., M.B.A., Vice President
988 Strategy, Quality Improvement & Clinical Standards,
Vibrant Emotional Health

Becky Stoll, L.C.S.W., Senior Vice President, Crisis Services,
Centerstone

Monica Johnson, M.A., L.P.C., Managing Director, Health
Management (HMA)

Joanna Champney, M.A., Director, Substance Abuse and
Mental Health, Department of Health and Social Services,
State of Delaware

Michelle Zabel, M.S.S., Executive Director, Innovations
Institute, Associate Extension Professor, UConn School of
Social Work

5 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. **International Perspective on Mental Health
Crisis Response**

David Covington, L.P.C., M.B.A., CEO and President of
Recovery Innovations, Inc. (*Moderator*)

Steve Appleton, CEO, Global Leadership Exchange

Kana Enomoto, Partner, McKinsey

5:30 p.m.

Closing Remarks

NASMHPD

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