

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](mailto:Meighan.Haupt@nasmhpd.org)) and Victoria Peña ([Victoria.Pena@nasmhpd.org](mailto:Victoria.Pena@nasmhpd.org)).

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# 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**

*(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., Director, Department of Mental Health, State of Missouri

Kimberly Boswell, NASMHPD Board At-Large Member, 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 (TN)

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 (*facilitator*)

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, CEO, NRI

Barbara J. Bazron, Ph.D., 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

Dallas Earnshaw, Superintendent, Utah State Hospital, Western Psychiatric State Hospital Association (WPSHA)

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***

*\*Closed session for Commissioners or their proxies (Regional Breakout List by State)*

Midwestern Region  
Northeastern Region  
Southern Region  
Western Region

***Division Meeting Lunches (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)***

*\*Open to any attendee not part of the commissioner regional breakouts*  
Children, Youth, and Family Division (*Gallery II*)  
Medical Directors Division/ Forensic Division (*Gallery III*)  
Finance Policy Division (*Gallery IV*)

***Non-Commissioner/General Attendees Lunch***

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

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, MPAff, Senior Operations and Project Director, NASMHPD (*Moderator*)

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

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

***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 (*invited*)

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*)

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)

***Discussants:***

Amy Brinkley, C.R.S/C.H.W., C.A.P.R.C.I.I, Recovery Support Systems Coordinator, NASMHPD

Annie M. Powell, Founder & CEO, One World Recovery Network (OWRN) and Director of the Centre for Addiction for Recovery Support (CARS)

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.)
- Continental Breakfast** (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 (Speakers to be decided)**
- Christopher Carroll, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, SAMHSA
- Tison Thomas, M.S.W., L.M.S.W., Acting Director, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- 10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. **Break and Exhibit Hall Visits**
- 10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m. **The Emergence of 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
- Discussants:**
- To Be Determined
- 11:35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. **Brain Circuit Therapeutics and Other Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions**
- 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

***Discussants:***

Robert Eilers, M.D. (NJ)

TBD

12:20 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

***Plenary Lunch***

12:20 p.m. – 12:55 p.m. Get Lunch

12:55 p.m. – 1:40 p.m. **Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC)**

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

(1:40 p.m. -1:45 p.m. Speaker Transition)

1:45 – 2:15 p.m. **Education Development Center (Zero Suicide)**

Julie Goldstein Grumet, Ph.D., Director, Zero Suicide Institute, Senior Health Care Advisor, Suicide Prevention Resource Center, Education Development Center

2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. **Transition Break**

2:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

***Dialogue with Vibrant Emotional Health on 988***

Tia Dole, Ph.D., Chief 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Officer, Vibrant Emotional Health

3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

***988, Crisis Services and CCBHCs***

3 p.m. – 3:20 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)

David Covington, L.P.C., M.B.A., CEO and President of RI International

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) (*invited*)

Tom Betlach, Partner, Speire Healthcare Strategies

**Roundtable:**

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

Pam Bennett, L.C.S.W., 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 RI International (*Moderator*)

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

James Otero, Volunteer, YouthLine, Portland, Oregon

Vibrant Representative

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, 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 RI International (*Moderator*)

Steve Appleton, CEO, Global Leadership Exchange

Kana Enomoto, McKinsey

5:30 p.m.

***Closing Remarks***