**Talking Points and Resources for**

**Addressing Substance Use Disorders**

**October 16, 2023**

Compiled by Glenn Field, North Carolina Office of Rural Health, 919-624-2907

NOTE: The purpose and character of this newsletter is strictly educational. The nature of the information is factual unless otherwise stated. All entries include copy citations/sources. Published research and mainstream news source articles are often presented as excerpts for brevity.

DISCLAIMER: None of the content is being promoted or endorsed; all contents are presented solely for educational/informational purposes.

ADDITIONS, EDITS ARE WELCOME! Relevant contributions that can be added to our next edition are welcome. Please send to [glenn.field@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:glenn.field@dhhs.nc.gov) with headline, URL and first paragraph.

**SHORT NOTES:**

“We are in the midst of a synthetic drug crisis in addition to what we call organic drugs,” said Dr. Rahul Gupta, White House Director of Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), “Now, in the closet, you can have a student with a chemistry set and internet and could create some of the most dangerous drugs ever known to humankind,” added Gupta.

79,770 opioid-involved drug overdose deaths were reported for the 12-month period ending in December 2022**, but keep in mind what Sarah O’Donnell of HRSA recently reported:**

So we know that our last fully grant year of data from our grantees, over 2 million rural residents received some sort of direct service prevention, treatment, recovery service. We know how many of you know that more than 112,000 individuals received medication assisted treatment that might otherwise not have received it without these programs working in their communities.

Between 2006 and 2019, the number of buprenorphine doses in national supply also increased from 42 million to 577 million, according to a [Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/2023/09/12/us-overdose-deaths-opioid-crisis/) analysis published last week.

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**IN THE NEWS**

**Release of Request for Applications (RFA) #A409:Partnerships in Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction (POPHR)**

This email is to inform you that the Injury and Violence Prevention Branch (IVPB) at the North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) just released a new funding opportunity Request for Applications (RFA) today, Monday, October 2, 2023.

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This RFA entitled *"*[*Partnerships in Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction*](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019uAGvDGdJ8ZnSVRZBz3HhQBI2t4u8MRF_b_pmBiFNjtgfIfWGVJjA-QDXuB800yK6MU5yY8T0GjWJxywKhiKxfOY8LVjPJpfNkjoP9rdva50t-YATnCxq3x7ic9NGfikp_jUryC4BCqsFTL4rrwhPLKPSI6JXLrhh6oTWxcNj62TJOv9uAkQm5wHQRnbw2DINCoyrBM47f7lLSO29SoNTArrTEks428PdnUIk4lKIPs=&c=C7nVhmx_OBO15At8-361G5gAmo3N3WIocbQV5jOgyBfI74Qr_xna5A==&ch=QkaEQO-Mnt7m1NbpxgOOuRrZ-QD6zC4zEQRsQKZPSm9MwSbGNvz6hg==)*"* will be open to nonprofit organizations and government agencies in North Carolina to expand linkages to care for people who use drugs and integrate equity for addressing overdose prevention, polysubstance use, wound care, and related issues.  The deadline to apply is **November 30, 2023 at 5:00 PM Eastern Time.** Please see below for more information, and note that we are unable to answer any questions until the Bidder's Conference on Monday, October 16 at 2 pm ET.  **RFA Name:** Partnerships in Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction  **RFA Number:** A409  **Release Date:**Monday, October 2, 2023  **Application Deadline:** Thursday, November 30, 2023  **Bidder's Conference (Informational Webinar with Q&A**): Monday, October 16 at 2:00pm ET  **Eligibility:** private, non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations and public or local governmental agencies, including colleges and universities, located and licensed to conduct business in the state of North Carolina  **Project Period:**June 1, 2024 - August 31, 2027  **Anticipated Contract Award Periods (4):**   * June1, 2024 – August 31, 2024 * September 1, 2024 – August 31, 2025 * September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026 * September 1, 2026 – August 31, 2027   **Maximum Award per Contract Award Period**: $90,000 annually  **Minimum Award per Contract Award Period:**$25,000 annually  **Q&A Period #1 ends:** October 23, 2023 with answers posted on November 6.  **Final Q&A Period #2 ends:** November 13, 2023 with answers posted on November 27.  **Contact Email Address:**[beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov)  The purpose of this RFA A#409: Partnerships in Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction (POPHR) is to fund community-based organizations and local health departments to expand linkages to care for people who use drugs and integrate equity for addressing overdose prevention, polysubstance use, wound care, and related issues. Linkages to care will be expanded through implementation of established harm reduction strategies like drug checking, supporting syringe services programs, expanding justice-involved programs, and promoting peer-led post-overdose teams. Through direct funding, this RFA will support selected programs to hire staff, including peer support specialists, to connect people who use drugs to harm reduction services, evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, healthcare, and other services.  **Description:**  Applicants will select at least one of the following strategies to implement in their proposals:  **Strategy 1: Support Efforts for Drug Checking and Prevention of Overdose from Multiple Substances** by increasing real-time understanding of the drug supply and improve timely reporting of emerging drug threats.  **Strategy 2: Establish or Expand Substance Use-Related Wound Care Services and Protocol** through a comprehensive approach including education, prevention, detection, and monitoring to promote cost-effective and whole person-centered care.  ﻿**Strategy 3: Establish or Strengthen Post-Overdose Response Teams** (PORTs) led by community-based organizations with experience working with people directly impacted by drug use to prevent repeat overdose and connect those who have had a non-fatal overdose to harm reduction, social/health services, including housing, employment, food access, and treatment and recovery supports.  **Strategy 4: Support and Expand Syringe Service Programs** (SSPs) through a host organization with experience working with people directly impacted by drug use, including active SSPs. These organizations may be community-based nonprofit organizations, faith communities, local health or human services departments, pharmacies, or other entities with relevant experience.  **Strategy 5: Expand Services to Justice-Involved Populations** including jail-based programming like pre- and post-arrest diversion programs, reentry programing to refer individuals to care once released from incarceration, distributing education materials to incarcerated populations, and expansion of treatment and recovery services specific to incarcerated or previously incarcerated individuals.  **Strategy 6: Expand Harm Reduction Services with Organizations Serving Historically Marginalized and High-Risk Populations** by incorporating overdose prevention and harm reduction into existing community-based organizations, particularly those providing other support services to populations that intersect with the drug user population.  Successful applicants will be eligible for funding for up to 39 months from June 1, 2024, to August 31, 2027. Applicants may request up to $90,000 annually per contract period. It is anticipated that up to eleven applicants will be awarded through this application. Cost sharing or matching funds are not required.  **Date for Bidder's Conference:**Monday, October 16, 2023 at 2:00PM EST by clicking [here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019uAGvDGdJ8ZnSVRZBz3HhQBI2t4u8MRF_b_pmBiFNjtgfIfWGVJjA-QDXuB800yK5OOCn6VHVWpJcPJPM1wfc00ON2iY4M8rMDyLULW5uIwVCr_VeX6xwWTwXm07QcJ1WloAYZXZkjzYtOZNip74rH0GTWEi-ZWcsD0CK1qslo0BwJ4_N93F0plgzhoKFwWgywWkGOCmOgqE_buHjQerU47J1DeK_MgMLf8GlCnk8ADfQGJSsY63Wx235xiwsYrriEk2sX0R651fxB_JB4u05p2LOci6heGPetmYDpZZI1aDff1Z4w8xGsccz06VZF4Ck3dNNeJUE2tdcKFBEKGkmWGuA9_w58-Qcp5aaVeeWYdzIGRQD_2_paUNo8_bNWcemaxoWIVi7uktOcrkeUmAwOjUxyTL0_XUscmq1Pyk_6E4iNcptn8OvMwfwysm8dsI8vY7xjyzJ0DVDzxQ-yfTDEfoBrZi4vkNIKBXjAx_sQ8=&c=C7nVhmx_OBO15At8-361G5gAmo3N3WIocbQV5jOgyBfI74Qr_xna5A==&ch=QkaEQO-Mnt7m1NbpxgOOuRrZ-QD6zC4zEQRsQKZPSm9MwSbGNvz6hg==) at this date and time. A separate reminder with access information will also be sent closer to the date.  **Date for Posting Answers from Q&A Period #1:**Monday, November 6, 2023  **Date for Posting Answers from Q&A Period #2:**Monday, November 27, 2023  *Note that we cannot answer questions about this RFA until theQ&A posting dates of November 6th and November 27th. We will collect questions in the meantime, and we will answer what we can during the Q&A Webinar on October 16th. Please use*[*beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov*](mailto:beinjuryfreenc@dhhs.nc.gov) *for any RFA #A409 communications.*  The RFA document, budget template, and project narrative worksheet will be posted on the[DHHS Grant Opportunities website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0019uAGvDGdJ8ZnSVRZBz3HhQBI2t4u8MRF_b_pmBiFNjtgfIfWGVJjA2UtUxnkKC5AIM_xHWVVy508ZKE6bbmL5he84BZdFHXcsttAKPdQA8MNp1X26CfIpXkxsBom0_f0pIXsFtjEX2XgKMuhbfcHhTCS3MK0CyKMpJseXTG4xUZzeiHIA4sB0ABXi2q9-3sAYnZCLzcOiXKD5dHTI8cVVH9fHirSMcyrpp8nuCQmZXjt8BcaM-zvaAPXxAvsiQ2nok-sIvBBthb2ic3r60adZsY1dNcOSjauGEVdQg2IZmeDVZguh081s7Q5SBI7WwqPHRsy2xizrbZVafw8sF_AehYEPGLQVWjig5A-vVfZA73U1vo51hM2HM5OEwe4cImFnZxQjVOj87qxsvwYz2q_zQ==&c=C7nVhmx_OBO15At8-361G5gAmo3N3WIocbQV5jOgyBfI74Qr_xna5A==&ch=QkaEQO-Mnt7m1NbpxgOOuRrZ-QD6zC4zEQRsQKZPSm9MwSbGNvz6hg==). | | | | |

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Kinsley today announced NCDHHS will launch Medicaid Expansion on Dec. 1, 2023, giving more than 600,000 North Carolinians access to health care. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Press Release**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U8AzOxbJN7f0ISz_D3adHHRaxRN8hY5nPA6wnAr5EZfb2KcmvjzhzMF_Hgz7BIr39M_-gDTBlIv8B9hjkkYYAY1O3Ihwch9sfzoUgRBhV1Gz8lqhrkKFHr_WM97eJxsuWHlvSKyITumDqYByZKRv1Gav7ygWv7Ov71nOKoJ67yOoY2eolg1OjqVbCk7iruJjRS6_pSCzTGe2&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center Unveils New Patient Care Unit** |  |  | | --- | | The [Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U8AzOxbJN7f0uWM6krfiNFYQwy5Io4gWGeM8_fwuMPINFmHhBU5_qRHbNeStJ6Bo_c2EgZ711L4pmM4nxPCon6eTRQqJ-f6DPrC3DjFiuyVELkxoyMBA6Yj19ZgRBiU7JOFDVm94wIVDgSF721bkUU8ge7vHdy2fNpp3ylwXuSAi84N6CPxYs7jOKIxWM499VeHEZ9UdMcgdtv1SOzFBCWUi3qWlO4fb-RdLw2aLTneg8JFzR62bduw=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) in Black Mountain, N.C. recently unveiled a new patient care unit and announced an innovative partnership to redefine recovery journeys. JFK is one of two alcohol and drug abuse treatment facilities in North Carolina operated by the NC Department of Health and Human Services. It currently provides inpatient and outpatient services, including medical detox, psychiatric stabilization, substance use disorder and mental health treatment using best practice standards — including Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Care and "[Seeking Safety](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U8AzOxbJN7f0t2DTyM8KiXln9fTY_VOPSpYcmCheGGl0xj0vqHVBSDtuCOrhtbCJEhVAL11Bx96CkBYh573VU0zbQCa9PfojO_VJ2vYlXh8QKwXD2bThZeLB4B8NUpfw0UARrfOLLNC0&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)." | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Press Release**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U8AzOxbJN7f0jElAGBr05kYkehfJ7ogD3urbegic9xliQYpkE5R003eb2haZfwQ_im_wzHzFgc-P8tBAOmRJzH848z4WJbAiYb549wrKcbgMjiKuyFHJpQxMe6PBJ7MwZHdDb4kK9-evgbI4k1iMwE1bPAxb9M-38_d_F_PGKBv4cT28DfIlgAaKRUEJVBPEwsNNoncHVZMBVQT5Mg1RuGZdBwUgXrIeLDodSlffKEGpMgu0aeggAoJGWCPhl708Q6FsjmHzaFAm6-dHlj_ZaEI=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) | | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Community Resources** | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Crisis Resources**  **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | A blue and white logo  Description automatically generated |   What happens when you call, text or chat 988?  You will be connected with a skilled, trained crisis worker who works at the Lifeline network crisis center closest to you. This person will listen to you, understand how your problem is affecting you, provide support and share any resources that may be helpful.  ﻿The Lifeline does not “trace” callers, chat or text users. For some individuals, having contact with emergency services can be traumatic and dangerous, and whenever possible the Lifeline recommends alternate options such as collaborating on a safety plan, utilizing mobile crisis teams, collaborating with the individual’s loved ones or professionals, or supporting the individual to get to a Crisis Stabilization Unit, emergency department, or urgent care. [Learn more and get answers to other frequently asked questions](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U-gUsMTWjAFktIihJ2djxK_0HEyHLlbHjEQgxSuGl8i0pvWJOf5K9rUCk45FeX88_PuLto5uskrBrxdQMUxILeLZexnqfVOzZg==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).  Call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELKIQZ7wQYMkD78gCWjAJhCAooMO1_rgVlVTdEsX2LE5V1Uo6-XIvhu38_Nsl7wWh6KDdcS5r3KeRO1F-fOaQy57q5HIj3wEkjPL7BPhhzDMlgl2rdlNnzy8xDgEmNPI7wcXctWm75S7YJBui2_RhrySw0WwFE6L1uW0PvPEjisrOL2a48noHc7oSowctwnNuic3ndIDwBCAQ=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==). Individuals who speak Spanish can now connect directly to Spanish-speaking crisis counselors by calling 988 and pressing option 2, texting “AYUDA” to 988, or chatting online at [988lineadevida.org](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELNVTZS1z0GhUd4mFEP5tPFqJJZu0OElsCCI4LfFI35UFb9IKRz9IBMjbScWli9KiwUVnbzpvLuYQjoS3Gus5bhLTO69U0vIdftRZn9FCEfBiclM0kBcVJdOrUCJKax3nAG_9own7y5vnKjlqhc-gcgNUL_gj0y1kq6lP61RQM7OVkFL_EQmbpBdm_kMrPMgV_JESr2I4yuYs=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) or [988Lifeline.org](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELKIQZ7wQYMkD78gCWjAJhCAooMO1_rgVlVTdEsX2LE5V1Uo6-XIvhu38_Nsl7wWh6KDdcS5r3KeRO1F-fOaQy57q5HIj3wEkjPL7BPhhzDMlgl2rdlNnzy8xDgEmNPI7wcXctWm75S7YJBui2_RhrySw0WwFE6L1uW0PvPEjisrOL2a48noHc7oSowctwnNuic3ndIDwBCAQ=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==). Please add 988 to your phone.  988 is available to anyone, anytime. If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. Risk factors for suicide include:   * History of depression or other mental illness * Recent life crisis * Social Isolation * Physical, emotional or sexual abuse, including bullying * Previous suicide attempt * Substance misuse * Interpersonal conflict | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Community Updates** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **NC Medicaid Managed Care** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **NC Medicaid Managed Care**  **Back Porch Chats**  Every 3rd Thursday of the month from  5:30-6:30 p.m.  **Next Meeting:**Oct. 19, 2023, 5:30 p.m.  **Join Link:** [Register Here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U-W6-vSEcXNHWCwSLNILIIdNtB1Bx2C3Ym_g6D9BIlOl_uvVoZ3TWJTGDcRbDwAaJTVkDQQzCbheMRCt1nuX7BwDOcZZZmlraGgo475D4crx96wBPvdhmCHWriGlO6743c8brqEmi-vx&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **NC Medicaid Beneficiary Portal**  Medicaid serves low-income parents, children, seniors, and people with disabilities. The Beneficiary Portal offers information on applying for Medicaid and more. How do I get a ride to my medical appointment? How do I change my health plan (PHP)?    [Go to the Beneficiary Portal](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTNziLYLO7R7Dyd3r1Z9r09eZySBJrun9cWHTB7uMVERZn6JnmapdUsRJmqWkjF4Z1hbeqCJtJX6IQ2V81dfbJm1wGN0Xs3mxOnf2_cXqFgqGpjFwRIWe2aAtOzzrOFp-e6Ev2kXVy8m8=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **NC Medicaid Transformation**  Here are some additional sites that you may go to find more information on Medicaid Transformation:  [https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTUsK0ayEbmr8ih8iQT4UNCHp2b5vZZstiKdrf8v0wqq2IApWRHOuijnJ5tnTkJXsao2H1ZUX9CJSbGETUrDwzlR5h77QA5nWkoOYDD6tOb_w=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)  [https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/transformation/more-information](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTe6oMYYOLHM6x_Q13U6c3O3qi7RNKEFC_pyQwFLst0p-eXAYQnjJOKr0O2pFvsB7zsyTxLOpiVFIxhyE743RfocRvgr3Fv1CKgm6jfRabC-Q2pdbKVNp0Blx2I89Yj2Cf&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Updated Guidance**  NC Medicaid has published [Tailored Care Management Updated Guidance](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT_fjk21tjXmOMNVELmaRTaRXh_pSWUljKz8LVK-hdrJ1rm95CTnSZvleyNan7UCLUUKhVXV9kIsiU4BXBkCHzzvIpOm9UlLTbwvXHByBmlhtOrEGuFXyBrvjXChIIWTc3zCWyZqx_GTENGR5-2_iUulIoXwR9CBoD9xTnoeff_JtBV6Wx-fi0YImU3YvN8ykO&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==), including updates to the Tailored Care Management Provider Manual, [The Use of Care Manager Extenders](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTLC8gXZO4Y7h_nHK-DaoVMO-jpk_Ir-p94l7vEZo4Z5hDnhtzREBF5YgHLSCLHFXIysVFLk6n_Vr1TAk2GPLhjwAKT-2-zTjyCTbQ7Z4Ff0enrto3zn4Z9lREwRUmhzQI_h4pUXDmrIE=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==), [Tailored CM 101 Frequently asked Questions](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT6Y9Bpipis78sbd6cKPSA_9atF0t1XPqaygeDY9l-H4942rVRnJujjIbqPmz1CYUI27nHhY5peMjtGLg0_8EOecKni6vNIP7Cyhp5LDt6WJYNegdhmnfDgtZIP_BNWPzZLO8pMAQ1WWE6zBdueeYtjCibdwi4B-CettITXQvsOVO8v6ts0xadRV2BqNgRk-Qgh4egfG43CDWbOm7jhxA9-AJwcVN1QopFTsbtjKzwqhbtIuZMSj9dua1rSZRSyIjSN4K_Dd1n8B6Fx9KDMzHE7rBVptF5lJPoBYGNhNi1EV1PM132KacuCQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==), and [updated guidance on rates](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTVntsnx8UBApCNeooQVmYvl7twCRyFReMUalfyLV_SrFo2UsO3fWOxw5iZ5rgz5--AltKTlW1MMHKDNPnzzag6wsNFg6gl-aDU9dr9tT9hRlqAwyaoDY5QPuPaFjpWMUssf0eqRyDxS0MggOopY9KfQHwl-pRxuOlMSzEKkOSp7F4663AIzFOwHrBwhlq-pz6TraMs_z_T7p_9s2zVTBm4Y8eC6xDTn0HvZ_59xS-bjo-LNgzVz9WJ_efSj8xV6ZG1Q7BzJgBvkuIO6jVE23qpkWf6CakgxQKcwEehhp8_OEPIIOsgE4w5pV2eZ_VTIN522UoM9s7CdY8fJPa94W1Yhsk2YCQ2-LTSV_hOqms7yo=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).  ﻿For more information on Tailored Care Management, please see the Medicaid bulletin article [Tailored Care Management Update: AMH+/CMA Certification Round Two Desk Reviews Completed](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTHF6QtuOu07HK82vuvwnnkXznwVK2TFHeeSv9IGzsCAKWn5jVFDH4HYek-P68EOG5yN30_QMbT8Q4XVigFjKON0jtk1jYjd6mcbJ1x9XFePsTSbuxN4FMiD8BoHz5Q_QqswrfR4f_W4o8Q-y_m6ORXiqSJywvae73Yg0YAfY2Fro35jtKfiGfLsA2se-AftcJ5YO0slsMU9txAhWcVMFYSCzpA7ZFefOWf4ytJ8MeMoEeTOnPKBSDkqsJqfpouNaO1Mq3ySoDR66e0u3RKBXGXn1-knP8aqLDHuFmDC8rc1uIzfFwSzz3ccFVtOT_QPzGGXoxE0kj013Ty9pmKxZer3l5mWZpqr_Y5iqfP2KAmyvIvAzcj3KZBhkXFHr2KBTGD-8iSja0L2YDuqWSdU6fZQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).   All updates can be found on the Tailored Care Management [webpage.](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT-FVz5vQj1XL429G8iD0Ue15Xd5r4rKjK3r919P59p29B5V4qfXuOKH9onoMOONANOnj-Zuf62l5SZCoBy9DuOJsjarnhecbpGjhNLPxDGsG8PME1fhGdc4-Vn_zaG4ymB3_gYbU_-OjfOAwQwspHDwioKF_v6ju4ZMg5y5Pv7KFlxjA5bo38tlTA_5_N-unFBcnb_c-nUeeJjcw9jCy7YJfnTbi0P_0sshtTia_F2kplpi7XEerz0tr_BUgjDmv5glq-OSZ_yHuQkMRU1PqjLus1keIQEgoMivsu5B_u0dz10rAWbKDceQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **NC Medicaid Managed Care**  Beneficiaries have several resources to [help answer questions](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTy3aqz7d_O01z-KLxVDMxVNHO7dh1R5Oq-zws8LXSkdFzYboN9aV5J-5oO9XiP6RYGwC-3tcagOqqA9v3eiXTcuUXraecZfKtoQVKi8M8DfEbKqUVqEanmA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)about their transition to NC Medicaid Managed Care. Those who want a reminder of which health plan they are enrolled in should call the [Enrollment Broker](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U2YZbPWLquggEkP4ZsNNJh90ynhrwoVzi6YOXUzfwA-Dsmbft_jN9awC5LGnN2CzsLajjlBjbGV7bMq-w7Cv4JhYRiixj6vNag==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) at:  1-833-870-5500 (TTY: 833-870-5588)  Questions about benefits and coverage can be answered by calling their health plan at the number listed in the welcome packet or on the [What Beneficiaries Need to Know on Day One fact sheet](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTy3aqz7d_O01z-KLxVDMxVNHO7dh1R5Oq-zws8LXSkdFzYboN9aV5J-5oO9XiP6RYGwC-3tcagOqqA9v3eiXTcuUXraecZfKtoQVKi8M8DfEbKqUVqEanmA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).  For other questions, beneficiaries can call the NC Medicaid Contact Center at 888-245-0179 or visit the “Beneficiaries” section of the [Medicaid website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTRzpq_doqXxPbnWSmimJxhMztqzb7-DLk6w5oyqtYFvYRPc0FZyDdSgmgnUpgR2TMhWvCCVlhffvVRTnsVCf3nZQYPcmZ0_8QdGdEXd_2G8s=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).  ﻿[Learn more](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTiP4UcAy2eqDCsUzD_qDrKXXTqK6PMwuiW7OsB3fmD61pkSeA7qH8UywOTkCn-0y4-bSktWT9H6U9Dqt2sAmIwdu8yXVkSbGo8MMcsYW2tuBliejTvwXmTWbluZMw8Kxxb4fvKEw4AD2G70SAGlY3hUvTlPIeMwxXPMzcTX23UDNtBJcyqELPIueYKQY_gV4IkmV3KFxj258=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Tailored Care Management Updates**  With NC Medicaid’s transformation to managed care, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) will continue to offer to Medicaid beneficiaries a comprehensive array of behavioral health, intellectual/ developmental disability (I/DD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI) services.  For more information, see [Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Development Disability Tailored Plan Final Policy Guidance](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTd4fdjloErd6lc2lM5YlpvqDt7wkndhonJI8PyPE1F5MadlxiT_hrSfbTSufL54RCPQtnQXDPP2H_SR70UTswTgq0yTTMA-TUhUySSK-oRTs=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==).    To ensure nearly 150,000 people seamlessly receive care on day one, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will [delay](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U0lNAoD5s8v5A3iqOEtLgLjgm4LT-aXa7PgRNiHDZMWacNiNv0owCVVKH5-i7N0PL9pu0h9ahDbrZcjJD9UXOKhtx8IOYGc1U3MZIQ5n6OBHkdCTpsekNmEfx_UL24yzHays6PDftPvQUsPTFvQoPwMdjM8fOqej4DnbtHW09_Ic_S-DF9Mh_GAmCMxl5ZjnKqijo83SEU672K4H-0rEaHuAY71cRA3AUw==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) the implementation of the NC Medicaid Managed Care Behavioral Health and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Tailored Plans.  For more information about Tailored Plans, visit NC Medicaid’s Tailored Plan [website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9UyzH5Uai2_rLPTz7xHeyO1DQOpxccarXU8jycKu73ZOiGFdCWCuXg9L_NLao_2N8HRZGc6ZQeXOeoewwM8UyNeA9K4MkJD7feWRtt7I2nYY670ihD1RNI-AaGgl5dYQH9CgK28HnxAZnZ00fmMegNj0=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==). For more information about 1915(i) services, visit NC Medicaid’s recent [provider bulletin](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U7hW4O1hctz0plh_RQw8VByhyz3Bc4VC9LY9uhqMteCtsXTPQZ9Unyp7Qa3TENiTia4Ykbl3tXNJOn7Q4z5bv5xqxlMBOLKRucuCdG2evHdJcx4ZP6UoQM21rRpyuaJ3qMjGeoth9amtQLY9AF6nnoL0zkRCCT_KSwe6XvZiVaLukcbjHVPKgU8Qis1wdA1c7_cjS5rjd3JF&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Consumer and Family Advisory Committees (CFAC)** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Local Consumer and Family Advisory Committees (LCFAC)**  Check your local [LME/MCOs Directory](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTGnsOK0vzoqgfvgIhNw3U9rp7WIbYDqaoo8Iem78cSki6KLrqvTwRNQEZngh9biaMEP-0ULMtsn3JpO-WrG93lyxkbEj6gnkfO_wX7yiisFr33UwLAt4IEQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) for meeting dates and times. Some have started meeting in a hybrid manner. | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **State to Local Collaboration**  **Date:**Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023  **Time:**6:00-7:30 p.m.  **Join Link:** [Register Here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9Uy9XBRkSdv4MkzTH2Ve-mAhLDr41cNdHh99J-f5i0Adch3_ZglNB_BUAxCTWJr2oKEfsk0So-4c4Wj9jJS3P47aPvh9iihclprwNUe1g1uX3qOc0CxOTXxsVBuXwWM74WcPuViOetREyNEy7sjFe0Ad6_2L68MyM2w21MclvcRK_&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)  ﻿You must register prior to the meeting to receive the log in link and dial-in options. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **State and Consumer Family Advisory Committee (SCFAC)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | SCFAC meetings are held on the **2nd Wednesday** of every month and are open to the public. They are hybrid meetings.  **Hybrid/Virtual Meeting Details:**  **Date/Time:**Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2023, 9:00-3:00 p.m.  **Location:**2104 Umstead Drive, Ashby Building, CR 115  **Join Link**: [Register Here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U6M7ISeqb5hlQGdCUiwArafxr2Ce9us9bSlEQLnGif9Uw1xu05Rc-n9mB1L4ZiMNAQPaBuciJ4zW666S0BRODqgRDfVqMQ2if0mF5QKrKlTHScbRn4nRN0y_DzKRzflNUk8ttUmMC26dALnwWWlq2I7maFA4glqgHvHaSc0_ntYn&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)  You must register prior to the meeting to receive log in link and dial-in options. [Visit the State CFAC page](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTSIAFksGn5TXU7YTwimW0CJuhouN_XK9c-BGSJVcK5pjv97CcYU-MFYlIQEgRWC_lVDuSwVwOSlCSsYOtl2pwP6rrMpot6_IzvUeUBEks76pxKZGjp0BCrMu3KD6lLiFx1dQ2lkz2Pauu6gajrX2xrQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) for more information. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **NC Certified Peer Support**  In the State of North Carolina there are currently 4633 Certified Peer Support Specialists with 4,547 of them residing within the state. The number of NC CPSS increased from 4,084 in 2022. Roughly 39% of these individuals are employed as CPSS and 23% are actively seeking employment as a CPSS.  UNC-BHS is offering several virtual and live webinar trainings. October 26 will be a training in Peer Support Ethics with Patty Schaeffer. Visit the BHS-UNC [website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELFm1AC2Ii2T-dlLMCMwZ6kyZgdL7DrgQmYLV5M3ksZZL-GrK8pe-3BllPgQ5OtPAhEue-Bl8SBrNi6FCnHtIjXtePUSyXQFM9jpQNPSqGcouFMPAsJix2fA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) for more information.  The North Carolina Peer Support Workgroup is actively seeking candidates to join the Workgroup from the Eastern Region of the State. For more information, please visit the NC CPSS Workgroup [webpage](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U1t4oBfUdyIX9rbNt3WupFKLHC-0fSSmT4wqWkG1TkMBSHugAXEpoSI1uBQqmoHzIOWEubiyFM1PiKDNqNHxw5FwO1PrwzlR-RCkg4IH2U6E&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) or email at [pssregistry@unc.edu](mailto:pssregistry@unc.edu). | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Peer Support Certification Renewals/Trainings**  Remember to be on the lookout for your Peer Support Certification Renewal reminders. These are sent 60 days prior to your expiration dates. If your contact information has changed, please contact UNC BHS through the NCCPSS website. Please visit the [Peer Support Program](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTu8_7ArtCrhKkUUNiexgE2kcFMqpApB2Z44XB2QxAEWhGtCyPFi22dT8kkqNvk9u13uUzxeqia9mluVF3Ew_H7S__yK6EHGNBsu0NGVpDcm0e5hL6f3WGCQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) website for details on how to renew your certification.  The link below will take you to the 50-hour training to become a Certified Peer Support Specialist in North Carolina.  ﻿Please ensure that all 50-hour courses are NC Certified. Not all community college courses are NC Certified.   * [50-hour PSS Certification Training](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTu8eLHaxGZ2-kfxKDmnHs3giIAQULFJdHk6YZGQ3EH5nV76CX5LEkgFtM2tgm0KZWgVozBoIS6vJRhIgNkYWRsQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [20-hour additional training](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTAwO54VJBpzvl0hBRUfyx9vFIUaIc5sxdkRF1hcJnwDIGNEvOWezIsGfmAPpq-5jtozLcllnuR6yPhw8l37p0PCOW0ZOGxbeOnnIOpGw_kbWqHlA3DbEH7MJCNkpwv2zx&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)   The only WRAP online training that will be accepted for CPSS certification must be completed through the Copeland Center Website. | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **NCCPSS Job Opportunities**  Review up-to-date available [peer support jobs](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTPHJrk2fMJy5ch1YK5hnMWbhSsNZkvYCto_6aI7RlBkCwYy6EDcDvNTV_kN-BxP1gtQY6uK8uokRbSHUQRAdQAA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) across the state. This [list](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTPHJrk2fMJy5ch1YK5hnMWbhSsNZkvYCto_6aI7RlBkCwYy6EDcDvNTV_kN-BxP1gtQY6uK8uokRbSHUQRAdQAA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) is updated regularly to assist CPSS in finding jobs in their area. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Certified Older Adult Peer Support Services**  ﻿There will be three (3) training classes in 2024. Enrollment for these classes will be re-opened in January 2024.  If you have attended a prior COAPS class and wish to receive the designation, please email a copy of your certificate and your CPSS certification information to [pssregistry@unc.edu](mailto:pssregistry@unc.edu).  For more information, please send your emails to [CE&E.Staff@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:CE&E.staff@dhhs.nc.gov). |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Reporting Complaints or Ethical Violations**  Allegations or observation of unethical and/or illegal behavior of a CPSS may be reported at: [http://pss.unc.edu/contact-us](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT9Qjxj0e_z9U5prMNsIIAo0pIOwb0UDG1tmSopWP866OWbk03uD_vUzrlQ7JTO_6v4scbX46HrjVZebA8MLwGSQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==), or by calling 919-843-3018. | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Veterans, Military Members, & Families** | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | A screenshot of a computer  Description automatically generated |   [**Veterans, Military Members, & Families Resources**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELTFu5Nuz4q0GSeUB-Ez7PAxUDkn8JilfQq3yw_Lp9g5RNViKL_HBfF4WaPoF28AKcdlVMcFHgJKKMwqragM-fdUemk9hI7oBsnoL-g3UX3EtS6bIi0MN_UQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)   * [NC Governor's Workgroup Meetings (NCGWG)](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5AdAqefshSLzW0bHbHyvLJq9pMpw2DAZUpzJ3CYGM761b--2Khp7Bp15LM1z-PDHn1zpvrBnTqSR6wkZ_rzDwDDSDzVA6KrcKxPHU7N44nv&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [News Releases](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTS6vhk286czNiP3g9v9WapuCmR2G6a0t0-G0sncY8tH1Oz9m5AKiOnPGoihl6590JOJTZ9NDpszPrQaOOEHYDX3kSYK3K2Somgrcyy0mvKmW_qhx9kZdc7izHBrxrODbN&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [Guidelines for Helping Your Family after Combat Injury](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTi55ftwSWPu4ojn0qz87ro9Y3kL4537khJMf5kNNC98sFtVRxg_FY2v9yEE6vh-F-qHSvh1CChLZwiVilerj_uXePTeM9TCTfNQNfZIJQYpjh84L68Jti9oIQxJo2meCNrhOweWwdOg7e4Wcw7OiMmZddeCY-6l5fyVwOp9IAQ8ptEPeztDQBChYaANmOBQ36rzIFyGvDKjkNeJ9nFtaa9qF1b-ul72qEF4Cle-JIjUEq61fTcby-J4m9DKIKtcyAvLM_L1MRADRuYx6SPjO_iT0LEKXJYua0Fujq_GPUfjZWnx1uAXFE7fHMR5lIPBfdx36Om8A4_dXZnG-AxCxS_msozgpTBJ4jfB-YeuUPd10e0ebPizEezOSmQgJKBb7NDvFYbK_2iFtW6iWf4ElfCQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [Impact of Invisible Injuries: Helping your Family and Children](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTLqFHAq_qdR5ESgaOOfv8fYwNNQHCbmGcPJwo6XQLzBkRqP-fwZ9YN33hY7w6kLnaa7LvfhewQ-0f5vk89Pu0POfUja8ZOWVSQomcNAKl50-cWsf8T_cMvlrgIZKia0IEj1SB_94Al1532SChjofLJVwseFoJA8iO_OgTDR3U1DynrW1pxuA2F3GtbSbrf8AUwmfFhUCecD4yvMd3lOucNAuBCuWW-NFtZwhlJKoLeq-RNLd7vJukVv2gqXEcxJVkQSLgnRexZTl40Jr-n_KB44sMuoC-JFLWR-NYniRHQt5kNQIqlXMYMQUIUguE8h6EyHN6tuvDppn1hOdvyUttNDrMey7NYgSp26sg77AtdXg=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [Understanding Refugee Trauma: For School Personnel](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTJYgVEMOvhF81NhSwzFLlpulpy2nT88da3Xop25mfTVNhLjpj6qpO01Tk6W2BkwX4rWf7_adaMnlYhZaivTTcwbSgrv24yw6rXSREwiPPx9K3zq-E6gcVrefWppHdH18bDIstUSGBG0b7G5F1H0biYA5-Epba35a3OMitZVvEpwI6yCNXJ7iANcunai41ZZDLtvCfZzU-UN6RrOpmSoPmQ9ub6_JgCaOV6wArxYhXnbgO9QXpiQ4r9hx_tQ7xHh6mB2bHB0wc3J-B-1EYrAsmdz48HjPp-TUq7UGWD-MA8lE1A9AQc9TXDm_5WtRLDE45UXajeiYnZkY=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [After a Crisis: Helping Young Children Heal](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTObFj5bv6bXRr1RXYMYoD6f8lY3-ypr0OyXJxxdhTFWEgTj3Y_QWOYQ7lEgQf4N0hE2d7VyG8Ut0hK85nigFpdpcb7RMSNsn-Rli-YjVrcP89T-ipqdZ5tkGHX4xGyET91S47eSoLKhpjYdBVhSScTcncHjgcOCelI5o2H0HJYvb1XapRZo5IRNgIm_HPpcSCsKvqsvWYj3t0YHbCC_uCkKTsX9rKmexEmztHC4kGcW0fyWLKPKEBTJbZuuAztp3sEL0F9qPRX2RWQQ9wnIMcEJZ2wENNxO75_7e995m-LGq-P1vB0NFdjkCCcFT0vpo5jMvco1ZIUhW7lUoOcrOdiy1RCyZpDr1JVMQdyZ9S05ufZyrk6q-aF1x-w8GEM5WaoSMEySgXc3nZW8G-foRgQK94K_10pPWrwqLE-UWOlhXqn2aZZOryXjW3LgNNVGlslPKl0O_5gdmCc-pAt6WNOv7m_qCVQJm90likiUEEAQUYyZ6a3ezBb4G8KNYXpxQqkmA7h9izNIM=&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [Resource Guide for Veterans](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT50JB_zAyLg8r8mda15Gunp6Q240JbaaVgMscAK5ovakAjKb3kKOz-IV8hiXszMW5CmQB6CahkorBhq1kEDrP9xU9KM79GUnX&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Community Engagement** | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **NAMI Meeting for NC Service Members, Veterans and Families**  This monthly virtual meeting is held every third Thursday of the month for NC Service Members, Veterans and their families. We provide advocacy, support, education, and resources.  **Date:**Thursday, Oct. 26, 2023  **Time:** 3:00 p.m.  **﻿Join Link:** [Join here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELK2HHYcqU1S_R--ZudrD4jsT-N0L2pNCPnq1PvdjGiGgmTBBZqPiu01H6-tQ7Zp8AMpn1yrbs6hLqZLgBHx_uR_urnfWeMi-kYUW3RXxiNZ30CXityxAKdwpq2iPMzVyqHCMQSvHUQ-Z-c2M8brvr5oYGjUZzZEJl-p25QyO9F-msaArV3_uKWQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  | | --- | | A blue and black logo  Description automatically generated | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **Perinatal Substance Exposure 7th Annual Summit**  This will be the first post-COVID summit. We will examine the changing landscape and lessons learned in best practices for caring for pregnant and parenting people, infants, and families affected by substance use disorders.  **Date:**Friday, Oct. 27, 2023  **Time**: 8:00-5:00 p.m.  **Join Link:**[Register here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsEL3weVpDO4EniYohz2Rd3KXE9gcCjcpC4HUKvrHpTSAisQ69YRi3zy2GfFzW-ty8d5-_DwvxAfmtofyMIuIWl2WjC0Tjv8bMT5&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)  **More information:**[Conference Agenda](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELBh_37stKoNOiIa-qoPtXKNKxvdVt22r7-XXyOx0Ka-eoSluicwCu2XwRPz8vHN7VluVZsO52psS3ndBB-_RqH_qfspSmp3Me4avCZXYK40laGls90fmhWCat8YnGz8dg9y4tDN6-ABUFSPQZXMt4NlBlw9KGJOqlUIycIDxW2Qckxps6he9Dfg==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) |  |  | | --- | | A green and brown sign with a couple of people holding hands  Description automatically generated | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Community Engagement & Empowerment** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **CE&E Contact Information:**  CE&E Team Email: [CEandE.staff@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:CEandE.staff@dhhs.nc.gov)  Ann Marie Webb: [AnnMarie.Webb@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:AnnMarie.Webb@dhhs.nc.gov)  Suzanne Thompson: [Suzanne.Thompson@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:suzanne.thompson@dhhs.nc.gov)  Stacey Harward, BSW: [Stacey.Harward@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Stacey.Harward@dhhs.nc.gov) | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | DMHDDSUS Community Updates  Stay in the know! Join our mailing list to receive updates  from the Community Engagement and Empowerment Team.  Join our mailing list by clicking the sign-up button below. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Join Mailing List**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELTbXi7iXGedcvOxMh1vHtNaJ5efvrPavA4bHwUFvUhZC0diGM81TWGXCUwf5EVlfV5pbeR4yi8_ytOlMLlotNaN07j-McZLD3WbZGo7WEXaGokBL1msSS3AT6N9Gz_e3Q8Qm-ynJcQTa6UwZltyu_9kbBRx9XtAeebl0oCuthwGCOVE0rgUyOc3Dw-olRJoAoyXXN_hi_xLCLGVxjTYMLuUXVfrv0UrvR1hDezExq4i4iNuYI6z5s7YiLi9l3iutW4KhyleH9xkBbYsl-4DaLyw==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) | | | | |  |  | | --- | |  | | | |

Dear Partners and Friends

**Beginning December 1, 2023, more North Carolinians will be able to get health coverage through NC Medicaid.** This will be a game changer for the more than 600,000 people who will be able to access health care and is the most significant investment in the health of our state in decades. Thank you to the many partners that have helped make this a reality.

Now we need your help to be sure that North Carolinians know who is eligible and how to apply. We have a new [**website**](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/north-carolina-expands-medicaid)**, bilingual toolkit and a sign-up form to stay updated on the most current information** about how more North Carolinians will be able to get health coverage through NC Medicaid.Please use these tools with your networks and communities.

**The bilingual toolkit includes:**

* [Day 1 Flyer:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-day-one-flyer) An overview of who is eligible and how to enroll.
* [Newsletter Template:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-newsletter-template) Content to include in your newsletters and emails.
* [Social Media:](https://socialpresskit.com/nc-medicaid-social-media-toolkit) Graphics and posts to share on your channels.
* [Family Planning Flyer:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-family-planning-flyer) Information for the approximately 300,000 people who receive limited benefits through Family Planning Medicaid who will be automatically enrolled in full Medicaid.
* [Medicaid Essentials Deck:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid-essentials-powerpoint-english) A presentation to share with your community on who is eligible and how to enroll.
* [FAQ:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/questions-and-answers-about-medicaid-expansion) Answers to common questions.
* [ePass Video:](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=204bNI5pGkI&ab_channel=NorthCarolinaDepartmentofHealthandHumanServices) An overview of how to apply online through ePass.

To stay updated with the latest information, be notified when the application process goes live, and receive the newest resources, complete this [sign-up form.](https://ncdhhs.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=58ec19aaea4630b1baad0e5e4&id=03d2ff5ef3)

Thank you for helping more people in your communities get health coverage through NC Medicaid. Together we will ensure more than 600,000 people gain access to health care across North Carolina.

 Estimados colaboradores,

**A partir del 1 de diciembre de 2023, más habitantes de Carolina del Norte podrán obtener cobertura médica a través de NC Medicaid.** Este es un momento muy importante para las más de 600,000 personas que podrán acceder a la atención médica y es la inversión más significativa en la salud de nuestro estado en décadas. Gracias a los muchos colaboradores que han ayudado a que esto se vuelva realidad.

Ahora necesitamos tu ayuda para asegurarnos de que los habitantes de Carolina del Norte tengan la información que necesitan para saber quién es elegible y cómo completar una solicitud. Tenemos un nuevo[**sitio web**](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/infodeexpansion)**, un kit de herramientas de comunicación bilingüe y un formulario donde puedes registrarte para recibir la información más actualizada** sobre cómo más habitantes de Carolina del Norte podrán obtener cobertura médica a través de NC Medicaid. Por favor usa estas herramientas con tus redes y comunidades.

**El kit de herramientas bilingüe incluye:**

* [Folleto del día 1:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-day-one-flyer) descripción general de quién es elegible y cómo pueden inscribirse.
* [Boletines](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-newsletter-template): información para incluir en boletines y correos electrónicos.
* [Redes sociales](https://socialpresskit.com/nc-medicaid-graficos-para-redes-sociales): gráficos y publicaciones para compartir en tus redes sociales.
* [Folleto de Planificación Familiar](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/nc-medicaid-expansion-family-planning-flyer): información para las aproximadamente 300,000 personas que reciben beneficios limitados a través del programa de Planificación Familiar de Medicaid y que quedarán inscritas para automáticamente recibir beneficios completos de Medicaid.
* [*Información importante sobre la expansión de Medicaid:*](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/medicaid-essentials-powerpoint-spanish)una presentación para compartir información con tu comunidad sobre quién es elegible y cómo pueden completar una solicitud.
* [Preguntas frecuentes:](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/preguntas-y-respuestas-sobre-la-expansion-de-medicaid) respuestas a preguntas comunes.

Para mantenerte actualizado con la información más reciente, recibir una notificación cuando el proceso de solicitud entre en funcionamiento y recibir los recursos más recientes, [regístrate aquí.](https://ncdhhs.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=58ec19aaea4630b1baad0e5e4&id=03d2ff5ef3)

Gracias por ayudar a más personas en tu comunidad a obtener cobertura médica a través de NC Medicaid. Juntos garantizaremos que más de 600,000 personas tengan acceso a la atención médica que necesitan en todo Carolina del Norte.

**Maggie Sauer**

(*she/her/hers)*

Director

Office of Rural Health

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

**Prescription opioid shipments declined sharply even as fatal overdoses increased, new data shows**

**THANKS Ellen Stroud!**

Story by GEOFF MULVIHILL, Associated Press

[Prescription opioid shipments declined sharply even as fatal overdoses increased, new data shows (msn.com)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/other/prescription-opioid-shipments-declined-sharply-even-as-fatal-overdoses-increased-new-data-shows/ar-AA1gChFw?rc=1&ocid=winp1taskbar&cvid=3fc4c38cbd5d4d97892241ed8d6cd7bd&ei=13)

**Will Availability of Over-the-Counter Narcan Increase Access?**

[Heather Saunders](https://www.kff.org/person/heather-saunders/) and [Robin Rudowitz](https://www.kff.org/person/robin-rudowitz/) [Follow @RRudowitz on Twitter](https://twitter.com/RRudowitz) Sept.19, 2023

[Will Availability of Over-the-Counter Narcan Increase Access? | KFF](https://www.kff.org/policy-watch/will-availability-of-over-the-counter-narcan-increase-access/)

**Emergent is excited to announce that NARCAN Nasal Spray as an over-the-counter (OTC) medicine is now officially available to our valued public interest customers.**

**THANKS AGAIN Alert Reader Ellen Stroud!**

We have depleted all prescription inventory and your next order will arrive containing the new Public Interest OTC Packaging. The new carton will contain the same original prescription strength medicine you’ve trusted since our launch in 2016.

For those of you who still have prescription NARCAN® Nasal Spray, please continue to utilize the medicine until your inventory is depleted or the product has reached its expiration.

**Here is what you can expect with the updated packaging:**

**Change In Packaging Dimensions:**

* **Outer Box (inches): 5.61”H x 2.95” W x 2.36” D**

**Updated NDC Code:**

* 69547-627-02

**The community pricing is $41 a box that comes in cartons of 12. Now that it is OTC tax is charged.**

Marriage and Family Therapists (MFT) and Mental Health Counselors (MHC) Provider Enrollment Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) September 2023

[marriage-and-family-therapists-and-mental-health-counselors-faq-09052023.pdf (cms.gov)](https://www.cms.gov/files/document/marriage-and-family-therapists-and-mental-health-counselors-faq-09052023.pdf)

[United States Federal Court Reverses Its Reversal: 50,000 Claims to Be Reviewed in a Reimbursement Win for Patients and Providers](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlHo6c2imE_zQTYiRwfAueEE4yPcXKssiURWYzzNy3T8egkK2D-HcoTPcs0vhruFGwY0=)  
In a decision vacating its previous March 2022 ruling, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit determined a large class of insurance claimants were entitled to have their denials judicially reviewed – a promising sign for patients and providers seeking substance use disorder (SUD) coverage. The decision gives the claimants another opportunity to show prejudice and sets precedent for legal theories that insurers owe a fiduciary duty to beneficiaries under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the federal law that governs employee benefit plans.

House Judiciary Committee approves bill to combat illicit opioids

The measure would increase regulation of tranq, a horse sedative dealers are mixing with fentanyl to deadly effect.

BY: CARMEN PAUN  | 09/28/2023

[POLITICO Pro | Article | House Judiciary Committee approves bill to combat illicit opioids](https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2023/09/house-judiciary-committee-approves-bill-to-combat-illicit-opioids-00118876?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=276312035&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--VZWH1-5uLn6TSqaiwpNsxdINMKRYVk4HQNpdouTPfJ9XpdSK4eZBX2B5FQfNvB0Th3ipWqVipQunlw3MW31UxrbvDdA&utm_content=276312035&utm_source=hs_email)

[One More Thing: Collaborating to Reduce Overdose - North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (ncacc.org)](https://www.ncacc.org/about/presidential-initiatives/one-more-thing/)

On August 26, 2023, President Carswell unveiled his presidential initiative, One More Thing, focused on empowering North Carolina counties to invest opioid settlement dollars for the greatest impact.

North Carolina and our counties are leaders in the country on prevention, early intervention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery strategies to address the opioid overdose epidemic. Over the next several months, the One More Thing initiative will establish a Planning Committee, coordinated with NACo to organize a series of convenings that will take place over the year ahead. At these events, the initiative will highlight impactful approaches to implementing opioid settlement funds in our state and across the country, bringing together county leaders from all across North Carolina and the nation to connect with one another, shine a light on best practices, and share lessons learned.

By bringing together varying perspectives from all over, this initiative will help shape how we address the overdose crisis in our local communities and take advantage of this once in a generational opportunity, highlight the good work being done in North Carolina, and, at the same time, learn from our colleagues in other states.

**Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center Unveils New Patient Care Unit and Innovative Partnerships**

**Centro de Tratamiento del Abuso de Alcohol y Drogas Julian F. Keith presenta una nueva unidad de atención al paciente y asociaciones innovadoras — Versión en español abajo**

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/2023/09/22/julian-f-keith-alcohol-and-drug-abuse-treatment-center-unveils-new-patient-care-unit-and-innovative>

PRESS RELEASE — The Julian F. Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center in Black Mountain, N.C. recently unveiled a new patient care unit and announced an innovative partnership to redefine recovery journeys. JFK is one of two alcohol and drug abuse treatment facilities in North Carolina operated by the NC Department of Health and Human Services. It currently provides inpatient and outpatient services, including medical detox, psychiatric stabilization, substance use disorder and mental health treatment using best practice standards — including Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Care and "Seeking Safety."

[AP: Communities Across Appalachia Band Together For First-Ever 13-State Narcan Distribution Event](https://connect.kff.org/e3t/Ctc/RB+113/c1ThL04/MWttWRNhNt0W5MZtkv6mbMJzW3wqskQ53t3y8MDyKlF5nR32W50kH_H6lZ3ndVGpt7B84KZpZW1snZq71nLRcsW6ZnR542L1D9vV_bkg24_jk99W5XFw3R2mdRtzVgJ0mK6QyDWKMMs5pRvw-WHW7BfNpm33vMztW26KJmj12Q6hgW8y6Pmp5K8DTQW7zds4n21YS40Vvj7DT5yfrlNVLMbDL5mpCkdW9bzlFy4vZXfGW1_WLzF3pb6QfW8dBGzg3fh9l2W8tb6KD6QCYkkW2sJJh744n8x_W7gvH9t4-VzgsW78Y5S05lvnFYN6dqc80JJRR0VwjBdl6ZXZ1DW6BlbvV1_ypcrW2VHPNn5LcSsqW3Zhd9M6wlSCnW2-tWS18Z9NYjW1P2Sdb4S77YZW2Prswq38H0_NW96lRqv3k-ZjfW1YT6sK1Kt-6mN5KLBLRrKBVvW7tGlK25k7KbLf8FhfXg04)   
An effort to destigmatize the use of overdose reversal drugs that started as a pilot in two West Virginia counties has expanded to all thirteen states in Appalachia this year. The first-ever “Appalachian Save a Life Day” comes Thursday, on the heels of the approval of Narcan as drug that can be purchased over the counter for nonprescription use — a long-awaited victory towards normalizing and improving access to the decades-old, live-saving medication. (Willingham, 9/14)

**Blue cities rethink their embrace of progressive drug policies**

[Caitlin Owens](https://www.axios.com/authors/caitlin) 9.29.23

[Blue cities question their embrace of progressive drug measures (axios.com)](https://www.axios.com/2023/09/29/democrats-cities-fentanyl-drugs-homelessness?utm_source=briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=health_am&utm_content=092923)

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Share on twitter (opens in new window)

Share on linkedin (opens in new window)

Blue cities that have taken the most progressive — and often controversial — steps to tackle the nation's [drug crisis](https://www.axios.com/2023/09/11/fentanyl-politics-border-mexico) are beginning to question those strategies amid rising political backlash.

Why it matters: Public health experts emphasize policies that prioritize saving the lives of drug users — like so-called safe injection sites — but the worsening [fentanyl problem](https://www.axios.com/2023/07/28/fentanyl-overdoses-monoclonal-antibodies) is testing the patience of even the seemingly most tolerant cities.

**Fentanyl plus stimulants drives ‘fourth wave’ of overdose epidemic in the U.S.**

Overdose deaths involving fentanyl plus a stimulant increased fiftyfold from 2010 to 2021.

[Fentanyl plus stimulants drives ‘fourth wave’ of overdose epidemic in the U.S. (nbcnews.com)](https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/fentanyl-stimulants-drives-fourth-wave-overdose-epidemic-us-rcna104953?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=274266068&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-885gcCbO_mLst-bSLtEJjoAOZjdXr8_bKCqRCiVUWOv2_efzp_koYIvhcZ4bqas_1tG9WLopsF0pOhfBbzWKF4MbiInw&utm_content=274266068&utm_source=hs_email)

**National Report September 2023 Rural Substance Use Disorder Stigma and Treatment Needs**

Prepared by the UVM Center on Rural Addiction Surveillance & Evaluation Core

[National Report (uvmcora.org)](https://www.uvmcora.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/UPDATED-UVM-CORA_National-Report_Rural-Substance-Use-Disorder-Stigma-and-Treatment-Needs_September-2023.pdf)

The University of Vermont Center on Rural Addiction (UVM CORA) aims to expand substance use disorder (SUD) treatment capacity in rural communities by providing consultation, resources, and evidence-based technical assistance to healthcare providers and community partners. This national rural SUD stigma and treatment needs assessment explores SUD stigma as well as SUD treatment needs and barriers through the experiences and perspectives of rural practitioners.

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| Call to Action: Keep Marijuana Classified as Schedule 1 <https://everybrainmatters.org/2023/09/07/call-to-action-keep-marijuana-classified-as-schedule-1/>  **Posted on September 7, 2023** |

“*What I wouldn’t do is commercialize it, legalize it on the Federal level, and open this up to institutional investors and Big Tobacco. That’s my worry.*”

~ Kevin Sabet, Former three-time White House Office of National Drug Control Policy advisor and Founder of Smart Approaches to Marijuana

Responding to a directive from President Joe Biden, the Federal Health and Human Services Department has recommended easing restrictions on marijuana by changing its drug classification. If the HHS recommendation is followed, marijuana would be a “Schedule III” drug instead of its current “Schedule I” status.

Pro-cannabis supporters see that possibility as a major victory, because it would be a huge step that would pave the way for expanded legalization. Opponents who don’t want more drugs in their communities are worried about what would come next, for the same reason.

Let’s take a closer look at what to expect if marijuana is rescheduled, why you should care, and what you can do about it.

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| **North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services – Division of Health Benefits FACT SHEET**  **North Carolina Medicaid Reform: Justice-Involved Reentry Initiative**  *August 2023* |

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| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | In October 2018, North Carolina received federal approval to significantly transform its Medicaid program through the Medicaid Reform Section 1115 Demonstration.  North Carolina is seeking to renew its Medicaid Reform Demonstration for another five-year period to improve health and well-being for all North Carolinians through a whole-person, well-coordinated system of care that addresses both medical and non-medical drivers of health and advances health access by reducing disparities for historically marginalized populations. In line with this overarching goal, and in line with recent federal guidance, North Carolina is seeking federal authority through the demonstration renewal to support reentry into the community for justice-involved individuals.  *For additional information on the other initiatives in the demonstration request, see the “North Carolina Medicaid Reform: Section 1115 Demonstration Renewal Request” fact sheet.*   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | From Tricia Christensen, Director of Policy, Community Education Group, [tchristensen@communityeducationgroup.org](mailto:tchristensen@communityeducationgroup.org) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Check out our brand-new sparkling website at [**AppalachiaOpioidRemediation.org**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3r5Tl7YRpDcU6SkRyQevzAC2U2U1PZehSU3RkW-msrr7rdozqPOph5s_bhnDzFs0p4g7WFQCA461CKpGjEjbpovMc95PIYgoUFpWcHwcWOotulnrnNGvtf4=&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==)  The AOR database is intended to be a resource for community members throughout Appalachia, so please don't hesitate to send us ideas for improvements or to inform us of an error, broken link, or something we've missed. We have a shared email address now (which is also where you'll be receiving all future weekly update emails from): [AOR@CommunityEducationGroup.org](mailto:AOR@CommunityEducationGroup.org)  **Please make sure to check your spam/junk folder and mark emails from us as 'safe' if they are getting filtered there.**  And remember that this Google Group is an open listserve which you are welcome to email ([appalachia-opioid-remediation@googlegroups.com](mailto:appalachia-opioid-remediation@googlegroups.com)) or reply-all with relevant discussion. We only ask that you not use this space to sell products or publicly air personal grievances.  **If someone forwarded you this email and you'd like to join the listserve,** [**﻿please sign up here**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3mQtOqyKqakEUv6wJU_iMb1pK-XYCsJfwrWtM22ZtoZavshkKTMDQYacpkZeoNI8WK6wU03igavaFzca7hU3I-L6gNnBQ6NLhQ==&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==)**.**   It's been a busy news week, so without further ado, let's jump into some updates. | |   **Best Practices for Recovery Housing**  This document updates SAMHSA’s 2018 document and outlines best practices for the implementation and operation of recovery housing. These best practices are intended to serve as a tool for states, governing bodies, providers, recovery house operators, and other interested stakeholders to improve the health of their citizens, reduce incidence of overdose, and promote recovery housing as a key support strategy in achieving and sustaining recovery.  **Resource URL** [View Resource](https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/pep23-10-00-002.pdf)  ***NC Opioid Plan Allocation Updates 9.20.23***   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The **NC legislature** passed their 2023-2024 budget bill which included llocation of opioid settlement funds (see [HB259](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3r5Tl7YRpDcUWQUvRiM03eDkG7ODtlzomp1MxON0L5u_WgTOxcCuYExGriuW8SGEv_VnvlYp2vB6TFgeKiZeU7yTYnxmVpF7oPvOyb7mamdMbd_DCK2vEhSbSP8wwmc8nszdXBFgkhVc-WKr-rqkJDYjdTrn85DNLQ==&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==) pages 272-273):   * $5.5 million to the [University of North Carolina Collaboratory](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3r5Tl7YRpDcUW9Hm2begq8PJzn0_KRs-hNa0G1AcDJg0Zwl6SZ4iXQvmVso8ihTYsYrkRqClcw0jxG7yUrQ5sqymEdGVHD_tSw==&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==) which will use $300,000 to fund a study of "judicially managed accountability and recovery courts," and will allocate the remaining funds through competitive grants over two years to each UNC campus for "opioid abatement research and development projects." * $8 million to be allocated as grants over two years to a specific list of recipients for "opioid remediation programs, services, and activities". You can see the recipients in the bill, but there is no additional information about planned spending. Recipients must report back to the Department of Health and Human Services about how funds were spent.   **Pender County** Substance Abuse Prevention Team [recommends that the county spend its settlement funds](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3r5Tl7YRpDcUhPKRQTGVIV_OvJTwQVPfIHiAWQqb2fF39lnGiv1DEPjLotJjnVDYMbFpwP3NMV-U20wuakHlqeP5wunrS0Dwi06DXUECR4NT2DZVCU-YjdKHQ-pOb8H1Ly3BHUdOeo0oZg2xdn5UKRA9dC5-rGft3pfUZ_TpeNG40YUON_Bau9xV1Th4si1f1ydSB8-TqhXKcTDHgJ--bEhBpOUokeK_Pke1obTP8zcv&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==) on early intervention, including substance abuse training of adolescents and parents, recovery support services for individuals in recovery, treatment, or remission, and evidence-based addiction treatment, focused on medication-assisted treatment. The county plans to implement an RFA process to solicit proposals but does not have a projected date yet. ﻿Pender County Chair, Jackie Newton, expressed urgency: “One of the guiding principles that I believe ought to be our mainstay is spending this money to save lives… It is not a slush fund, it is not a rainy day fund, it is not a reimbursement fund, it is a fund to save the lives of people who live in Pender County. We need to spend the money. I’m not a fan nor a proponent of waiting to see and group-thinking this thing to death.”  **Stanly County** [Consolidated Health Services (CHS) board discussed frustrations](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3r5Tl7YRpDcUJCrUz64wnYzr-4RP0drathqqiJ35Md8lwBoBiN0DMql28NdkCWMySSpqJgNgapFAHFNqDY8G9_1rzzZXiMJAYwT7l_U62pjNyg5aoGcuzARdqWKpw4jePEGrJFRPVsjxMuY1ce7VpXKNHoUSwmcoGYLHFsQtKNPFB2vo6jUJ-2ft5VyXizhZsZfnlyOGUFHpzZ8jSaooAAPgGupimOn3Gf7TNo_hgVQS&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==) about who is deciding how to spend the county's opioid settlement funds after a debacle regarding funding for Gateway of Hope, an opioid addiction recovery facility. (We previously reported on how the County [delayed deciding on renewing a contract](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001zduQS_SkknmFVUBl7cZOhnblJnSGqQIgRGjnMPpa4_-koC3h-lZi3gtb1i0UtpttuvEBTHq2ubZDjXoHgvOXQduglmVSbqDXxyXR3x_FttWajiUmV2ijI2zOnFUFiuAAGkRmnwF02dVze5QmrwvIQHzztLZADqxlBo68QLYZjkyaAeR-PlRcKEg9gFy4hekNVJSnEWksVgrooehlYKE3LjiYdiiGRuR4ZuEfT96LbjJYT3DCCM4IzfCKIO8IPip5TEirPOe9Ey8=&c=6aGFkhKyJIA9UjLUjkk6TigEuIMmCbktG1xJ1yOts6zAlsXpfqVwRQ==&ch=LNF7_cJabFbQu179ArLahbysEyBq5c9_hMwYratiJeMKCnyo0Uab6A==) due to concerns about changes in leadership and what services are offered.) The facility was scheduled to receive funds in August after the County Manager made the recommendation to approve the funds. Health department staff had concerns about recommending the funding, but felt they were put in a bad position to speak up against the County Manager. The board eventually passed a motion to have the county get a contract in place for a third-party evaluator for future requests. | | | | |  | | --- | | CumCumberland County [approved allocating settlement funds to 4 agencies](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001IUXZie7Xirm_7MIfBK1lulmnwZ_NSIlC8MZlkZdT9rPwl21DMuFvlmaBkkTe6b10PvGOyfBnKkkdx-De-F9KqoAFIzykRz7utUl2bhdtu_eNcgLshKijVaDTStPWThEUbqhKHyl7dBr5HoeDcgoPYXdlscbObExYBkyqZ9LjEI9cFaQdNlQJTtz_GnHAbY5FVtHBeurgPHiUmM8FBvhDpvRzszVmJ4nSKNAzj0zrK_vCHF-mTGNqZbzLtOJoeqTTUrGDjVVvIxw=&c=qG0TF74r2tz9-n2YIzByzclSGM1Irm7nsmlaKjCkTXETcPc8wOQDMg==&ch=8MpQlrCxBC3bGQe9VIkMA4rx0lsDfdX11qStD-HEuALrP0JfAkib4g==):   * ATS of North Carolina (Carolina Treatment Center): $200,000 * Myrover-Reese Fellowship Homes, Inc: $200,000 * North Carolina Harm Reduction: $199,990 * Cumberland Fayetteville Family Drug Treatment Court: $200,000   The plan passed with a 6-1 vote, with [Commissioner Jimmy Keefe voting against it](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001IUXZie7Xirm_7MIfBK1lulmnwZ_NSIlC8MZlkZdT9rPwl21DMuFvlmaBkkTe6b10glKkrXf2VsHySUgMuFuO3w1Meo8A26UC0xVeG63BBK5fhQIRXTF3fiRPCi-P0GPWk8eFrkwHiW7BT8WvDedMKJZsjz4fnpzMnGtkPPsOSyQliBeuy2UYdi6qomVWmWQEcucoqynhw-82w_ES15yEtOS0s24b6vbwtLVdxy43bC6SL263JmUqRL_Zm58xr1IwRC6VWFmszGyg3WNvIwPaIi3mmsa8ot41&c=qG0TF74r2tz9-n2YIzByzclSGM1Irm7nsmlaKjCkTXETcPc8wOQDMg==&ch=8MpQlrCxBC3bGQe9VIkMA4rx0lsDfdX11qStD-HEuALrP0JfAkib4g==). Keefe said he wanted more early intervention and education programs for teenagers.  Wilson County has allocated [$575,000 of their settlement funds to support eight strategies](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001IUXZie7Xirm_7MIfBK1lulmnwZ_NSIlC8MZlkZdT9rPwl21DMuFvlmaBkkTe6b10ez1Ch_QJPCe4ve4HDuHYzQ4Am0dhXc0dEs0_Xr6Ahar-xo52nIZDkCsGCmbDZgsdgAcyAwF9jkavcv6LoKtW6fm3kdgBQ6ax4SB0MB7h-wjLi5XOZRTCrxQphHoJd3TWY_eUg13PvaibmwCQhpPCkcM4frqNryC813i7J17g6LqrUf807pwHiA==&c=qG0TF74r2tz9-n2YIzByzclSGM1Irm7nsmlaKjCkTXETcPc8wOQDMg==&ch=8MpQlrCxBC3bGQe9VIkMA4rx0lsDfdX11qStD-HEuALrP0JfAkib4g==) in 2023-2024:   * Expand equitable treatment for SUD * Expand the availability of naloxone * Expand MAT * Expand trauma-informed programming in the public school system * Sustain localized syringe services programming * Provide stipends to expand housing access for people in recovery * Create and sustain an OUD data dashboard * ﻿Supplement local non-profits, faith organizations, and other organizations actively involved in OUD prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery. | | |   NCCARE360 K-12 School District COVID-19 Resources and Referral Coordination and Recovery Plan  During the summer months, our teams worked with the Department of Child and Family Well-Being (DCFW) at NC DHHS to put together a pilot project to onboard public schools across the state onto the NCCARE360 platform to link students and their families to community resources that address unmet social needs. The NCCARE360 K-12 School System/District COVID-19 Resources and Referral Coordination and Recovery Plan supplemented the school-based testing for COVID-19 provided by DCFW as an important layer of protection to keep children safe in the classroom. To further support students and families from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, NCCARE360 helps to identify additional drivers of health and connect students to services and resources that will impact students’ physical, behavioral, and social wellness. This project will allow K-12 school systems and their staff to use NCCARE360 to link students and their families to community resources that address critical services like food, housing, utilities assistance, educational support services, and more. | |  | |

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Durham Public Schools (DPS) has always been committed to the well-being and success of its students. Now, they're taking this commitment a step further by leveraging technology to strengthen the connection between K-12 students and the social resources they need. DPS is partnering with NCCARE360 to make this vision a reality, with plans to onboard school social workers and members of their student support department in up to 56 schools in the DPS school system.   By fostering stronger connections between students and essential social resources, DPS is paving the way for a brighter and more promising future for the entire community. This innovative approach to education and support demonstrates DPS's dedication to nurturing not only academic excellence but also the holistic development of its students. The NCCARE360 team will be using DPS as an example for engaging with additional school districts to reach even more students in need. With NCCARE360, the path to success becomes clearer and the journey becomes a shared one, filled with opportunities for growth and achievement.  **Read more about the NCCARE360 K-12 School District COVID-19 Resources and Referral Coordination and Recovery Plan and how it helps students achieve more on our blog at:**[**https://nccare360.org/nccare360-kicks-september-off-with-a-k-12-school-district-pilot-project/**](https://foundationhli.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=447345924e226233eb3a1b557&id=b5543a5f56&e=b6bc7956b8) | | |

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**PREVENTION and HARM REDUCTION**

[**PAYBACK: TRACKING OPIOID CASH**](https://kffhealthnews.org/news/tag/opioid-settlements/)

**Officials Agree: Use Settlement Funds to Curb Youth Addiction. But the ‘How’ Gets Hairy.**

By [Aneri Pattani](https://kffhealthnews.org/news/author/aneri-pattani/) and [Emily Featherston, InvestigateTV](https://kffhealthnews.org/news/author/emily-featherston-investigatetv/) SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

[Officials Agree: Use Settlement Funds to Curb Youth Addiction. But the ‘How’ Gets Hairy. - KFF Health News](https://kffhealthnews.org/news/article/opioid-settlement-funds-addiction-prevention-dare-curriculum/?utm_source=briefing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=health_am&utm_content=092523)

Many parents, educators, and elected officials agree that investing in prevention is crucial to address the rising rates of [youth overdoses](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2790949), [depression](https://www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X(21)00646-7/fulltext), and [suicidal thoughts](https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/articles/2023/03/03/youth-suicide-risk-increased-over-past-decade).

“We have to look at the root causes,” said [Diana Fishbein](https://fpg.unc.edu/people/diana-fishbein), a senior scientist at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and leading expert on applying prevention science to public policy. Otherwise, “we’re going to be chasing our tails forever.” But the question of how to do that is fraught and will involve testing the comfort levels of many parents and local officials.

For generations of Americans, addiction prevention was synonymous with D.A.R.E., a [Drug Abuse Resistance Education](https://dare.org/about/) curriculum developed in the 1980s and taught by police officers in schools. It “dared” kids to resist drugs and was used in concert with other popular campaigns at the time, like “just say no” and a [video of an egg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOnENVylxPI) in a frying pan with the narration, “This is your brain on drugs.”

But [decades of research](https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/6/1/267) found those approaches [didn’t work](https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/full/10.2105/AJPH.94.6.1027). In some cases, suburban students [actually increased](https://psycnet.apa.org/record/1998-12890-001) their drug use after participating in the D.A.R.E. program.

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In contrast, prevention programs that today’s leading experts say [show the most promise](https://drugfree.org/reports/rethinking-substance-use-prevention-an-earlier-and-broader-approach/) teach kids how to manage their emotions, communicate with others, be resilient, and build healthy relationships. They can have [long-term health benefits](https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2022/04/investing-in-prevention-makes-good-financial-sense) while also saving society $18 for every dollar invested, per a [federal analysis](https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/substance-abuse-prevention-dollars-and-cents-cost-benefit-analysis). But that approach is less intuitive than simply saying “no.”

If you tell parents, “‘We’re going to protect your child from dying of a fentanyl poisoning by teaching them social skills in third grade,’ they’re going to be angry at you,” said [Linda Richter](https://drugfree.org/staff/linda-richter/), who leads prevention-oriented research at the nonprofit Partnership to End Addiction. Selling them on the most effective approaches takes time.

That’s one of the reasons prevention experts worry that familiar programs like D.A.R.E. will be the go-to for elected officials and school administrators deciding how to use opioid settlement funds. When KFF Health News and InvestigateTV looked for evidence of local spending on prevention, even a cursory review found examples across half a dozen states where governments have already allocated $120,000 of settlement cash to D.A.R.E. programs. The curriculum has been revamped since the ’80s, but the effects of those changes are still being studied.

Natalie Lin, a senior at Fossil Ridge High School in Fort Collins, Colorado, is optimistic that school-based programs on addiction and mental health will combat the stigma she and her peers face. “Having it in school just kind of makes it less taboo,” she says, and prevents people from feeling “called out” for needing help.

*Budgeting Choices Reflect Deeper Debate*

Researchers say putting money toward programs with uncertain outcomes — when more effective alternatives exist — could cost not only valuable resources but, ultimately, lives. Although $50 billion sounds like a lot, when compared with the toll of the epidemic, each penny must be spent efficiently.

“There’s tremendous potential for these funds to be wasted,” said [Nathaniel Riggs](https://www.chhs.colostate.edu/bio-page/nathaniel-riggs-2378/), executive director of the Colorado State University Prevention Research Center.

But he has reason to be hopeful. Larimer County officials awarded Riggs’ team $400,000 of opioid settlement funds to build a prevention program based on the latest science.

Riggs and his colleagues are developing training for school staff and helping implement the [Blues Program](https://bluesprogram.org/), a widely [acclaimed intervention](https://www.blueprintsprograms.org/programs/914999999/blues-program/) for students at risk of depression. The program, which will start in 10 middle and high schools this fall, teaches students about resilience and builds social support through six small group sessions, each an hour long. It’s been shown in multiple studies to decrease rates of depression and drug use among youth.

Natalie Lin, a 17-year-old senior at Fossil Ridge High School in Fort Collins, Colorado, is optimistic the program will help overcome the stigma her peers face with mental illness and addiction.

“Having it in school” prevents people from feeling “called out” for needing help, said Lin, who carries naloxone in her car so she’s prepared to reverse someone’s overdose. “It’s just acknowledging that anyone here could be battling” addiction, and “if you are, that’s all right.”

Across the country, investments in prevention run the gamut. Rhode Island is using about $1.5 million of settlement cash to increase the number of [student assistance counselors](https://risas.org/our-programs/project-success/) in middle and high schools. Moore County, North Carolina, is [spending $50,000](https://www.thepilot.com/news/opioid-update-first-round-of-funding-approved/article_28284872-3174-11ee-b255-2b59863f54cf.html) on a mentoring program for at-risk youth. Some communities are inviting guest speakers and, of course, many are turning to D.A.R.E.

New Hanover County, North Carolina, and the city of Wilmington, which it encompasses, pooled $60,000 of settlement money to train nearly 70 officers in the D.A.R.E. program, which they hope to launch in dozens of schools this fall.

County commissioner Rob Zapple said it’s one piece of a “multiprong approach” to show young people they can lead productive lives without drugs. Officials are also putting $25,000 of settlement cash toward public service announcements and $20,000 toward other outreach.

They acknowledged there’s little research on the updated D.A.R.E. curriculum but said the county views its investment as a pilot, which they will track closely. “Instead of committing everything at once, we’re going to let the spending of the money grow with the success of the program,” Zapple said.

Munster, Indiana, also decided to [further its D.A.R.E. effort](https://youtu.be/FUWrQEonC2E?si=XrZFjYD0JXF0JMnw&t=1072), using $6,000 — a small slice of its total settlement funds — annually. Jasper County, Iowa, is [using $3,800](https://www.newtondailynews.com/news/local/2023/06/10/jasper-county-provides-259k-in-opioid-settlement-money-to-local-organizations/) to cover materials for the program’s graduation ceremonies for several years.

*In some places, officials are frank that they’re*[*not getting enough money*](https://kffhealthnews.org/news/article/rural-america-opioid-settlement-funds-inequity/)*to do anything inventive.*

Solon, Ohio, for example, received $9,500 in settlement funds this year and is expecting similar or smaller amounts in the future. “While the funding is welcome,” finance director Matt Rubino wrote in an email, it’s “not material enough to be transformational” to the budget. Putting it all toward the existing D.A.R.E. program made the most sense, he said.

*Out With the Scare Tactics*

[Francisco Pegueros](https://dare.org/francisco-x-pegueros/), CEO and president of D.A.R.E., said though the program has been in place since the ’80s, “it’s really significantly different” today. The curriculum was redone in 2009 to move away from scare tactics and lectures on specific drugs to focus instead on decision-making skills. Officers undergo intensive training, which includes understanding how children’s brains develop.

“Telling somebody a drug is harmful isn’t going to change their behaviors,” Pegueros said. “You really need to deliver a curriculum that’s going to build those skills to help them change behaviors.”

With the rise of fentanyl and some [state legislatures mandating](https://capitol.texas.gov/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=88R&Bill=HB3908#vote101) [education on drugs](https://www.rilegislature.gov/pressrelease/_layouts/RIL.PressRelease.ListStructure/Forms/DisplayForm.aspx?List=c8baae31%2D3c10%2D431c%2D8dcd%2D9dbbe21ce3e9&ID=51809&Web=2bab1515%2D0dcc%2D4176%2Da2f8%2D8d4beebdf488), interest in D.A.R.E. has grown in recent years, Pegueros said. He believes it can be effective as part of a comprehensive, community approach to prevention.

“You’re not going to find one curriculum, one program, one action that’s going to achieve the results you want,” he said.

Still, D.A.R.E. can play an important role, he said, pointing to a [recent study](https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0284457) that found the new curriculum had a “positive effect in terms of deterring the onset of alcohol use and vaping” among fifth graders.

Kelli Caseman is the executive director of Think Kids, a nonprofit that advocates for children’s health and well-being in West Virginia. Caseman says scare tactics don’t protect kids from addiction because many of them already see the effects of drug abuse at home. “We need stronger communities that are willing to just give those kids more guidance and support than fear,” she says.

But many public health experts remain skeptical. They worry the changes are superficial. The few studies of D.A.R.E.’s new curriculum have been short-term, yielded [mixed results](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09687637.2016.1208731), and in some cases had high dropout rates due to the covid-19 pandemic, which raises questions about how applicable the findings are for schools nationwide. According to some law enforcement officials and advocates, even the revamped program is often taught alongside campaigns like “[One Pill Can Kill](https://www.dea.gov/onepill),” which warns youth that trying drugs can be fatal the first time.

That type of scare tactic seems futile to [Kelli Caseman](https://thinkkidswv.org/main/board-and-staff/), executive director of Think Kids, a nonprofit that advocates for children’s health and well-being in West Virginia. “It’s not as if these kids are unsuspecting and have never seen the consequences of drug use before,” she said. In 2017, West Virginia [reported the highest rate](https://uhfnyc.org/media/filer_public/6e/80/6e80760f-d579-46a3-998d-1aa816ab06f6/uhf_ripple_effect_national_and_state_estimates_chartbook.pdf#page=9) in the nation of children living with their own or a parent’s opioid addiction. “We need stronger communities that are willing to just give those kids more guidance and support than fear,” Caseman said. “They’ve already got enough fear as it is.”

*Some local governments are trying to straddle both paths.*

Take Chautauqua County in western New York. Last September, the county and a local child-development collaborative spent $26,000 — including [$5,000 of opioid settlement cash](https://www.post-journal.com/news/top-stories/2023/04/county-discusses-overdoses-opioid-settlement-funds/) — to bring former NBA player Chris Herren to [speak at several assemblies](https://fredonialeader.org/sports/2022/09/24/chris-erren-visits-campus/) about his past addictions to alcohol, heroin, and cocaine. Herren recounted to more than 1,500 students the first day he had a beer, at age 14; how addiction ended his career; and how he landed on the streets before entering recovery.

[Patrick Smeraldo](https://www.linkedin.com/in/patrick-smeraldo-446097178/), a physical education teacher and the head of the [local collaborative](https://ccsolutions716.com/) that organized Herren’s visit, said the basketball player’s story resonated with students, many of whom have parents with addiction. “When he talks about selling his kid’s Xbox to get drugs, I think he’s touching on facts that they’ve had to go through,” Smeraldo said.

But a one-time speaker event has [little lasting impact](http://riiad.org/index.php/riiad/article/view/riiad.2016.2.01/146), researchers and public health experts say.

That’s why the county is also investing opioid settlement funds in several other initiatives, said Steve Kilburn, who oversees addiction-related grants for Chautauqua County. A likely six-figure sum will go to [Prevention Works](https://www.facebook.com/PreventionWorks.us/), a local nonprofit that teaches a nationally acclaimed “[Too Good for Drugs](https://toogoodprograms.org/collections/too-good-for-drugs)” curriculum in 23 schools and runs a “[Teen Intervene](https://www.hazeldenbettyford.org/addiction/teen-intervention)” program that provides one-on-one coaching and support for students found using drugs or carrying drug paraphernalia in school.

[Melanie Witkowski](https://www.linkedin.com/in/melanie-witkowski-377312121/), executive director of Prevention Works, said some students are scared to come to school because their parents might overdose without someone at home to revive them.

Smeraldo, the physical education teacher, is planning to build on Herren’s talk with an after-school program, in which students will be able to discuss their mental health and transform interests like cooking into internships to help break the cycle of poverty that often contributes to addiction.

Herren is “the catalyst to get the kid to services that exist in the county,” Smeraldo said. It’s a starting point, not the end.

Sampson County, NC has announced an initiative to dispense Naloxone and COVID-19 tests in healthcare vending kiosks by LTS Health. (You can view the press article/pics here: ( https://rb.gy/iguon ). testandgo.com

[Los Angeles Times: Here's How To Start The Conversation About Fentanyl](https://connect.kff.org/e3t/Ctc/RB+113/c1ThL04/MWttWRNhNt0W5MZtkv6mbMJzW3wqskQ53t3y8MDyKmx5nR32W6N1X8z6lZ3p4W62Q6H55zmpRcW3pG72B19G4rMW38PQsW5fY8D0W6BR_9s5-41c5VbYfgT5v1y8JN7LZbthkLDCHW6QkrhH4Q8jb3VhbQhw5DGljXW6CpRck4h4xq6W6Ls0q03xkfyXVBghXn3xhNBpW5S6N8-5Z2_j4V1wQ-J1bXYC2VgNMVT4HzbZBVM40qK1dL_MnW4qfsvV68pTlPW56C_R419xFskW7XNgfF7M732gW529_Vs41RWsxW8ckSVB8rmB1kW4hbxXd4SsLPlW8xHR5q8yfzQGW1BRCwT96l5n7VtphvD2b6x6bW4C1xqm2ZJyWqW1dz-p937_h30W4mLhmc73JZnpW5XRbP-4766KqW7wchl-2lHd-vW7RcB7-47cFCnW55_X7_3rN1b4W2zV50G284609W6K3-3s4_SwfDW6n88n85pBcW2W1yRy5l4XdMdRW208HX085dbL-W4_z0601B0cLpW57l_5f854Q_4f7hqsPH04)   
Song for Charlie, a nonprofit that raises awareness of counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl, in partnership with the California Department of Health Care Services, commissioned a survey of 1,574 California residents, which included parents, young adults and teens, in May and June of this year. Four in 10 young adults and half of teens surveyed said they aren’t knowledgeable about the issues surrounding fentanyl. Parents reported “lack of knowledge” as a key barrier that keeps them from talking about the issue with their children. (Garcia, 9/14)

**Lifesaving fentanyl test strips still illegal in some states under ‘70s-era war on drugs law**

BY SAMANTHA HENDRICKSON, Published June 8, 2023

[Lifesaving fentanyl test strips still illegal in some states under '70s-era war on drugs law | AP News](https://apnews.com/article/legalization-fentanyl-test-strips-opioid-overdoses-4a23f92b401c667381e84538fe5f1059?utm_source=NIHCM+Foundation&utm_campaign=3234e9b8c5-Oct_Newsletter_2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-3220b1e257-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

[Video: Timely Data Directs Providers to Communities in Need](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vaGVhbC5uaWguZ292L25ld3Mvc3Rvcmllcy90aW1lbHktZGF0YS1kaXJlY3RzLXByb3ZpZGVycz8mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj1kaWdlc3QtMjAyMy0wOSZ1dG1fc291cmNlX3BsYXRmb3JtPWhlYWwiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTEzLjgyNTIxMzMxIn0.a6vpGO8EAi_S497PkvAKRyqNbjxydSZK-SqInk3g3wc/s/566975185/br/225786497416-l)

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| Access to real-time data helps treatment providers and harm reduction organizations identify overdose hotspots. HEAL-funded researchers created a dashboard that collects and displays data from medical examiners, first responders, safety net hospitals, and syringe services programs to identify these hotspots. Hear more from [Dr. Chelsea Shover in this video](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vaGVhbC5uaWguZ292L25ld3Mvc3Rvcmllcy90aW1lbHktZGF0YS1kaXJlY3RzLXByb3ZpZGVycz8mdXRtX3NvdXJjZT1lbWFpbCZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9jYW1wYWlnbj1kaWdlc3QtMjAyMy0wOSZ1dG1fc291cmNlX3BsYXRmb3JtPWhlYWwiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTEzLjgyNTIxMzMxIn0.RHxoQx9R2tOMres9pETuMQfVKlZH4Cr5WpuQyZyukJI/s/566975185/br/225786497416-l). |

**Innovative projects answer NIDA’s challenge to implement substance use prevention in primary care**

**Dr. Nora Volkow, August 22, 2023, National Institute on Drug Abuse**

[Innovative projects answer NIDA’s challenge to implement substance use prevention in primary care | National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) (nih.gov)](https://nida.nih.gov/about-nida/noras-blog/2023/08/innovative-projects-answer-nidas-challenge-to-implement-substance-use-prevention-in-primary-care)

**What You Can Do to Protect Youth From the Harms of Vaping**

Centers for Disease Control

[What You Can Do to Protect Youth From the Harms of Vaping (cdc.gov)](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/features/back-to-school/index.html?s_cid=OSH_email_E554&ACSTrackingID=DM112888-USCDC_957&ACSTrackingLabel=New%20CDC%20Feature%20Article%3A%20E-cigarettes%20and%20Youth&deliveryName=DM112888-USCDC_957)

**The National Council for Mental Well Being:**

[Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution Program Design Informed By People Who Use Drugs and Naloxone Distributors](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdfd-lgeUJaYpE1MhNnJTWhc4LBkmQXgYHtFX4nHed_2_ZW9SgRKoskTVguHmnsxZWjFPOt8=) (Preventive Medicine Reports): This report gives the perspectives of people who use drugs (PWUD) and community naloxone distributors on opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution (OEND) program design. They report that PWUD and community naloxone distributors support *peer-led* community naloxone distribution that prioritized novel ways for PWUD to access naloxone.

**TIP: Planning a community drug take-back event? Advertise taking back vape cartridges**

**THANKS Jessica Zucchino!**

**National Council for Mental Wellbeing** [**Communications@TheNationalCouncil.org**](mailto:Communications@TheNationalCouncil.org)

[Supporting People Who Use Methamphetamine](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdfd-l7GBgS324kx4w8fyo7IIh3JBPB_3_116wS7DLKyMw4OLXvh5ImdHnDG-FRzBHFHr0yo=) (Homeless and Housing Resource Center): This free, self-paced virtual course describes three drivers of methamphetamine use. Course participants will learn about the important role of harm reduction strategies in working with individuals who use methamphetamine, explore two practices that reduce risks associated with methamphetamine use and learn to understand and apply strategies to support people who use methamphetamine with housing entry and the maintenance of stable housing.

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| Partnering with Schools to Improve Youth Mental Health: A Route for Community Mental Health and Substance Use Care Organizations | **Partnering with Schools to Improve Youth Mental Health**  To help health provider organizations build successful partnerships with schools and school-based health centers, the CoE-IHS and School-Based Health Alliance developed [Partnering with Schools to Improve Youth Mental Health: A Resource for Community Mental Health and Substance Use Care Organizations](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOLeEb50KTaMZfvaB1qJYCSM1GIU-GsQ_QZJkA3U_yG7J0m1Mfk5rCgt5xVLVBHJllwtHGb5g=). Download the guide to learn how your organization can create and expand partnerships with schools to address our nation’s youth mental health crisis. |
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**Collegiate Recovery Programs Best Practice Guide**

**THANKS Jarmichael Harris!**

[**https://collegiaterecovery.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Collegiate-Recovery-Best-Practice-Guide.pdf**](https://collegiaterecovery.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Collegiate-Recovery-Best-Practice-Guide.pdf)

**PROFESSIONALLY DELIVERED “PEER NETWORK COUNSELING” AS A BRIEF INTERVENTION FOR YOUTH: BEST FOR THOSE WITH HIGHEST SUBSTANCE USE**

[Professionally delivered “peer network counseling” as a brief intervention for youth: Best for those with highest substance use – Recovery Research Institute (recoveryanswers.org)](https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/professionally-delivered-peer-network-counseling-brief-intervention-youth-heavy-substance-use/)

Intervening with youth who have started to experiment with alcohol or other drugs is often key to stopping escalations in use and harms. Brief interventions may be a cost-efficient approach, but there is a gap in understanding who responds best to such approaches. This study examined a brief, socially-based intervention, Peer Network Counseling, to answer these questions.

IDENTIFYING HELPFUL TEXT MESSAGE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE ALCOHOL USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS

[Identifying helpful text message strategies to reduce alcohol use among young adults – Recovery Research Institute (recoveryanswers.org)](https://www.recoveryanswers.org/research-post/identifying-helpful-texting-strategies-reduce-alcohol-use-young-adults/)

**Community Coalition Capacity-Building and Sustainability Practices**

***“Be There” Media Toolkit***

We are thrilled to bring you the “Be There” Media Toolkit.  These materials are designed for use with your local media outlets and can be tailored to the specific needs of your community.    
  
We understand that the demands of your roles often leave limited time for media-related communication tasks. This toolkit was designed as a resource to support your communication activities.    
  
The materials can be used comprehensively or only those pieces you need. Feel free to add your organization’s logo and branding information.    
  
Step-by-step instructions have been provided for each media platform.  
  
**What's Inside?**

* Key Messages & Talking Points
* News Release Template
* Newsletter Blurbs
* Public Service Announcements
* Media Resources & Guidelines (Radio, TV, web, poster, billboard)
* Social Media Outreach: Best Practices & Image Sets
* Media Terminology

**Accessing the Media Toolkit is simple:**  
  
1. Access the [**Anti-Stigma Media Toolkit on Dropbox**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=484bd69eb0&e=aa48d4f836).  
2. Download the entire Media Toolkit or only the pieces you need.  
3. Have fun tailoring your messages!  
   
Have questions or need assistance? The RCORP-TA communications team is available to help! Contact us via email at [**rcorp-media@jbsinternational.com**](mailto:rcorp-media@jbsinternational.com?subject=Be%20There%20Media%20Toolkit).   
  
We can't wait to see the amazing projects you create! Share your creations with us on social media using **#BeThereRCORP**  
   
Thank you for being a valued partner!  
  
Sincerely, The RCORP-TA Team

**SUPPORT, EXPERTISE AID NC’S OPIOID RESPONSE**

Carolina faculty are designing safer pain relievers, providing better treatment and helping communities develop action plans.  
  
By Scott Jared, University Communications

[Support, expertise aid NC’s opioid response | UNC-Chapel Hill](https://www.unc.edu/story/support-expertise-aid-ncs-opioid-response/?utm_source=The+ncIMPACT+Initiative+-+UNC+School+of+Government&utm_campaign=ddd584a193-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_01_11_03_19_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-020026d7e9-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

[New Guides Available to Help Communities Respond to the Opioid Overdose Crisis](https://samhsa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0780dc94825e65acd61c17dc&id=b4b43e4d1d&e=adf6b0a176)

Today, SAMHSA released, in collaboration with RTI International, is releasing two important resources intended to aid community practitioners in the ongoing work to end the overdose crisis. “Engaging Community Coalitions to Decrease Opioid Overdose Deaths” and "Opioid-Overdose Reduction Continuum of Care Approach (ORCCA)” are available for [free](https://samhsa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0780dc94825e65acd61c17dc&id=09d94515b6&e=adf6b0a176) online. These products will equip public health practitioners, coalitions, nonprofits, and other groups working to prevent opioid-related death in their local communities with knowledge and best practices.

“Engaging Community Coalitions to Decrease Opioid Overdose Deaths” provides guidance on building and maintaining community coalitions that focus on the opioid crisis, as well as approaches for assessing how well coalitions are functioning.

WHAT IS IN THIS GUIDE? This guide consists of six sections.

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | 1. Guide Overview Section 1 briefly describes the purpose of this guide, including who it is for and how it was developed. 2. Community Engagement Fundamentals 2. Section 2 defnes community engagement and its principles, describes how coalition building is a key element of community engagement, and provides a brief overview of how coalitions were central to the CTH intervention. 3. Building a Community Coalition Section 3 provides guidance on defining your community, conducting a community assessment, identifying potential coalition members, and assessing coalition representativeness. 4. Maintaining and Strengthening a Community Coalition Section 4 reviews the importance of providing bidirectional training opportunities, the importance of developing goals and a shared vision for the coalition, and how to improve coalition efficiency. 5. Assessing Community Engagement and Coalition Functioning Section 5 provides guidance on how to measure the quality and implementation of community engagement activities and insights on how to improve community engagement within an existing coalition. 6. Appendices include tools that can be used to support coalition building and maintenance, biographies of the technical expert panel, and additional information on the HCS study and guide development.   The “ORCCA Practice Guide” includes evidence-based strategies for reducing opioid overdose deaths. The strategies include: opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution, medication for treatment of opioid use disorder, and safer opioid prescribing and disposal.  SAMHSA commissioned RTI International to develop the guides in collaboration with a technical expert panel. The guides are based on insights and tools from the ongoing National Institutes of Health (NIH) HEALing Communities Study.  The [HEALing Communities Study](https://samhsa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0780dc94825e65acd61c17dc&id=9d8c3720a4&e=adf6b0a176) was launched in 2019 by the NIH and SAMHSA. The multi-site implementation research study is designed to test the impact of an integrated set of evidence-based practices across healthcare, behavioral health, justice, and other community-based settings. The study aims to prevent and treat opioid use disorder and reduce opioid-related overdose deaths in 67 communities across four states: Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. | | |

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| |  | | --- | | [**Read the Guides**](https://samhsa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0780dc94825e65acd61c17dc&id=8b9eddfd81&e=adf6b0a176) | |

[Recovery-to-Work Ecosystem Builders Guide](https://www.appalachiandevelopment.org/rtwguide/)

[Recovery-to-Work Ecosystem Builders Guide - DDAA: Development District Association of Appalachia (appalachiandevelopment.org)](https://www.appalachiandevelopment.org/rtwguide/)

**Welcome to the Recovery-to-Work Ecosystem Builders Guide**, the go-to place for organizations and regions that are working to connect people who are in recovery to successful careers. Using navigation to the side and below, you will find resources, activities, case studies, and community spotlights to support your efforts.

**You might be** a local economic developer who sees the connection between the health of your economy and the health of your community members. You might be a workforce development professional who knows that finding jobs for people in recovery requires coordination between a whole host of service providers. You might be a community or behavioral health specialist who wants to help people find jobs but you’re new to working directly with businesses in your community.

**Whoever you are,**you are not alone in the recovery to work ecosystem in your region**.** Many other individuals and organizations care deeply about reversing the harmful spiral that addiction poses to individuals, families and employers alike. They know that connecting people in recovery to successful careers is one of the best way to sustain their recovery.

**The Challenge:** Even when there are individuals and organizations that are focused on helping people in recovery get back to work, much of the work in any given community is done in silos.

**How This Guide Can Help:**Over the past several years, the Development District of Appalachia has been working with regions to break down those silos and to build recovery ecosystems. This Ecosystem Builders Guide captures the lessons learned from that work, including specific tactics, resources, and case studies.

**How to Use the Guide:**The guide is designed to walk a community through a self-driven process to start or expand regional ecosystem work. There are five phases with practical resources, activities, case studies, and community spotlights. Using the navigation to the side or below, communities can choose their own adventure: starting at the beginning and moving through each phase sequentially or jumping directly to a “just in time” resource or case study.

You may start using this guide as an individual organization, but you can build a team in your region around a shared vision for recovery.

**DIGITAL HEALTH, AI**

DEA, HHS Extend Telemedicine Flexibilities Through 2024

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [today announced](https://p.feedblitz.com/t3/760692/152532616/13474556_/~feeds.feedblitz.com/~/t/0/0/psychiatricnewsalert/~https:/www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2023-22406/second-temporary-extension-of-covid-19-telemedicine-flexibilities-for-prescription-of-controlled) the extension of COVID-19 telemedicine flexibilities for prescription of controlled medications through December 31, 2024. These telemedicine flexibilities authorize qualified health professionals to prescribe schedule II-V controlled medications via audio-video telemedicine encounters, including III-V narcotic-controlled medications approved by the Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of opioid use disorder via audio-only telemedicine encounters.

**A mental healthcare treatment frontier: AI**

by [John Saunders](https://ctmirror.org/author/john-saunders/) forn Connecticutt Mirror, October 9, 2023

[Opinion: AI can help with mental health care — if we use it right (ctmirror.org)](https://ctmirror.org/2023/10/09/a-mental-healthcare-treatment-frontier-ai/?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20Daily%20Health%20Policy%20Report&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=277699991&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9GvmOjTWte-qNQIPGvPXhF629vRoBb7nyApUq28kwggQXtfva_ZPWcUZnkPvLX7X0HRFyqnYyRzBkVe-FKhj9ZM1GJOQ&utm_content=277699991&utm_source=hs_email)

**Treatment**

**Providing Better Treatment -- SUPPORT, EXPERTISE AID NC’S OPIOID RESPONSE**

[Support, expertise aid NC’s opioid response | UNC-Chapel Hill](https://www.unc.edu/story/support-expertise-aid-ncs-opioid-response/?utm_source=The+ncIMPACT+Initiative+-+UNC+School+of+Government&utm_campaign=ddd584a193-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_01_11_03_19_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-020026d7e9-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

Carolina faculty are designing safer pain relievers, providing better treatment and helping communities develop action plans.  
  
By Scott Jared, University Communications

Dr. Alex Gertner ’20 (Ph.D.), ’22 (MD), a resident in the UNC School of Medicine’s psychiatry department, [is seeking better ways to provide accessible and effective treatment](https://news.unchealthcare.org/2022/06/unc-researchers-examine-better-treatment-delivery-options-as-opioid-use-disorders-continue-to-increase/) for opioid use disorders and thereby save lives.



Dr. Alex Gertner

Gertner is collaborating with Carolina researchers such as Helen Newton, an assistant professor in the School of Medicine’s family medicine department, and other institutions to understand how differing approaches to opioid use disorder treatment affect patient outcomes.

In a soon-to-be published study led by the University of Pittsburgh, Gertner used national insurance data to identify treatment settings like primary care offices and specialized addiction centers, where patients had higher retention rates. Gertner will next try to determine why those places have higher retention rates. He will also look at electronic health records to describe the variation in clinical practices between physicians and clinics offering OUD treatment. That research may contribute to more detailed practice guidelines.

**NC Medicaid Division of Health Benefits**

[Policy Updates for Behavioral Health Providers](https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/blog/2023/09/26/policy-updates-behavioral-health-providers)

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

Clinical Coverage Policy 8A, Enhanced Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services and 8C, Outpatient Behavioral Health Services

**Emergency Department Visits for Substance Use Linked to Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders**

**APA Psychiatric News ALERT, Friday, September 29, 2023**

[Psych News Alert: Emergency Department Visits for Substance Use Linked to Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders](https://alert.psychnews.org/2023/09/emergency-department-visits-for.html)

Emergency department visits for substance use may be associated with an increased risk of developing a schizophrenia spectrum disorder, a [study](https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamapsychiatry/article-abstract/2809870) in *JAMA Psychiatry*has found. People who were seen in the emergency department for cannabis-induced psychosis had the highest risk of transitioning to a schizophrenia spectrum disorder within three years.

Daniel T. Myran, M.D., M.P.H., of the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute in Ontario and colleagues examined data from more than 9.8 million Ontaria residents aged 14 to 65 years between January 2008 and March 2022. Only those eligible for the province’s health coverage and without a history of a psychotic disorder were included.

Within three years, approximately 408,000 individuals had an emergency department visit for substance use; about 14,000 of the visits were for substance-induced psychosis. Compared with the general population, individuals with substance-induced psychosis had 163 times the risk of transitioning to a schizophrenia spectrum disorder. Individuals with an emergency department visit for substance use without psychosis had 9.8 times the risk of transitioning.

Other findings from the study include the following:

* Those seen for cannabis use and psychosis had 241.6 times the risk of transitioning to schizophrenia spectrum disorder compared with the general population.
* Those who did not have psychosis but were seen for amphetamine use, polysubstance use, and cannabis use had 28.4, 18.7, and 14.3 times the risk, respectively, of transitioning to a schizophrenia spectrum disorder compared with the general population.
* For all substance use visits, younger age and male sex were associated with a higher risk of transition to schizophrenia spectrum disorder compared with older age and female sex.

“Our findings … highlight the need for targeted secondary prevention providing early intervention and reducing substance use in the highest-risk groups, which may delay or prevent transition to schizophrenia spectrum disorders,” the researchers wrote. “Several prognostic factors, including cannabis use, younger age, and male sex, were associated with greater risk of transition, with clinical and policy implications.”

For related information, see *The American Journal of Psychiatry* article “[Transition From Substance-Induced Psychosis to Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorder or Bipolar Disorder](https://ajp.psychiatryonline.org/doi/10.1176/appi.ajp.22010076).”

**New Resources to Understand and Use Z-Codes. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Office of Minority Health (CMS OMH)** released this new infographic to assist providers with understanding Z codes as a tool to improve the quality and collection of health equity data. Z codes are the diagnosis codes that document Social Determinants of Health (SDOH), e.g., housing, food insecurity, transportation, etc. CMS OMH also created a Journey Map with step-bystep details on how healthcare professionals can use these codes to enhance quality improvement activities, track factors that influence people’s health, and provide further insight into existing health inequities. One participant in FORHP’s Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program (SHIP) has found collecting Z codes to be an important step to encouraging community healthiness.

Implementation of substance use screening in rural federally-qualified health center clinics identified high rates of unhealthy alcohol and cannabis use among adult primary care patients

* [Jennifer McNeely](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Jennifer-McNeely-Aff1), [Bethany McLeman](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Bethany-McLeman-Aff2), [Trip Gardner](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Trip-Gardner-Aff3), [Noah Nesin](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Noah-Nesin-Aff3), [Vijay Amarendran](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Vijay-Amarendran-Aff3), [Sarah Farkas](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Sarah-Farkas-Aff4), [Aimee Wahle](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Aimee-Wahle-Aff5), [Seth Pitts](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Seth-Pitts-Aff5), [Margaret Kline](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Margaret-Kline-Aff5), [Jacquie King](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Jacquie-King-Aff5), [Carmen Rosa](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Carmen-Rosa-Aff6), [Lisa Marsch](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Lisa-Marsch-Aff2),
* [John Rotrosen](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-John-Rotrosen-Aff4) & [Leah Hamilton](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#auth-Leah-Hamilton-Aff1-Aff7)

[*Addiction Science & Clinical Practice*](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/) volume 18, Article number: 56 (2023) [Cite this article](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y#citeas)

[Implementation of substance use screening in rural federally-qualified health center clinics identified high rates of unhealthy alcohol and cannabis use among adult primary care patients | Addiction Science & Clinical Practice | Full Text (biomedcentral.com)](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y)

* [Metricsdetails](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-023-00404-y/metrics)

Results

Screening was completed by 3749 patients, representing 93.4% of those with screening-eligible annual preventive care visits, and 18.5% of adult patients presenting for any type of primary care visit. Screening was self-administered in 92.9% of cases. The prevalence of moderate-high risk substance use detected on screening was 14.6% for tobacco, 30.4% for alcohol, 10.8% for cannabis, 0.3% for illicit drugs, and 0.6% for non-medical use of prescription drugs. Brief substance use counseling was documented for 17.4% of patients with any moderate-high risk alcohol or drug use.

Conclusions

Self-administered EHR-integrated screening was feasible to implement, and detected substantial alcohol, cannabis, and tobacco use in rural FQHC clinics. Counseling was documented for a minority of patients with moderate-high risk use, possibly indicating a need for better support of primary care providers in addressing substance use. There is potential to broaden the reach of screening by offering it at routine medical visits rather than restricting to annual preventive care visits, within these and other rural primary care clinics.

[New Tools Enable Non-clinicians to Diagnose Substance Use Disorders](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdfd-lwGUA7hbTRTVWMMSc8UkeLw47YAL007K7JlT6DOollLlqFfHW31chlh5qbNsHcEpMFQ=)

Yale School of Medicine: This article focuses on the use of the Rapid Opioid Use Disorder Assessment and Rapid Stimulant Use Disorder Assessment as two new screening tools that can be used by non-clinical individuals to diagnose substance use disorders. These assessment tools have been found to be reliable for use by non-clinical individuals.

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Drug experts are normalizing the idea that you can be "pre-addicted." Is that really a thing?  "I don't know if this is a helpful term": experts torn on a concept invented to help treat drug addiction  By [TROY FARAH](https://www.salon.com/writer/troy_farah)  Science & Health Editor, Salon, 10.3.23  [Drug experts are normalizing the idea that you can be "pre-addicted." Is that really a thing? | Salon.com](https://www.salon.com/2023/05/12/experts-are-normalizing-the-idea-that-you-can-be-pre-addicted-is-that-really-a-thing/)  Ongoing Stimulant Use Puts Recovery from Opioid Use Disorder At Risk  Authored by: Meg Brunner, MLIS  [Return to ASME](https://attcnetwork.org/asme)  Addiction Science Made Easy, October 2023, CTN Dissemination Library & Northwest ATTC  *EXCERPT:* What Did Researchers Find Out?  Based on the data, stimulant use after starting on MOUD appeared to substantially increase the risk of return to illicit opioid use: using stimulants on a given day was associated with a 9-fold increase in the risk of returning to opioid use that same day, with risk increasing as stimulant use continued.  Additionally, among participants who used non-prescribed opioids after starting treatment, those who were also using stimulants at least once a week were substantially more likely to relapse to ongoing illicit opioid use.  Though the risk of return to use was elevated for people using either type of MOUD, it was substantially higher for those taking BUP-NX compared to those taking XR-NTX for their OUD.  ASAM Criteria 4th Edition Trainings  Sign up for one of two upcoming *Virtual Training on The Evolution of The ASAM Criteria: What’s New in the Fourth Edition* open trainings.  The Fourth Edition of The ASAM Criteria builds on the past 30 years of The Criteria and provides an updated, streamlined, and pragmatic approach to assessment and treatment planning. These sessions will provide a consolidated overview, in addition to some of the “why” in relation to the major changes in terminology, levels of care, dimensions and assessment processes.  OPTION 1 November 13, 2023 10:30AM - 3:00PM EST Presented by Scott Boyles, Senior National Training Director |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Learn more and register](https://email.changecompanies.net/e3t/Ctc/ZV+113/d2sD4C04/VVLqCH5N5KS6W6Hm-Rs264qhqW2gkVcw53JHVJMLtlTb5kvg0W50kH_H6lZ3lyW6lDyDB7d3B72VkQ1rZ3cdSfRN36ryk9fvRhyW5gVM9_1_y1SVW5NbWqG4tkC72W3VdRVc2hjQJKW2QR5Cg5R4TR4N4DPcm23WjS-W91rp7d1DCbfPW68c5ZT4LCxHjN5ZFtrDXRffpW8DfNz-3hYTSJN1ks-pdxH9yTW4NP1d43-xYc8V75G6s7tFKdmW5yckyn89WTHlW2msJmR7YvjPHW7fNT_b6j03kyW2Q4Ghb321qw2W3ZMzxn4mzTC1N3Gf5x6-jwTKW4Ymh_v8nBtLKW7xkXRz6ng0hSVHM0MC7Wp_mYW6fl0wz2dJvC-N2jW5dTjkfg9W1t4Sgz5qq7yXN2R-HDpPr55RW6RmBrF3tn72MW3qZ6qn40rx3dW9fFQGX9h-9ycW6qbq6X8RkR3pf8gsWb404) | | | |

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| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | OPTION 2 December 14, 2023 10:30AM - 3:00PM EST Presented by Scott Boyles, Senior National Training Director |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [Learn more and register](https://email.changecompanies.net/e3t/Ctc/ZV+113/d2sD4C04/VVLqCH5N5KS6W6Hm-Rs264qhqW2gkVcw53JHVJMLtlTb5kvg0W50kH_H6lZ3nGN5y4n7c9f5MbW5SrQ7b7DBgBKW4L0yz28dTDVkW8lKLG91DhH3FW7KBgQg1v5kr7W8jrcnp7LxLNGW7ylD127KCLmsW4Snt6y1Q9mMpW5y6JXX4MDRt-Vlh1x65gS4JtW4ppkxz776P0WW318Y6j29W-HGW8Rf-k14GWDsRW3bLFt34nNc4WW2cV82F29pZ55W1jpk-v31bD-RW1wJv7N2NGgQqW11L2rx1DpBJJW3J2fgc74WXnqW5NnNS47CPn8jW54g6TP11xV84W8bzQ4R8Gdm-4W8qtRXr6d5gthW6x4m7879BbcXW3NMg7Q4pR7NFVXrSSw7mmDvjW7QWQjw108S8yW8s197Q3d7Gk2W8Hnmgc2jwZh-W6RD9xT6DqbKsV_mZ234hr8WbVk5KCW6XHQC_f6cC4zR04) | | | |

**Register - Advanced ASAM Criteria Workshop Fall 2023**

1. [Home](https://bhs.unc.edu/)
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Additionally, SUD clinical policies and licensure rules will be revised or created to meet The ASAM Criteria 2013 edition of the manual in support of the waiver. LME/MCO and Division of Health Services Regulation staff will require training in ASAM to provide their contract oversight and regulatory roles, respectively.  ADVANCED ASAM TARGET AUDIENCE**   1. **Behavioral health clinicians in North Carolina who are contracted with an LME/MCO or a Standard Plan to provide Comprehensive Clinical Assessment/Diagnostic Assessment.** 2. **LME/MCO staff who provide contract oversight** 3. **Staff from DMHDDSAS, DHB, DSOHF, DHSR, DPH, DSS who have related regulatory roles.**   **ADVANCED ASAM TRAINING DESCRIPTION If you are a practitioner who has attended an initial ASAM PPC training and want further information and support in applying that knowledge to client/patient cases - this is the workshop for you!  Spend a day discussing any areas of confusion or nuance from the original training and more practice applying your learned assessment skills to clinical cases.  If you are involved in Care Authorization, this is an opportunity to fine tune your skills in determining a response to requests for authorization for care for those clients/patients with SUD or Co-occurring Disorders.** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **ONE DAY TRAININGS:** | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Training Dates: October 26, 2023  December 12, 2023** | | |  | | --- | | **Registration Closing Date: October 23, 2023  December 8, 2023** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Time:** ASAM eTraining icon**8:30 am - 4:00 pm  ASAM Registration Fee: $150 Refunds will be issued up to 1 week before the training date. No refunds will be issued after that time.  Contact Hours: 6 All participants will receive a training materials that will be placed in their BHS account.** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Training Dates: November 6 & 7, 2023** | | |  | | --- | | **Registration Closing Date: October 20th** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Time: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm ASAM Registration Fee: $250 Refunds will be issued up to 2 weeks before the training date. No refunds will be issued after that time.  Contact Hours: 13 All participants will receive a training materials that will be placed in their BHS account.** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Presenter: Laurie Conaty** | |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Continuing Education Statements Full attendance is required to receive credit; no partial credit will be given.  NBCC: The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 6642. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Social Work is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs. The successful completion of this training qualifies for up to 13  contact hours.      This course has been submitted to the North Carolina Addiction Specialist Professional Practice Board for up to 13 SS EBT contact hours.  For more details about the training series please visit:** [**https://bhs.unc.edu/asam/dashboard**](https://bhs.unc.edu/asam/dashboard) **For questions, please email us at**[**bhs-support@unc.edu**](mailto:bhs-support@unc.edu?subject=ASAM%20Training)**or call 919-445-0990  Sponsorship: The ASAM trainings are sponsored by Behavioral Health Springboard. This training meets the training requirements as referenced in the LME-MCO Joint Communication Bulletin # J399.** | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **UNC School of Social Work Â— Behavioral Health Springboard           class=mcnImage align=middle><o:p></o:p></span></p>           </td>          </tr>         </table>         </td>        </tr>       </table>       </td>      </tr>      <tr style='mso-yfti-irow:3;mso-yfti-lastrow:yes'>       <td valign=top style='background:#122140;padding:0in 0in 0in 0in;       background:cover;-ms-text-size-adjust: 100%;-webkit-text-size-adjust: 100%;       background-size: cover;background-position-x:50%;background-position-y:       50%' id=templateFooter>       <table class=MsoNormalTable border=0 cellspacing=0 cellpadding=0        width=** | |  | | | | |

* [Ge](https://www.biomedcentral.com/getpublished)

[FDA calls for cocaine, meth addiction treatments | The Hill](https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/4240158-fda-calls-for-cocaine-meth-addiction-treatments/?utm_campaign=KHN%3A%20First%20Edition&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=277255275&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8NctNBMBzjAFyPASNRL1NOiC8rrtLzcr6gWRl4FOrOJf1npGs0RvZ5IB86tu1rcHWviqEvw1jN_PqafmDCOMAFxbIQ7w&utm_content=277255275&utm_source=hs_email)

[**Addiction Science & Clinical Practice**](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/) **-** [Featured Editorial](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-022-00290-w)

[Shifts at The Helm: gratitude, re-commitment to our work, and a call for addictions disparities research](https://ascpjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13722-022-00290-w)  
*Emily C. Williams & Jeffrey H. Samet, Editors-in-Chief*

The work of our ASCP community has never been more relevant. Though addiction is a consistent and ubiquitous threat to public health across cultures and societies globally, roughly over the same period as our journal was gaining momentum, substance use reached an all-time high. The field is ripe for new and innovative studies focused on understanding disparities and their structural origins; development of new and innovative clinical practices to address old and emerging challenges in addictions treatment; and rigorous evaluations of policies ushered in as a result of the global pandemic that has disproportionately influenced vulnerable and historically stigmatized populations.

**New AI tools are helping doctors screen for mental health conditions**

[Ryan Heath](https://www.axios.com/authors/rheath), author of [Axios AI+](https://www.axios.com/newsletters/axios-ai-plus)

[AI tools help doctors screen for mental health conditions in U.K., U.S. (axios.com)](https://www.axios.com/2023/09/18/ai-tools-screen-mental-health-conditions)

The health system in Britain is now deploying AI-powered mental health tools in large-scale clinical settings, while U.S. health insurance companies are trialing them.

**Why it matters:** AI may be able to help health systems address an overloadof patients in need of mental health care.

**Driving the news:**A diagnostic "e-triage" tool from [Limbic, a British AI startup](https://limbic.ai/), has screened more than 210,000 patients with a claimed 93% accuracy across the eight most common mental disorders, including depression, anxiety and PTSD, co-founder Ross Harper, a computational neuroscientist, told Axios.

* The U.K. National Health Service found that the Limbic Access chatbot arms its psychologists and psychiatrists with information to help them determine the severity and urgency of a potential patient's needs. Misdiagnosis is down — with [45% fewer treatment changes](https://limbic.ai/blog/class-ii-a).
* [Kintsugi](https://www.kintsugihealth.com/), an American startup that has raised more than $28 million from investors and the National Science Foundation, uses a different approach: its AI-powered voice analysis tool looks for signs of clinical depression and anxiety in short clips of speech.
* Some clinical call centers, telehealth apps and remote patient monitoring systems have already integrated the tool. In a recently published [case study](https://www.kintsugihealth.com/blog/large-payor-case-study) Kintsugi conducted with a large U.S. insurer, 4 in 5 patients consented to be screened using the tool — far exceeding a pre-study estimate that only 1 in 4 would consent.

**The big picture:** Treating mental health is notoriously both complicated and underfunded — general practitioners are only able to [correctly diagnose depression in around 50% of cases,](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19640579/) and the number of mental health professionals [cannot keep up with demand](https://www.axios.com/2023/07/15/therapy-mental-health-addiction-depression).

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | New HEAL Research Addresses Research Gaps  September 25, 2023  National Institutes of Health (NIH) [nih.ocpl@service.govdelivery.com](mailto:nih.ocpl@service.govdelivery.com)   |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Join in on the Conversation About***ARCR***on LinkedIn**  As a valued subscriber of *Alcohol Research: Current Reviews* (*ARCR*), we invite you to follow us on [LinkedIn](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vYml0Lmx5LzN5bUpVSDUiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwOTIwLjgyODcwNzQxIn0.f_CBCPjabsGWB4j521YMa1EuxO8VP3r7YiWlC_-Y31A/s/566975189/br/226276508309-l). As a hub for professionals in the field of alcohol research, our LinkedIn page is dedicated to knowledge-sharing, networking, and collaboration. By joining our LinkedIn community, you will:  **Gain Access to Exclusive Content:** Stay up to date on the latest *ARCR* publications and new programs set to debut soon.  **Stay Informed:** Gain new insights on alcohol research and related topics aimed to improve clinical outcomes and that, in turn, inform basic research.  **Network with Experts:** Connect with a diverse range of experts, scholars and practitioners from around the globe who are all committed to advancing alcohol research.  **Share Research with Your Colleagues:** Share *ARCR* reviews that span the field of alcohol research and discuss the implications of this research and future directions of study.  Join our community on LinkedIn today. | | | |

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**Scientists find common brain network for substance use disorders.**

October 3, 2023

**https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters**

**Recovery Support**

From NC DHHS, Division of MH/DD/SUS, 10.2.23:

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| |  | | --- | | **NC Certified Peer Support**  In the State of North Carolina there are currently 4633 Certified Peer Support Specialists with 4,547 of them residing within the state. The number of NC CPSS increased from 4,084 in 2022. Roughly 39% of these individuals are employed as CPSS and 23% are actively seeking employment as a CPSS.  UNC-BHS is offering several virtual and live webinar trainings. October 26 will be a training in Peer Support Ethics with Patty Schaeffer. Visit the BHS-UNC [website](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U4YfGWgVNsELFm1AC2Ii2T-dlLMCMwZ6kyZgdL7DrgQmYLV5M3ksZZL-GrK8pe-3BllPgQ5OtPAhEue-Bl8SBrNi6FCnHtIjXtePUSyXQFM9jpQNPSqGcouFMPAsJix2fA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) for more information.  The North Carolina Peer Support Workgroup is actively seeking candidates to join the Workgroup from the Eastern Region of the State. For more information, please visit the NC CPSS Workgroup [webpage](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U1t4oBfUdyIX9rbNt3WupFKLHC-0fSSmT4wqWkG1TkMBSHugAXEpoSI1uBQqmoHzIOWEubiyFM1PiKDNqNHxw5FwO1PrwzlR-RCkg4IH2U6E&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) or email at [pssregistry@unc.edu](mailto:pssregistry@unc.edu). | |

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| |  | | --- | | **Peer Support Certification Renewals/Trainings**  Remember to be on the lookout for your Peer Support Certification Renewal reminders. These are sent 60 days prior to your expiration dates. If your contact information has changed, please contact UNC BHS through the NCCPSS website. Please visit the [Peer Support Program](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTu8_7ArtCrhKkUUNiexgE2kcFMqpApB2Z44XB2QxAEWhGtCyPFi22dT8kkqNvk9u13uUzxeqia9mluVF3Ew_H7S__yK6EHGNBsu0NGVpDcm0e5hL6f3WGCQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) website for details on how to renew your certification.  The link below will take you to the 50-hour training to become a Certified Peer Support Specialist in North Carolina.  ﻿Please ensure that all 50-hour courses are NC Certified. Not all community college courses are NC Certified.   * [50-hour PSS Certification Training](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTu8eLHaxGZ2-kfxKDmnHs3giIAQULFJdHk6YZGQ3EH5nV76CX5LEkgFtM2tgm0KZWgVozBoIS6vJRhIgNkYWRsQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) * [20-hour additional training](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTAwO54VJBpzvl0hBRUfyx9vFIUaIc5sxdkRF1hcJnwDIGNEvOWezIsGfmAPpq-5jtozLcllnuR6yPhw8l37p0PCOW0ZOGxbeOnnIOpGw_kbWqHlA3DbEH7MJCNkpwv2zx&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==)   The only WRAP online training that will be accepted for CPSS certification must be completed through the Copeland Center Website. | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  | | --- | | **NCCPSS Job Opportunities**  Review up-to-date available [peer support jobs](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTPHJrk2fMJy5ch1YK5hnMWbhSsNZkvYCto_6aI7RlBkCwYy6EDcDvNTV_kN-BxP1gtQY6uK8uokRbSHUQRAdQAA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) across the state. This [list](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gTPHJrk2fMJy5ch1YK5hnMWbhSsNZkvYCto_6aI7RlBkCwYy6EDcDvNTV_kN-BxP1gtQY6uK8uokRbSHUQRAdQAA==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==) is updated regularly to assist CPSS in finding jobs in their area. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Certified Older Adult Peer Support Services**  ﻿There will be three (3) training classes in 2024. Enrollment for these classes will be re-opened in January 2024.  If you have attended a prior COAPS class and wish to receive the designation, please email a copy of your certificate and your CPSS certification information to [pssregistry@unc.edu](mailto:pssregistry@unc.edu).  For more information, please send your emails to [CE&E.Staff@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:CE&E.staff@dhhs.nc.gov). |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A black background with a black square  Description automatically generated with medium confidence | |  |  | | --- | | **Reporting Complaints or Ethical Violations**  Allegations or observation of unethical and/or illegal behavior of a CPSS may be reported at: [http://pss.unc.edu/contact-us](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001r2Jkk_sU_evFclLH3DkL2CAbBylXvEBBAOGJiULMz85HT-pMYW_9U5cciDxBF_gT9Qjxj0e_z9U5prMNsIIAo0pIOwb0UDG1tmSopWP866OWbk03uD_vUzrlQ7JTO_6v4scbX46HrjVZebA8MLwGSQ==&c=wBjLx6oEeF1aezwl8Tw9uPlado9_l5bscSogln0qLl3jZr2ZzoDlng==&ch=G7BmeWTX6_3bIWjx6nFca62x1PGs_VMd1t0KQnVgvxJIEAoMakXPjw==), or by calling 919-843-3018. | |

The National Council Mental Wellbeing Weekly Special Edition – Recognizing Recovery

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| **Access Recovery Resources**  To help you support recovery in your community, we compiled our resources into an [online directory](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FIrSF6e_uRwEJ12PCXNoELHpAFbE65ZgQkjshZc2vVvU35vhwcb69rW3LHNW-O323-M=) for easy access and future reference. Here’s a look at some of the items you’ll find:   * [Fostering Resilience and Recovery: A Change Package](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FH1y822mZkdc8cTJ2_4EUDk4cqrE-LXQkXJvhX4PYS8S_lgU7tQMQtXyICXi4j0VXoE=) * [Getting Candid: Framing the Conversation Around Youth Substance Use Prevention](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FE31ouBsYM3TJwlZzxyPTWtfJUe2yoM2tFyHLpGJ73UZP_n5OY5Xiia8_CU1a2uxZLQ=) * [Supporting Telehealth and Technology-assisted Services for People Who Use Drugs](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FAAxBuElIeNXKtJbkujn667qhuqz9K0SscA7h38S_5IWEbUT84kf9qPrq2HajimwJmM=) * [Overdose Prevention and Response in Community Corrections: An Environmental Scan](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FAzoAJISQFsY3Cs1InfD50PYjxlqI7VvlU9h9rXVNLo2_-nbhW7mHLph4Eytnq9IAuk=) * [Training and Educating Public Safety to Prevent Overdose Among BIPOC Communities](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FKb4iXSIUX1-ZTgG56wtGRNdORLItUpnD0dQoI_YwLgrLMKzliUm2SMymx0OjIo3iZg=) * [Addressing Opioid Use Disorder in Emergency Departments](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FIU9N6MgsqqIJghq-U8TranRk3lgUQIgXwZH-_v2QLr286LKHKkypCmYNtmY3codmzk=)   [**Recovery Research Institute Launches National Center on Youth Prevention, Treatment and Recovery**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlZTXS80wK8Kr3GfcCq8iCWiLdZc6_dAzbiVpZoynBuXh9qNfv-FMLsseunpm-D0yiGU=) The Recovery Research Institute’s new National Center on Youth Prevention, Treatment and Recovery advances research in the much-needed area of youth SUD treatment and recovery.  [**Let’s Hear It for Peers**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlFX-eUYW4fsE82Xo1q5It-5LGv-UarmUQlNJNSS2lzHKZYSoQ6TDQL2ux4lJGlN_I7I=) In a new blog, National Council President and CEO Chuck Ingoglia shares how research has shown that peer supports for people with substance use or mental health challenges contribute positively to treatment outcomes, reduce rates of recurrence of symptoms and improve wellbeing.  [**SAMHSA Releases New Data on Recovery from Substance Use and Mental Health Problems Among Adults in the United States**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlMOEScd6cG61IjCpXyeuorKdXLqM2BmTwq-jXuf6pRuDr6LRlXDmi7Jcr8GkOkUkULA=) Using 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health data, this report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) shows that 70 million adults aged 18 or older perceived they’ve experienced a substance use and/or mental health problem. The report also identifies the resilience that people in recovery develop as they reported few impacts on their mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic.   |  | | --- | | [**Overdose Risk Self-assessment: A Guide for Peer Specialists**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlHW_5i493-Q4ttPza-qwkbMLRwaIblbUpMCzUSFCIb-CQ-QCWPuOx9QVtLO42jaXm5k=) This tool from the National Council and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supports peer recovery support specialists (PRSS) who provide overdose prevention and linkage to care within justice settings as they engage in overdose risk reduction and safety planning.  [**New Report: State Principles for Financing Substance Use Care Treatment and Support Services**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlAmZXLzdbs5dEt_OQl4xDkhRERext362AUzsFy6nsK5o9z9K0ynS69xuCYeWIjtDw-w=) This report outlines 10 key financing principles to guide states in strengthening robust SUD treatment services. It details practical opportunities to advance each principle, including a review of barriers, adoption strategies, state examples and potential policy actions.  [**Updated: Getting Candid Cannabis Resource Center**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlZWGxDYap5p75TegmgJjBVCSmp0R2v-O1QMbOAvBQTHsjOEPhILnYxqNgY-t23yBBxs=) Youth-serving providers, parents and other trusted adults are critical sources of information for youth on cannabis. The more information adults have, the more helpful they can be to the youth in their lives. The Cannabis Resource Center was recently updated to reflect 2023 state-specific marijuana facts.  [**Faces and Voices of Recovery Announces New Digital App, RecoveryNet**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlAf1SevO4sD1kZRE6pH5gUOYKMAPpSd3QYIrJ-zHtKr77oJlb7kn1en725xKIbrPFag=) The new RecoveryNet app – available on Apple and Android devices – was made possible by a $650,000 grant from Elevance Health Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Elevance Health. Designed for PRSS, the app will help facilitate connections and resource exchanges with others in the field from across the country.  [**Engaging Community Coalitions to Decrease Opioid Overdose Deaths Practice Guide**](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdjBFlBvo6y6MakccOokfFFaiG_tncHj2LkmTp_I8_adEsOgbItbgMte64V4Trv2EMLMmSjc=) This guide was developed for the SAMHSA Technology Transfer Centers program and other providers of technical assistance as a resource for individuals working to end the opioid crisis. |   *Want to stay informed of new publications, toolkits and change packages from the National Council?* [*Subscribe to our newsletters*](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOWFt8FN6OeKmOi1r8hWJKG1c8bYkqp2e8zDmFWCzT3Awi2a_e50oaBDW7b9oOre6emjfv7ao=) *to get the latest resources when they’re ready.* |
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| **All About Recovery Explainer Series**  Are you looking for a resource to effectively and succinctly share information about common recovery support services? This new series may help you and others. The short, animated explainer videos were developed by the **Recovery Research Institute of Massachusetts General Hospital** in partnership with *ORN.* It covers Mutual-Help Organizations, Education-Based Recovery Support Services, Recovery Coaches, Recovery Residences and Recovery Community Centers. [**Watch here.**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001eo2Jrcblo0Cys8Q01QKW6m3u5jaqEeWo5mLdCYQ40JZHt-2LRIR_KDvTp8pRVWKw-EEoovZ55yywNpZv0j2X--MvZ2nR0VczdX7K27P4DoPDQ_RBiiWsVKMQnAYbRr4fewHhWGtkKAsWXksGvEjFrMSN01-NhsmzJMbsLtIkfQbXwBtuyhL37kWuZoRLaBpBno1wqEQyPSOO_Nb3ryrWpQ==&c=ZT8h85U-DqT4sLtU154yihO0FtaKnDlGPPB9njXVxIhj-xbM9Rcd_Q==&ch=IKy2LJIuP8YC4ewRXVpzKn8RXRXpM9v7TQtToksDIjVfZ68JFZ77Pw==)  *People benefit from recovery support across the continuum of care. For free consultation, training or educational materials,* [***reach out to ORN***](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001eo2Jrcblo0Cys8Q01QKW6m3u5jaqEeWo5mLdCYQ40JZHt-2LRIR_KAyAv2SOQWGbuJzuto8yks9mDd7g_FokcTrHdOxZjs-1U7QG0y1Uvx3klqTGyZoC8ifSt-WEF4Jy1lM96kEtmdF3639q9Q9M7JU71fdmRAcS&c=ZT8h85U-DqT4sLtU154yihO0FtaKnDlGPPB9njXVxIhj-xbM9Rcd_Q==&ch=IKy2LJIuP8YC4ewRXVpzKn8RXRXpM9v7TQtToksDIjVfZ68JFZ77Pw==) *using the Submit a Request form and share your needs, or goals.* |

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**Grant Opportunities**

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| [**A Simple Guide: Behavioral Health Grants**](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/tracking.psychcongress.com/?ref=fl8AACd9hE-siPEGzifn2DGkthl2AGUkAQAAAPmh8RPWx6hYsgedy4x6QhrmoVQaOfGIAK8W-ytV2UAIsInVXq0eUw5z8V3M39lYwsLH98iimiLp1C5j3VjTWo2X1SeDMopsygfhygiLOfOTLSmbic58c7-RMJfczocd8vJRXrnxuQZJqL5TghG5-wFqHY5LMRrvQ5Y5Bg87oY4xxEG521IkGin8OslV4gfasEfIBFhLgVdAFKhWfggG_fxt8cNH4FZDQuoUOV5-0tBRPuFaMh-ZjuEGrNLoc8b9srCshUZBIasRuriUXuXlnPrsdjo3eyMVgmq1KO_L9nhm-XJBUAOrlR-q5Q6jOmkQsI4GbGhLrUmpC7fke1FW7zX2FmB5_eFk4UHgA7obMujLLNy8clY7IoEnfI-xqRXFWlG2NauH-CwmdxyFkqR4oZREj7dzepUbw5EUduF5WW3vibmgBjqXe7mK5_K7aDhPifYGiUdMwJTZuhMeD6h8alOiKCjKn8Rems0S4OHz_eqvmnGaMOlUkkJrhCt9Ndf6pykgK1XVYivqIZ82KuWXbpGVlbvils3tlvNfckycQMMQP9laXWPw0qze5qC9CRV6MZyb3AvCjQ_S442J-uoFIHmS8UdzsqScucu2FP-zOQFo_uqSjmSUzbB9doySqDeRZ4d1_DcY6UzgsuFJGX8NpKPrInBBbfzDcHwvOU3inTrrVTejuhChv7UAAoAHdErOZh1ijX9R_otvGs4przjt-287G4WzF3S9jgewoGiPAoRkSyMoS3Da_xjJiNTb_DhfeYQ4M8MK1wzRwoEuQJ7qwzc__;!!HYmSToo!N0IbWlMsTsE3MGfkkDhT37cj56o0WHVSjS6gGbEj2LGnSEPdb-x7dBDCS1luE42iorlc0A$) |

**Subscribe to SUD grant notifications at grants.gov**

**Also check HRSA grant opps at**

**hrsa.gov/grants/find-funding?status=Open&bureau=All&page=1**

HRSA has a lot of resources to help grantees. Check out their technical assistance resources at [www.hrsa/grants/apply](http://www.hrsa/grants/apply)

**Local data resources at data.hrsa.gov to get HRSA Fact Sheets by county/state/national**

**The Rural Health Information Hub (RHIhub)** offers free tailored searches of funding sources for your project through their foundation directory service. Contact them at info@ruralhealthinfo.org or call 1-800-270-1898.

**See funding opportunities by topic at** [**https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/funding/topics**](https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/funding/topics)

**Also review the HRSA SF-424 Application Guide**

**NOTE: Ensure that your SAM.gov and Grants.gov passwords are up to date – HRSA advises that it might take a month to update them**

**Please regularly check the following NC DHHS website:**

[**https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/grant-opportunities/mental-health-developmental-disabilities-and-substance-abuse-services-grant-opportunities**](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/about/grant-opportunities/mental-health-developmental-disabilities-and-substance-abuse-services-grant-opportunities)

**Golden LEAF Foundation – Open Grants Program:** <https://www.goldenleaf.org/grant-seekers/open-grants-program/>

**Applying for Grants to Support Rural Health Projects**

[**https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/grantwriting**](https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/topics/grantwriting)

The purpose of a grant proposal isn't just to request funding. Successful grant applications should be thought of as one of the first steps to building sustainable, long-term programs that will increase the health of rural communities. This guide can serve as a starting point for those who need assistance to begin the grant writing process. It will cover tips on searching for rural-specific funding, grant proposal preparation, building successful funding relationships, and planning for program sustainability.

**The**[**Rural Philanthropy Toolkit**](https://www.ruralhealthinfo.org/toolkits/philanthropy) provides a wealth of information about philanthropy and how foundations and rural communities are working together to build capacity, support economic development, increase access to healthcare, and provide much needed wrap-around services.

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| |  | | --- | |  |   **The Cannon Foundation (Application Deadline: Rolling)**  The Cannon Foundation was established in 1943 by Charles A. Cannon, President and CEO of Cannon Mills Company.  The Foundation continues his philanthropic legacy by funding capital and equipment projects for organizations across Mr. Cannon’s home state of North Carolina. Areas of focus include healthcare, higher education, human services, and community. Nonprofit hospitals serving rural areas, hospices, federally qualified health centers and free clinics can be considered. Organizations serving special needs populations as well as mental health and substance use disorders in North Carolina can also be considered.  Projects can range from medical equipment to construction or renovation of buildings or building infrastructure  **The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Inc (Application Deadline: Rolling)**  The focus of The Christopher D. Smithers Foundation, Inc. is prevention, treatment and education about alcohol use disorder and other substance use disorders. The Smithers Foundation, Inc. concentrates its efforts on educating the public that alcohol use disorder and opioid use disorder are respectable, treatable medical illness from which people can and do recover; encouraging prevention programs and activities, with an emphasis on high risk populations; and continually fighting to reduce and eliminate the stigma that is associated with the medical illness of addiction. LEARN MORE |

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| **Continuous:**   * + [**United South and Eastern Tribes Inc. Tribal Health Program Support**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=702c081209&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**USDA SEARCH—Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities and Households**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=08615c6299&e=aa48d4f836) (for water/waste projects)   + [**Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=6bcf954c70&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Tribal Grant-Writing Training**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=b6d7909010&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Direct Assistance—Assigning CDC Staff to State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Health Agencies**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=e897d19988&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**How To Receive Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Training—DATA 2000 Waiver**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=7e18bd5612&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=d74d3ad669&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Single-Family Housing Direct Home Loans**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=5fd96b8126&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Delta Region Community Health Systems Development Program**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=3892fa2806&e=aa48d4f836)   + [**Health Services Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities**](https://jbsinternational.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=57aec950d0fa15a1027f6b2dc&id=d4b90936df&e=aa48d4f836)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **RCORP – TA**  **Funding Opportunities**  [Funding Opportunities | RCORPTA (rcorp-ta.org)](https://www.rcorp-ta.org/resources/funding-opportunities?utm_source=email&utm_medium=weekly+update&utm_campaign=08282023)  [**Grants.gov**](https://www.grants.gov/).   |  | | --- | |  | | **Join us to be part of our anti-stigma initiative**  **The Addiction Policy Forum’s Anti-Stigma Initiative aims to test and deploy new anti-stigma interventions and resources for communities. The new initiative is designed to:**  **​**   * Reduce addiction stigma, including stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination intent, * Increase knowledge about addiction, * Improve helping behaviors towards individuals with a substance use disorder, and * Identify levels of addiction stigma in a community to establish a baseline indicator.     Addiction is one of the most stigmatized health conditions on earth and prevents people who are struggling from reaching out for help and isolates families affected by the disease who fear being judged by their communities.    Twelve communities will be selected in 2023 to serve as anti-stigma pilot sites at no cost to the agency/jurisdiction. Year one of the project will include a pilot test of new anti-stigma interventions and deployment of a stigma survey.    Who Should Apply?  ​   * States, Counties, Cities, Tribes * Community-Based Organizations * Treatment Providers * Criminal Justice Agencies * Employers * Schools, Colleges, University * Hospitals, Health Care Providers * Faith-Based Organizations * Professional Associations * Other Community Organizations   ​  Requirements    Any city, county, tribe, agency or organization in the U.S. can apply to become a pilot site for the anti-stigma initiative at no cost. Each applicant is required to test one of two stigma interventions with not less than 50 participants (delivery can be virtual or in-person). Pilot sites will also be asked to disseminate a stigma survey and collect responses from 50 individuals and assign a staff member to support the delivery and completion of projects within the nine months timeline.    Take part in the anti-stigma initiative and help your organization or community deconstruct the stigma around substance use disorders.    [​](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GskTPgheaxMlo3MtVxuwAzOqccBQIEY_arhlQpyZ6bk/edit)   About Stigma  Recent research shows that more than 80% of Americans are unwilling to associate with friends, co-workers, or neighbors suffering from a substance use disorder. Stigma also leads to discrimination in a variety of settings, including health care, criminal justice, employment, child custody, and housing, and creates barriers to accessing evidence-informed treatment and harm reduction services. The public and many professionals continue to view SUDs as a moral failing, which reinforces discriminatory policies and practices and further isolates and deters those struggling from seeking help. | |   **Appalachian Community Fund provides resources and support to grassroots groups and community-based organizations working for social, economic, racial and environmental justice in Central Appalachia.**  [Appalachian Community Fund | Change, Not Charity](https://appalachiancommunityfund.org/)  The Housing Assistance Council (HAC) is a certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) focused on improving housing and living standards for rural low- and very low-income households and supporting development of new affordable housing in rural America.  HAC’s revolving loan fund provides vital capital to rural housing developers of all types: community-based, nonprofit organizations, housing development corporations, for-profit developers, self- help housing sponsors, farm worker organizations, cooperatives, land trusts, Indian tribes, public agencies and units of local government. HAC works with experienced housing developers and new developers embarking on their first housing development.  HAC’s loan funds support creation of subdivisions and new single- or multi-family housing units, preservation and rehabilitation of existing affordable housing including USDA RD Section 515 and 514 units, HUD-subsidized housing and naturally occurring affordable housing.  HAC funds are currently available to non-profit organizations and public entities as low as 4.75% interest (higher rates may apply to for-profit borrowers);  [About the Loan Fund - Housing Assistance Council (ruralhome.org)](https://ruralhome.org/our-work/lending/about-lf/)   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | New Grant Opportunity for Faith Communities | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A close-up of a dictionary  Description automatically generated | | |  | | --- | | Grants for Overdose Response Work | | Partners in Health and Wholeness is delighted to offer mini-grants to North Carolina faith communities interested in working around the overdose crisis. We are accepting applications now through November 30!  The first step to applying for a mini-grant is to join [The PHW Collaborative](https://ncchurches.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/mailing/url?u=16944&qid=5371274). The Collaborative is open to any faith community in North Carolina who worships together regularly in a physical location.  Already a member of The Collaborative? [Email us](https://ncchurches.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/mailing/url?u=16945&qid=5371274) for a link to the grant application form. | | |  | | --- | | [Join The PHW Collaborative](https://ncchurches.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/mailing/url?u=16944&qid=5371274) | | | | | | | | |  | | --- | | New Grant Opportunities for Mental Health First Aid | | |  | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced several funding opportunities, totaling almost $50 million, with fast-approaching deadlines. These opportunities will help eligible organizations expand Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) to more schools, first responders, veterans and other communities, ensuring more people have the tools they need to offer support when someone is experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. [Learn more](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGK0jlNfifcTUin_Sz9pORJpu7trJ6AQoVz7LQKq_WyWDVigycasbksd6HTg0nf77XBVmnYEz8=) about the grants and who can apply. | |  | |   **DOGWOOD TRUST NEW GRANTMAKING PROCESS**  Dogwood Trust is building dynamic community relationships and developing a shared understanding of how it can support partners advancing the goal of a healthier Western North Carolina. They are pleased to announce a new grantmaking schedule and process for 2023. Grants within their Housing, Education, Economic Opportunity, and Health & Wellness strategic priority areas will be awarded in two grant cycles during the year. Other areas of funding, including Racial Equity and the Leverage Fund, will continue on a rolling basis. [Learn more.](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001dAhwTDyTTuDLzQSA9UphgFcDWVpajZ5veBmiuaD8qLaFZHcdietZz-wmFle2kQFIF2QqXcM_Xqx1dcO3G1-1xhQvIzmmPHiqkJbfELvaqPvr-pisbW5oZAzyvCjt_8vkzLo9FegsGPfZCmoLvxz9m7b8l0FLlxNQLqJcoXj697-tao1iHVyhmieLmjqyR3ZMJ06MpN8seiAC5rnD-6xg-IZbeyZ-eRrsK6uDSr7DyLj7k-dfordoG02KEVRj6U7F9oeLuBy2rGhjk9TP-D939nS_tcoOqdce8HO0q4GPcNRznBiDNTXj1DtWQISW3gMapLs6nNypUafREMHLCC3pZQh7F3os-Oy02hmWc_zzYIfzn6FwpYmMdn8r1yTAwZy9CsseSo90edWIVNKqkwAJ7w==&c=KXK9QKMvF3ivIJhNcs0xVxlWZKOkajJa-IEBr7wyrLN1Wo7h3-Gr7A==&ch=zyWmEe6miYfNxXdQ3vuoslMp-NrB6gPU__J2MCTkUE8zD52QBHFulQ==__;!!HYmSToo!YVpVOFwzUCA0O2Oei9y7nfLR-Cl9hEycCqneBZ_leFOjtIegwuvzTB60H9iACeTcomtbYN8wkHv_13E3zx5Mqd13KmfxMk9PT30$)  Dogwood Leverage Fund The Leverage Fund gives WNC nonprofits and government agencies a leg up in the application process with federal and state funders and national foundations. Through the Leverage Fund, Dogwood Health Trust underwrites the services of professional, experienced grant writers to help individual organizations or collaboratives pursue funding from national and state sources.  We are pleased to share our most recently curated list of [funding opportunities](https://dogwoodhealthtrust.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3eb84bfd5788c17e64165acc8&id=6a2b8698d5&e=2a31e9223e) that may be a fit for your organization. We encourage you to look through the list and search for grant options that potentially would align with the work you're doing now, your mission *and* the Leverage Fund. Please keep in mind that this list is by no means exhaustive. We continue to advise that you conduct your own internet searches based on your organization's focus areas and programs, but we hope this helps. To learn more, simply send us an email at [leveragefund@dht.org](mailto:leveragefund@dht.org).  Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) Training and Mentoring Training to provide medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) for clinicians in high-need communities. Clinicians who complete the training may be priority applicants for some NHSC loan repayment programs, and qualified disciplines can become eligible for the Loan Repayment Program Continuation Contract MOUD Award Enhancement. Geographic coverage: Nationwide and U.S. territories Applications accepted on an ongoing basis Sponsors: Bureau of Health Workforce, Health Resources and Services Administration, National Health Service Corps, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  **USDA Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program** Direct USDA loans and/or grants to purchase, construct, enlarge, or improve essential community facilities for healthcare, public safety, education, and public services in rural areas. Geographic coverage: Nationwide Applications accepted on an ongoing basis Sponsors: U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA Rural Development   |  | | --- | |  | |

**Legislative Initiatives, Current Bills**

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| Sign-up for Advocacy Alerts! Are you interested in advocating for policies that expand access to mental health and substance use treatment services? [Sign up for National Council advocacy alerts](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGJ__1LS83ZZguz5Ur41qTDRZcRpplv71b3TVjhNaikkwRShOzzt6U1kqCJGHB9W9pBj8V_8Sk=__;!!HYmSToo!duYREBPEi3qIqwIW0bQUiorFmC-l7_Ru5sJiJUhcvscUMJ3aFTY1wXvZn2ZlcMOyDFXFnFfDHI1YJdGOoyoyFUnmf09K85mUjQMUbWUK$) and become part of an engaged network of advocates advancing policy on the federal and state levels. [Learn more](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGJ__1LSwkoRrOJZZ5Rb8sKseP3wuiXAhaX_VGE7978KJmLo9TXKQ7CIizq4UaLXGcgAc6yY-E=__;!!HYmSToo!duYREBPEi3qIqwIW0bQUiorFmC-l7_Ru5sJiJUhcvscUMJ3aFTY1wXvZn2ZlcMOyDFXFnFfDHI1YJdGOoyoyFUnmf09K85mUjVnw4lJe$) about our current advocacy efforts here and follow us on Twitter at [@NationalCouncil](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGJ__1LS5EAcvzF1kAGaPiGk1MsTJcMYOMs2usUkeUBYuJ-K6GJDLY3t4xssv6K7MzV6ItJyhw=__;!!HYmSToo!duYREBPEi3qIqwIW0bQUiorFmC-l7_Ru5sJiJUhcvscUMJ3aFTY1wXvZn2ZlcMOyDFXFnFfDHI1YJdGOoyoyFUnmf09K85mUjT2tGHQ6$). |
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Legislative Analysis And Public Policy Association (LAPPA)

<https://legislativeanalysis.org/model-expanded-access-to-emergency-opioid-antagonists-act/>

**State Legislator Info Now Available on NCLeg.gov**  
  
Health centers can now find information about their state legislators-elect for the 2023-2024 session on the North Carolina General Assembly’s website, [www.ncleg.gov](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/ncchca.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=97c63652432531784025d5f82&id=74c9b9d389&e=32b2ccbbb7__;!!HYmSToo!ZImbDH2eUMnbhC7KbChqx1F3ZqbVZhKreGTpMljwKxjRoHRlFpGIfiFJsEuydzQ87XkJ9wyiumqpqJ4BxpYGc1sHlQ$). Legislator profiles, including contact information, are now updated, but later this month will include more info once legislative offices are assigned. In the meantime, health centers are encouraged to use the following NCLeg.gov tools to identify and contact lawmakers in their service areas:

   • **Representation By County**: Find a list of state legislators in the [House](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/ncchca.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=97c63652432531784025d5f82&id=05f4b78ac2&e=32b2ccbbb7__;!!HYmSToo!ZImbDH2eUMnbhC7KbChqx1F3ZqbVZhKreGTpMljwKxjRoHRlFpGIfiFJsEuydzQ87XkJ9wyiumqpqJ4BxpaWO-UVKA$) and [Senate](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/ncchca.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=97c63652432531784025d5f82&id=9714815e09&e=32b2ccbbb7__;!!HYmSToo!ZImbDH2eUMnbhC7KbChqx1F3ZqbVZhKreGTpMljwKxjRoHRlFpGIfiFJsEuydzQ87XkJ9wyiumqpqJ4BxpZLNKaX9A$) by the counties they represent in their districts.

   • **Find Your Legislators Tool**: This [tool includes an interactive map](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/ncchca.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=97c63652432531784025d5f82&id=6b118d3770&e=32b2ccbbb7__;!!HYmSToo!ZImbDH2eUMnbhC7KbChqx1F3ZqbVZhKreGTpMljwKxjRoHRlFpGIfiFJsEuydzQ87XkJ9wyiumqpqJ4BxpaNqIZg-Q$) into which users can enter their address and look up their elected officials in the United States House of Representatives, the N.C. House, and the N.C. Senate.

**STATE BILLS**

Track state bills at: <https://www.legiscan.com/NC/pending/house-health-committee/id/659?page=1>

**FEDERAL BILLS**

Federal Office of Rural Health Policy [**FORHP Policy page**](mailto:FORHP%20Policy%20page) to see recent updates and send questions to [**ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov**](mailto:ruralpolicy@hrsa.gov).

Federal Weekly Opioid Policy Report at: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!topic/nc-pdo-news/OV84Y7YQFhY>

**For new/proposed Federal legislation related to substance use, get on the O’Neill Institute list serve here:** If you were forwarded this email, [**sign up**](https://georgetown.us5.list-manage.com/track/click?u=5556647df8c0be7cf0da07db2&id=707fe84072&e=ecb4ab082b) for our listserv

**Check out** <https://drugfree.org/drug-and-alcohol-news/policy-news-roundup-july-7-2022/> **for policy updates.**

**Legislative Tracker**

Don't forget to consult our [Legislative Tracker](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00189MiY73PCeOlXOkkB5YQvNbya6yNohEsCSa7I7zlAsPglTfazW8clv6oMdyVgi08fb84m-MlZrEYEhckCDL9mQsHRGjhitEJ7daMTidJt_tl10xPgUVNPizlFzXvUtnqM0F4bVNFZPx_wJbahX7p-a7EPW-pdhsGOuFU-pJDU6DFMdM0GLwvm6wrIGULEut_E0j1Vfd8vfA=&c=rD4RATYQF6iv9llSIs3bEoH-_EnpL536A4F5vYsIz8oXRCMZagYWHw==&ch=dkj88xMLpQLXTN8inEI3KHm22kZGHdnn0asYVHjJwR4b0uKPv27UWw==__;!!HYmSToo!aARtZG4bx79kS5t2Mz3g2iNqzuLuYuGPUQuQDnGUU6QlhrAAVvyJrAGCfL_qaqFeXQ7OtCj3wHJ_XA47tNZcvyscQnHg$) to get the latest on various bills the NC Rural Center is tracking this session.

Should you have any questions, feel free to email us at [**advocacy@ncruralcenter.org**](mailto:advocacy@ncruralcenter.org), and be sure to follow us on Twitter, [**@RuralCounts**](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001p5swKZufAo5ujlD1IuUaP3PEKbBeZr2Z2ViHukClqRmka6xnZpM9x3JVJ3iSGN8hx19TTsJ5r8Xmqe-qz5Z7jeCsk-12RejplBTdtylYO6f_2XJMyhsW3anIBVq71rdc-fSfDef_-8dCWOvBkn7gJ4UbECMdyDd9&c=99_TdmAC9aQQo0SaN16DDJAPPU-ryWMnX9_F_nprTgsezZrtoSxgwA==&ch=RNqB1W-7SL0O7UssJfw21Z0WLCALGg3Z71994n0cxqCeWauO1Kjn9A==__;!!HYmSToo!aARtZG4bx79kS5t2Mz3g2iNqzuLuYuGPUQuQDnGUU6QlhrAAVvyJrAGCfL_qaqFeXQ7OtCj3wHJ_XA47tNZcvzFoAqGP$), for timely updates on all of the issues affecting rural North Carolina.

Thank you for your continued partnership, your dedication to our rural communities, and your willingness to be a voice for rural North Carolina..

[***The Rural Counts Advocacy Team***](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00189MiY73PCeOlXOkkB5YQvNbya6yNohEsCSa7I7zlAsPglTfazW8clo52dTgT3hX1f5mVT-A14Bx9vgjVZ34FsAGKNg8aE2dwnZ35Fn2hl_Lxcb8ppI-EroAzvq4kszPSFDV0zA33YGy4hQlkJJ9owGbtf7TcGLWhb8kV1TqTs8U4OnIdnOfCmss7EG7V0gJXYjhDhZgfzFk=&c=rD4RATYQF6iv9llSIs3bEoH-_EnpL536A4F5vYsIz8oXRCMZagYWHw==&ch=dkj88xMLpQLXTN8inEI3KHm22kZGHdnn0asYVHjJwR4b0uKPv27UWw==__;!!HYmSToo!aARtZG4bx79kS5t2Mz3g2iNqzuLuYuGPUQuQDnGUU6QlhrAAVvyJrAGCfL_qaqFeXQ7OtCj3wHJ_XA47tNZcvxHee8P4$)

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| |  | | --- | | **Bills of Interest** | |

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| |  | | --- | | Bill summaries may include language crafted by the Legislative Reporting Service at the UNC School of Government. For definitions of frequently used terms, be sure to refer to the Rural Counts [Legislative Glossary](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00189MiY73PCeOlXOkkB5YQvNbya6yNohEsCSa7I7zlAsPglTfazW8cluh8HX0LpL4WqQHCtf1fqM-TplbWs0yrAGPz-nBaLRqbmRdO1G9PJHlL3D7UQx-OiyzNFmY-qDho1R20rLm1o2ZxpUNEHNqKGz0s5Z7puQmEWucvP2eI7X9ibGOy1HkodAh6j9rwsIsw-P7tzI2Axm9KMCOpHorT1iShbsX5Hxru9mm716EDxCM=&c=rD4RATYQF6iv9llSIs3bEoH-_EnpL536A4F5vYsIz8oXRCMZagYWHw==&ch=dkj88xMLpQLXTN8inEI3KHm22kZGHdnn0asYVHjJwR4b0uKPv27UWw==__;!!HYmSToo!aARtZG4bx79kS5t2Mz3g2iNqzuLuYuGPUQuQDnGUU6QlhrAAVvyJrAGCfL_qaqFeXQ7OtCj3wHJ_XA47tNZcv9t1KQrE$). In addition, a Glossary of Legislative Terms can be found on the NC General Assembly website, [here](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00189MiY73PCeOlXOkkB5YQvNbya6yNohEsCSa7I7zlAsPglTfazW8cluh8HX0LpL4WpqYaXX3-Hr1RBzL5GVMWvIFYn8VINBoJmB9YWaCKrw_FR9bKHzrjvf0Nt_OAlO0PjRV5wzZtJHqV8r9Dv37EoILvzK6SWKg6sqbGTLddbnGatPV4WULAhA==&c=rD4RATYQF6iv9llSIs3bEoH-_EnpL536A4F5vYsIz8oXRCMZagYWHw==&ch=dkj88xMLpQLXTN8inEI3KHm22kZGHdnn0asYVHjJwR4b0uKPv27UWw==__;!!HYmSToo!aARtZG4bx79kS5t2Mz3g2iNqzuLuYuGPUQuQDnGUU6QlhrAAVvyJrAGCfL_qaqFeXQ7OtCj3wHJ_XA47tNZcv-AiXqqv$). | |

**Legislative Analysis And Public Policy Association (LAPPA)**

<https://legislativeanalysis.org/model-expanded-access-to-emergency-opioid-antagonists-act/>

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| |  | | --- | | **FY2023-2025 House and Senate Budget Proposal Analysis** | |

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| |  | | --- | | Check out our side-by-side analysis of the House and Senate FY2023-2025 budget proposals. [Click here](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL3zvTx62H4ZceN3qBWsMWBqYMVe1tOidT9PIBfTq8kw54TTUmKXcsQ_bluyv2j6pbPBBWF9DbohbGC-ah9nzZyKrhH11mGkhVrlBh1IPL4XPoVUREqmYb3yN1lHnA547x53ETwszZSK_1Uu_Q3PlzSgvYUzU6rzuS3mxQ2hAq0SRgC0Vm-6NW09JXWkSR3DWdg==&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) to see how both the House and the Senate prioritized several issues we support in our[2023 Rural Counts Agenda](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL2BoP2tCLHK5kVpLieFc_xXqZpbGSGGHORWfP7ADUXBuhUbkv22GjhZduU8060FDH5HLhBr8ie7kIpPwafwtRZijIn8hJxYk1zSod_CQf0vqmsmh9KofURwO0PVUZDIQGflzp87ZKGZ0-ONY64N9pRA0_yaVuVBviVs40zcUD1UceOiRBrwM0CY=&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==)! | |

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**FY2023-2025 House and Senate Budget Proposal Analysis**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL3zvTx62H4ZceN3qBWsMWBqYMVe1tOidT9PIBfTq8kw54TTUmKXcsQ_bluyv2j6pbPBBWF9DbohbGC-ah9nzZyKrhH11mGkhVrlBh1IPL4XPoVUREqmYb3yN1lHnA547x53ETwszZSK_1Uu_Q3PlzSgvYUzU6rzuS3mxQ2hAq0SRgC0Vm-6NW09JXWkSR3DWdg==&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) | | |

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| |  | | --- | | **What's Next** | |

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| |  | | --- | | This legislative session has been keeping up a fast pace, and readers of the Weekly Legislative Update can trust the Rural Counts Advocacy Team to continue to bring you the latest in rural policy news. [Subscribe to the Rural Center's general newsletter](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL3IY5XHOWVUTuhoV6hUP3yr4E2jw4KkU_5tMVtI1UIzok12Fq3vLcvnCFC__HNecRn3Njuw_EhkRNLKz1qHOR_OwG-cZmn7jyIByLadC35j_&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) to stay up to date on the latest news affecting rural communities and all the work of the NC Rural Center.  **Legislative Tracker**  Don't forget to consult our [Legislative Tracker](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOLyazIBlBNRP3iOeN9OrTAkDWw7P53BCG5EUcZgOTPoV7qp1lUGGIk9u-9NjgKHVYaaPYk8NWtRK1gsTsZdwDStwZSY4L8QPoESkL7SI3qzMa8xT5OasZ9z0kcrsDBphbjQ4chjveFw0nRZhu0g1AksM=&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) to get the latest on bills the NC Rural Center is tracking this session.  Should you have any questions, feel free to email us at [**advocacy@ncruralcenter.org**](mailto:advocacy@ncruralcenter.org), and be sure to follow us on Twitter, [**@RuralCounts**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001p5swKZufAo5ujlD1IuUaP3PEKbBeZr2Z2ViHukClqRmka6xnZpM9x3JVJ3iSGN8hx19TTsJ5r8Xmqe-qz5Z7jeCsk-12RejplBTdtylYO6f_2XJMyhsW3anIBVq71rdc-fSfDef_-8dCWOvBkn7gJ4UbECMdyDd9&c=99_TdmAC9aQQo0SaN16DDJAPPU-ryWMnX9_F_nprTgsezZrtoSxgwA==&ch=RNqB1W-7SL0O7UssJfw21Z0WLCALGg3Z71994n0cxqCeWauO1Kjn9A==), for timely updates on all of the issues affecting rural North Carolina.   Thank you for your continued partnership, your dedication to our rural communities, and your willingness to be a voice for rural North Carolina.  With gratitude,  [***The Rural Counts Advocacy Team***](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL0zt1kkxADTr8P0B1r18gCTNxsYesC6bcv-FpSUQlO5PeVS46jxgbn12Bc487z5OBH0D_mpo_jpK-3WTUUTt_4ehyjOwVcPxOiuhVFFB6YRM-0LFjqX4Rv4msaRTZpzn9OJpM0SZYHO5TdYem2-PfsI=&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) | |

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| |  | | --- | | [A hand and a heart  Description automatically generated](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL4MYQM3feA93HrH4ZSmVNCxnWupcPGWJxz2_MC3ozoUx5wmItQzdNXKUh2H4sedIePJGbR4QL9e-v9Lf7nStRN0GV0bul76pwuRYtG0B-QtBvoPaQbBHy0EXzh8wphfjEYQ-Fgq6MRxC&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) | | |  | | --- | | Do you enjoy reading our Weekly Legislative Update?  **Consider making a** [**donation**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL4MYQM3feA93HrH4ZSmVNCxnWupcPGWJxz2_MC3ozoUx5wmItQzdNXKUh2H4sedIePJGbR4QL9e-v9Lf7nStRN0GV0bul76pwuRYtG0B-QtBvoPaQbBHy0EXzh8wphfjEYQ-Fgq6MRxC&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) **to the**  **Rural Counts Advocacy program** to help us continue to provide you with the latest policy news impacting rural North Carolina! |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Click Here to Learn How**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001NzOsBvs4uA7lD7PljVY5EifOgxqa3ATzFC78ae8-UzYLWULeMOIOL4MYQM3feA93HrH4ZSmVNCxnWupcPGWJxz2_MC3ozoUx5wmItQzdNXKUh2H4sedIePJGbR4QL9e-v9Lf7nStRN0GV0bul76pwuRYtG0B-QtBvoPaQbBHy0EXzh8wphfjEYQ-Fgq6MRxC&c=JtYPI2myMxTP2apflEFe0PUGmT4NOItVSObOhf-ftx7ns95nUtx0EQ==&ch=dUFMMuEBhHPpGrxuJQau_o3Gi7AD-gvSFlfS47mi9Qx8vESlpeGDOg==) | | |

**SAMHSA Strategic Plan 2023-2026 Details the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's framework and funding priorities for 2023-2026.** Discusses priorities such as strengthening the behavioral health workforce, suicide prevention, and behavioral health integration, among other issues. Highlights behavioral health equity measures that address rural communities. Sponsoring organization: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Date: 08/2023

Reminder - Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) reintroduced the [Public Health Infrastructure Saves Lives Act](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EGbregPGGdCn53wH2qoUC3A1UJdT17LNGtNUSHkMg-M39fRPZ_MYx43_f2mX8PEDtmRQR6oaY9tLXnsShtFtw_gOxbA9B7g00Y5AjTdm4UfUIF47D7Bp0e1eV6LkKteo9oi25splKcsgdSORouxbf4Ja8wR4FIoVp0rXBya6rgxarxulCk1iIb8Z1TjKbvWuwrQuSg6YSL0=&c=PCW-MeqgkN5qfuflh1tl0O-Yg9S5rvBUewVa87-q2HksthTvkLxMVw==&ch=95W2g93nV0y3cPPpsnDYMTicO-qscpKMS-C39DzTbU0uVMxHWy5lEg==). Organizations to can endorse the bill using [this form](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EGbregPGGdCn53wH2qoUC3A1UJdT17LNGtNUSHkMg-M39fRPZ_MYx43_f2mX8PED99qkxd-V3OUleSS5CsKhoLnEQhU1kzYiW-tWg6kBiPKY1Hm_pxRQmYTInzKhWY6E3zrCpnnhp5BMTEYovupNlmjIvHIU373vPFnBgZH6B-5Hw4rteuDTUQ==&c=PCW-MeqgkN5qfuflh1tl0O-Yg9S5rvBUewVa87-q2HksthTvkLxMVw==&ch=95W2g93nV0y3cPPpsnDYMTicO-qscpKMS-C39DzTbU0uVMxHWy5lEg==). The bill would address chronic underfunding of state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) public health infrastructure through a dedicated investment in foundational public health capabilities and workforce. For more information and to view the list of endorsers so far, here is a [fact sheet](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001EGbregPGGdCn53wH2qoUC3A1UJdT17LNGtNUSHkMg-M39fRPZ_MYx-YNgdV0w6L-DfU4l_Q6TUio37ZiIljrtr5r9DtkFKhDQiEugo9Bs0lMPzm5y08ubY6vYR8yZb9C23fngOEhIEqi-Ci8_leg9lAlqMtfZWPL1oi9KlIn7Ja7Cddevb0_sjJnJc7r5JBDZ4Y8C66_BsYMFJw07Xvr4PjgWShAJLUReYGD7jp3dnY=&c=PCW-MeqgkN5qfuflh1tl0O-Yg9S5rvBUewVa87-q2HksthTvkLxMVw==&ch=95W2g93nV0y3cPPpsnDYMTicO-qscpKMS-C39DzTbU0uVMxHWy5lEg==). Signatories will be added on a rolling basis.

[Impact of the Pandemic and the End of the Public Health Emergency on Opioid Use Disorder Treatment](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGN5f4cOos7-WJdbSCyNT9gGQgkpOKTPiqD7SN46BCHelPAH7QXFrPMkQ9iNyPrOvNVtqvALJs=)  
With the COVID-19 public health emergency having ended on May 11, 2023, many patients, providers and advocates remain worried about changes to federal flexibilities. In a new issue brief from the Foundation for Opioid Response Efforts and Manatt, Phelps and Phillips LLP, subject matter experts offer practical information on the current regulatory landscape of opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment and lessons learned from the pandemic about engaging and keeping people in treatment. [Read the full brief.](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGN5f4cO6guiwgaIdP-mIre7aQnlnBBC-n1qB73zTfQXlHhBrX0hrn2bTAfdAON98-DXZNPNqU=)

[Reducing Overdose Through Policy Interventions: ASTHO's Recommendations for State and Territorial Health Officials and Agencies](https://go.thenationalcouncil.org/NzczLU1KRi0zNzkAAAGOdfd-ljcLHJkLGeCo94p7nAjMsbhBciU88ISFomnRGiC6KJ282P23WofpjypOt0sCzJUXYoM=) (Journal of Public Health Management & Practice): The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) published an article outlining strategies and policies that public health leaders can implement to respond to overdose in their jurisdictions. Strategies were identified and selected through a review of the current evidence base, the opioid settlement Evidence E documents, an impact and feasibility analysis and criteria for addressing health equity and stigma: 1) overdose education and naloxone distribution programs, 2) harm reduction and 3) peer support programs.

August 18, 2023

**RE: Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA) Response to: Bicameral Congressional Request for Information on the Regulation of CBD and Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Products**

Chairwoman Cathy McMorris Rodger

U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce

2125 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr.

U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce

2125 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Bernard Sanders

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education,

Labor, and Pensions

428 Senate Dirksen Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Dr. Bill Cassidy

U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education,

Labor, and Pensions

428 Senate Dirksen Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

August 18, 2023

RE: Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA) Response to: Bicameral Congressional Request for

Information on the Regulation of CBD and Hemp-Derived Cannabinoid Products

Thank you for the opportunity to provide insight on a potential regulatory pathway for

hemp-derived cannabinoid products, including CBD. The Cannabis Regulators Association (CANNRA)

is a nonpartisan association of government agencies engaged in cannabis and hemp regulation

across 45 states and U.S. territories. The regulation of hemp-derived cannabinoid products is

complex and nuanced, and state regulators understand those nuances better than anyone. Our

detailed responses to the thoughtful questions included in the bicameral congressional request for

information are included as an attachment to this letter. To summarize key points from CANNRA’s

response:

● The current hemp marketplace is much broader than CBD. The broad definition of “hemp”

in the 2018 Farm Bill has resulted in a marketplace that includes a wide array of products

that contain the range of cannabinoids that can be derived directly or chemically from the

*Cannabis sativa* L. plant, including intoxicating cannabinoids like delta-9 THC, delta-8 THC,

delta-10 THC, THCP, THCB, THCjd, hexahydrocannabinol (HHC), H4-CBD, and THC-O-acetate.

The language in the 2018 Farm Bill effectively legalized marijuana federally, without product

regulation, and called it “hemp.” Hemp-derived products on the market today can be

ingested, applied topically, aerosolized, inhaled or combusted, applied transdermally or

transmucosally, or used in other ways. Many of these products and forms extend beyond

anything that would be allowed in state-regulated “marijuana” marketplaces.

● A comprehensive regulatory approach that accounts for all cannabinoid hemp products is

urgently needed. A federal regulatory approach must have a broad focus with regulatory

authority to address the products that are available on the market today and the products that may be available in the future. A focus on CBD alone is insufficient, in part because

many CBD products contain other cannabinoids which also need to be regulated for

consumer safety and public health. In addition, CBD is being used as a source material to

chemically manufacture other intoxicating cannabinoids. Failure to provide regulatory

authority for a federal agency to address all of the cannabinoid hemp products on the

market will result in regulatory gaps that will be exploited at the risk of public health and

consumer safety.

● Current FDA regulatory pathways are insufficient to address the types of cannabinoid

hemp products on the market. Existing pathways do not address aerosolized, inhaled, or

combusted products. They also do not include sufficient authorities for testing, regulation of

packaging and labeling across modes of use and products, regulation of additives and

ingredients that could pose risk, and authority to limit the potential appeal and

consumption of products by youth. Current state regulatory frameworks for cannabinoids

derived from marijuana extend well beyond any of the current FDA pathways.

● Consumer safety and public health are at risk if a federal regulatory agency is not named,

funded, and given the authority to regulate cannabinoid hemp products. FDA is the primary

federal agency with experience regulating finished products for consumer safety and public

health. That said, FDA needs specific authorities and defined, short timelines under which to

issue regulations. Those regulations should include clear boundaries and definitions for

products that will be regulated as “cannabinoid hemp,” minimum requirements for safety,

and an education and enforcement framework. In following the approach states have taken,

regulations should be based on the science we have today, but ongoing review of and

adjustments to regulations will be essential as additional science emerges. Coordination

with state and U.S. territories, and tribal nations will be vital as well.

● Federal regulations should set a floor, not a ceiling. Federal regulations should create

minimum standards for cannabinoid hemp products to ensure that consumer safety and

public health are protected. However, states should be able to enact regulations that

extend beyond federal minimums to further protect their communities and consumers.

● Regulation does not mean recriminalization. State-regulated marijuana programs across

the country are focused on regulation for consumer safety. Part of a regulatory agency’s job

is to determine whether a product can be manufactured safely or consumed safely and

what regulatory policies are needed to safeguard against potential adverse effects. A

determination that a product is unsafe for a commercial marketplace is not synonymous

with recriminalizing or criminalizing use of that product. Enforcement actions across states

often focus on progressive civil penalties or impacts on licenses as a way to deter

production of unapproved products.

We appreciate and value the opportunity to share our insight on cannabinoid hemp

regulation. CANNRA’s state cannabis and hemp regulators, who work every day regulating

cannabinoids and implementing frameworks that protect consumers, public health, and markets,

stand ready to engage with members of Congress to provide valuable insight from members’ states and jurisdictions and to inform a federal regulatory framework that does the same.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide any additional context related to our

responses.

Respectfully,

Gillian L. Schauer, PhD, MPH

Executive Director, CANNRA

CANNABIS REGULATORS ASSOCIATION

Alabama - Alaska - Arizona - Arkansas - California - Colorado - Connecticut - Delaware -

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Ohio - Oklahoma - Oregon – Pennsylvania - Rhode Island - South Dakota - Texas - Utah -

Vermont - Virginia - Virgin Islands – Washington

**No link between overdose deaths and Oregon and Washington drug laws, study finds**

Story by Melissa Santos, 9.28.23

[No link between overdose deaths and Oregon and Washington drug laws, study finds (msn.com)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/medical/no-link-between-overdose-deaths-and-oregon-and-washington-drug-laws-study-finds/ar-AA1hmNm3?ocid=entnewsntp&cvid=e97f733c371740128854a97aebb4cd79&ei=26)

When Washington and Oregon lowered criminal penalties for drug crimes two years ago, it didn't lead to a sudden rise in [overdose deaths](https://www.axios.com/local/portland/2023/05/30/fentanyl-overdoses-rise-portland-oregon?utm_medium=partner&utm_source=microsoft-start&utm_content=link&utm_campaign=subs-partner-msfot-dailyessentials) in either state, a new study finds.

**Why it matters:**[Critics](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/01/opinion/oregon-drug-failure.html) have [tied](https://jimmccune.src.wastateleg.org/washington-state-becomes-national-leader-overdose-deaths/) the states' more lenient approaches to drug crimes to recent rises in overdose deaths. But the researchers found no apparent connection.

**THE END**