

CARROLL COUNTY RESPONDS TO SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Minutes – June 4, 2024

Prevention – Continuum of Care Workgroup  
Meets First Tuesday of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec.  
FMI: (603) 301-1252  
Jennifer Thomas, [jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org](mailto:jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org)  
Catalina Kirsch, [catalina.kirsch@graniteuw.org](mailto:catalina.kirsch@graniteuw.org)



[Were you unable to attend? Please participate in our strategic planning survey to help guide our work in 2024-2026: Click here to complete a brief survey](#)

See Minutes and Agendas here:

<http://www.c3ph.org/initiatives/continuum-of-care-for-substance-use-disorders>

See Shared Folder for flyers and announcements here. Add your own organization’s pdf brochures, event announcements and more: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BFsX-kCE6IZ2VfKwWa2gB6IJ0vWaV\\_wr?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BFsX-kCE6IZ2VfKwWa2gB6IJ0vWaV_wr?usp=sharing)

8:55 Register for Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtceigqDluHtRorTn80ou-lizThDOxqgR8>

Attendance:

Jen Thomas	Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator at C3PH
Catalina Kirsch	Continuum of Care Facilitator at C3PH
Emily McArdle	Young Adult Outreach at C3PH
Caleb Gilbert	Director of Public Health at C3PH
Angelic Macut	Medical Assistant at Memorial Hospital Addiction Medicine
Rachel Miller	Community Partnership Development Manager at Better Life Partners
Melissa Caminiti	Partnership Director at Groups Recover Together, <a href="mailto:Melissa.caminiti@joingroups.com">Melissa.caminiti@joingroups.com</a> 207-778-1266
Jennifer Smith	Provider at Memorial Hospital Addiction Medicine
Chuck Henderson	Senator Shaheen’s Office
Heidi Ritter	Nurse Practitioner at Granite Recovery Centers and Moultonborough school board member
Kayla Cyr	Assistant Director of Admissions at Granite Recovery Centers
Troy Barnes	White Horse Recovery
Kim Ip	Community Engagement Coordinator at New Futures
Kerry Ali	Account Manager for NH Rapid Response Access Point

- Strategic Planning for Fiscal Year 2025- Whiteboard Activity Summary
  - Group discussion about the upcoming priorities and strategies for Carroll County Responds to Substance Use Disorder
    - Assets and Gaps Analysis – Jen
      - Q: What can we do better to assess what we have and what we need in the community? Who can we engage with to be involved in this process?
      - Responses:

- Rachel Miller: metric from other coalition. [https://rrcky.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Public-RRC-Pop-Categories\\_Scoring\\_Criteria-1.pdf](https://rrcky.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Public-RRC-Pop-Categories_Scoring_Criteria-1.pdf)
  - CAST Tool - CDC
  - HECAT
  - SIM Sequential Intercept Mapping
  - Patient/Client Workgroup - Lived Experience - importance of knowing trends in substances being used in the community
  - are there assets and gaps analysis summaries out there? to add to Community Health Needs Assessments
  - Melissa Caminiti: maybe Gov's Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs might have info
- Increasing Awareness of and Access to Services -Jen
    - Q: What types of endeavors would help our community learn more about and gain access to available substance use disorder services, including prevention, identification, referral and treatment?
    - Responses
      - get more information out to the community about harm reduction
      - visit safe injection sites in other locations to learn success stories and challenges
      - existing resource fair
      - opportunities to communicate with legislators and advocate
      - Memorial Hospital Addiction Medicine now up and running, doing outreach, referrals accepted through Primary Care
      - need strong referral network for counseling
      - interest in support group for neurodivergent concerns
      - communicate with business development contacts at treatment providers. Have a set group/contact for outreach
      - a shared access document to list provider services and capacity to take new patients
- Communication and Collaboration among providers – Catalina
    - Q: What can this leadership team do differently in the coming year to increase communication and collaboration among local providers of substance use disorder and

related health and social services, including prevention, identification, treatment, recovery supports and social determinants of health.

- Responses
  - need strong referral network for counseling
  - interest in support group for neurodivergent concerns
  - communicate with business development contacts at treatment providers. Have a set group/contact for outreach
  - a shared access document to list provider services and capacity to take new patients
- Capacity and Delivery of Services – Catalina
  - Q: What can this leadership team do differently in the coming year to increase capacity and delivery of substance use disorder services and related health and social services, including prevention, identification, treatment, recovery supports and social determinants of health.
  - Responses
    - i.e. we just stood up Alternative Peer Groups for youth in Carroll County in Wolfeboro and Center Conway
    - i.e. Addiction Medicine Program at Memorial Hospital
    - i.e. building capacity within school districts
    - include school representatives in the stakeholder group
    - transportation capacity - ride services - there are challenges - patients need reliable transportation services to make their appointments - there are still many needs. Patients from Berlin must use telehealth
    - Telehealth? Memorial Hospital Primary Care: Telemed used when necessary.
    - Need for adolescent treatment options
    - attract and promote grants, partnerships, and other fiscal opportunities to back the increase of services
- Disseminating resource guides and other information – Catalina
  - Q: What are the places or opportunities in our community where we should be disseminating resource guides and other service access information?
  - Responses
    - law enforcement. paramedics to do outreach care. i.e. Portland Maine; i.e Littleton has a recovery coach that responds (Portland Medical Mobile Unit)
    - importance of stigma training for public safety and others, continual need; lived experience voice important in community trainings

- Outreach to pharmacists
- i.e. community paramedicine models out there to explore
- ACERT Teams, teams of law enforcement plus mental health providers follow up to serve children who have witnessed trauma to mitigate adverse childhood experiences
- dentist offices can be good point of outreach because patients might be offered pain medication, oral surgeons
- Stakeholder assistance in information dissemination – Catalina
  - Q: What can the membership of this workgroup do in the coming year to help get information about resources into the hands of the persons who can benefit most?
  - Responses
    - recovery centers
    - family members of persons with substance use disorder
    - individuals on probation
    - persons who complete the drug treatment court program
    - stigma training for law enforcement, for educators during professional development
    - school involvement in prevention activities, open houses
    - materials on school websites
    - "halfway houses" could have resources
    - get to know the PPO
    - Police department brochure racks
    - Voice of recovery included in trainings
    - community centers, resource fairs, old home week activities, school counselors
    - farmer's market
    - street outreach? harm reduction outreach. Must be done safely
    - Community Health Worker services need to be promoted
- At this point we ran short on time. If you have input on the following questions, please complete the google survey:
- Strategic Prevention Model: assessment, capacity development, planning, implementation, evaluation - Jen
  - Q: How can we better evaluate how we are progressing towards this group's goals as they relate to the spectrum of substance use disorder needs?
- Reducing Risk Factors and Strengthening Protective Factors – Jen

- Q: What types of tactics do you think would help more in our community to reduce risk factors for substance use and increase protective factors? For example; More messaging or targeted marketing materials, more collaboration between partners, better ways to identify and refer, provide more community based alternative activities, increase knowledge about substances, and policy change at all socioecological levels.
    - Community engagement and mobilization – Catalina
      - What steps can this leadership team make to mobilize, engage and support people who live and work in Carroll County NH to stand up and speak out for substance use disorder prevention, intervention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery support services, policies and programs to community and state leaders and decision makers?
    - Leadership Team membership and structure
      - Please share your thoughts on the membership and structure of our stakeholder group, Carroll County Responds to SUD, and what steps we can take to build a group that provides the greatest value to its membership and to the community. This can include thoughts on meeting venue, who is/should be at the table, frequency of meeting, typical agenda format, other.
- Updates from the Field.
  - Early Identification/Intervention –
    - Alternative Peer Groups launching, Wolfeboro, Center Conway- See flyer below
  - Treatment/Recovery –
    - Sent in from Thistle Down Sober Living: Thistledown ownership and management has been transferred to Stacie Leclerc, of Blue Heron Neurofeedback & Counseling. Please contact Stacie at [info@thistledownrecoveryhome.org](mailto:info@thistledownrecoveryhome.org) or at 603-307-0385  
Lisa MacDonald (she/her), Thistledown. PO Box 19, Moultonborough, NH 03235  
(603) 491-8934, [www.thistledownrecovery.com](http://www.thistledownrecovery.com)
    - Memorial Hospital Addiction Medicine is up and running, doing outreach and has rack cards. Provides outpatient medication assisted treatment and are working on providing on-site counseling. Provides telehealth when necessary (challenges with patients' rides cancelling and currently no transportation from Berlin) through telephone or secure Zoom link through MyChart/Epic
  - Other updates:
  - **Advocacy**
    - Upcoming **Advocacy 101** for Adults under ~40 in North Conway and Wolfeboro- See flyers below
    - **Bills in Committees of Conference**

**11:00 am - Supporting Development of Recovery Housing:** HB 1521, as originally introduced, would expand access to recovery housing in New Hampshire by helping cities and towns develop recovery housing resources. Unfortunately, the Senate passed an amended version of the bill that would make it more difficult to develop recovery houses in some communities. [Email committee members to urge them to pass the House's version of the bill](#), which includes the original language that would increase access to recovery housing resources.

**10:30 am - Cannabis Commercialization:** HB 1633, as amended by the Senate, meets many of [New Futures' Principles for Responsible Cannabis Policy](#), including an increase to 20% of cannabis revenue designated for substance misuse prevention, treatment, and recovery funding; strong protections for kids; and sound public health policy. However, the Senate-amended bill does fall short on social justice principles. The bill keeps criminal penalties for possession until 2026 and does not have opportunities or programs for the communities impacted by the war on drugs. The House of Representatives voted to non-concur with the Senate amendment, so the bill will now go to a Committee of Conference.

**11:00 am - Oversight of Substance Use Treatment System:** The Senate amended HB 1079 to incorporate language from SB 495, which would improve New Hampshire's substance use treatment system by strengthening patient protections and ensuring high-quality services. [Email committee members to urge them to pass the Senate's version of the bill](#), which includes components of SB 495 to improve the state's substance use treatment system.

▪ ***Bills going to the Governor's Desk***

**Growing the Health Care Workforce:** [SB 403](#) aims to increase access to care by creating voluntary certification for Community Health Workers (CHWs). Voluntary certification would provide a clear career path and greater financial stability for these frontline health workers. <https://new-futures.org/Health-Care-Workforce?emci=aaaaf839-b921-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&emdi=10116954-c221-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&ceid=9468810>

**Preventing Childhood Lead Exposure:** [SB 399](#) would help families access lead testing by removing financial barriers. This would help protect Granite State children, who are at the highest risk for lead poisoning, from the harmful impacts of lead exposure. <https://new-futures.org/action/lead?emci=aaaaf839-b921-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&emdi=10116954-c221-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&ceid=9468810>

**Banning Hemp-Derived THC Products:** [SB 505](#) would permanently ban hemp-derived THC products known as delta-8, delta-9, and delta-10. These dangerous and unregulated products were sold in NH due to a legal loophole, until a 2023 law banned them for one year.

<https://new-futures.org/hemp-thc-products?emci=aaaaf839-b921-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&emdi=10116954-c221-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&ceid=9468810>

**Treatment Services in NH's Criminal Justice System:** [SB 508](#) would increase access to substance use and mental health screening and treatment for individuals in New Hampshire's criminal justice system. This would help them receive the treatment services they need, reduce criminal recidivism, and help New Hampshire overcome the ongoing addiction and mental health crises.

<https://new-futures.org/Treatment-Services-in-County-Jails?emci=aaaaf839-b921-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&emdi=10116954-c221-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&ceid=9468810>

FMI contact

**Kim Ip**

Community Engagement Coordinator & Data Manager  
*Access to Treatment & Recovery*

**New Futures** | 100 N Main Street, Suite 400 | Concord, NH

Phone: (603) 225-9540 Ext: 119 Cell: (603) 397-9491

[New-Futures.org](https://New-Futures.org) | [Make a Gift](#)

---

10:25 Other updates? Announcements?

**Do you have event flyers to share? Please upload them here:** [CC Responds to SUD Flyers to Share](#)

**What's posted there now?**

Do you have other information you would like to share? Please add it to a shared doc here: [CC Responds to SUD Updates to Share](#)

10:30 Adjourn.

Happy Summer! Thanks for all you do! If you would like to unsubscribe from this email list, send a message that says "unsubscribe" to [continuum@c3ph.org](mailto:continuum@c3ph.org).

Jennifer Thomas, [jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org](mailto:jennifer.thomas@graniteuw.org)

Catalina Kirsch, [catalina.kirsch@graniteuw.org](mailto:catalina.kirsch@graniteuw.org)

Next meeting:

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Aug 6, 2024 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

You are invited to a Zoom meeting.

When: Oct 1, 2024 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtceigqDluHtRorTn80ou-lizThDOxqgR8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Resources on next page(s) (Information Dissemination)



# BIDEN RESCHEDULING RECOMMENDATION AFFIRMS MARIJUANA'S ILLEGAL STATUS

© May 20, 2024



(WASHINGTON, DC) – [Smart Approaches to Marijuana \(SAM\)](#) President Dr. Kevin Sabet, a former White House drug policy advisor to Presidents Obama, Bush, and Clinton, issued the following statement today in response to President Biden's video announcement of recommendations aimed at loosening restrictions on marijuana, a psychoactive drug known to come with serious health and mental health consequences.

"As we've maintained throughout this process, it's become undeniable that politics, not science, is driving this decision and has been since the very beginning. This decision won't legalize marijuana, and it won't release anyone from prison or jail. It won't expunge one record. But it will allow the pot industry to take tax deductions on their advertising expenses. This is setting the stage to create the Big Tobacco of our time. It will also surely send the message that marijuana is a safe drug and an approved medicine.

"It should not be lost on anyone that a drug can be removed from Schedule I only if it has accepted medical use—raw, crude marijuana has never passed safety and efficacy protocols. There is no marijuana 'product' that can even be prescribed now because of this—so this move flies in the face of science and medicine. A drug isn't medicine because it's popular.

"Additionally, despite significant concerns being voiced by former U.S. Attorneys, the medical community, and law enforcement, the Administration has unilaterally reversed decades of precedent in the face of volumes of data confirming marijuana's harmfulness.

"The only winners here are the pot investors and companies who could have access to massive tax breaks to push a demonstrably harmful drug. Medical and scientific studies, as well as government data, have conclusively linked THC drugs with addiction, psychosis, schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, suicidality, stroke, and IQ loss, among other impacts. We had hoped the Administration would prioritize expungements and encouraging additional marijuana research, but they've instead chosen to put politics and the addiction industry over people.

"Rescheduling marijuana during an election year makes it clear that the nation's drug policy is being used to reverse bad polling trends with the principal targets of the pot industry, namely young people. Pot-profiteers have lobbied heavily to sell demonstrably harmful products, and now they will use this announcement to drive even more deliberate misinformation about these high-potency drugs to expand use and addiction."

SAM intends to oppose the Biden Administration's rescheduling recommendation throughout the rule making and legal process.

### <https://learnaboutsam.org/2024/05/biden-rescheduling-recommendation-affirms-marijuanas-illegal-status/>



New England (HHS Region 1)

**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

[View this email in your browser.](#)

**A few scholarships are still available. Partial New England State Scholarships are available from most New England states. Complete course information, registration, and scholarship information are posted on the site pages on the menu bar. [Click here to register today!](#)**

**55th New England School of Addiction & Prevention Studies**  
**June 10-13, 2024**

**Scholarships available for Prevention Professionals in New England!**

*Sponsored by New England PTTC*

- 2nd Annual Hybrid Summer School, with 2 Ways to Attend: Face-to-Face: - Join us in person in Worcester! or Virtual Live Program - Join us virtually!
- Earn up to 28 Contact Hours during the week
- Options are available to attend the full program, or any number of days.

New England (HHS Region 1)  
**PTTC**  
Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**REGISTRATION OPEN: 55th New England School of Addiction and Prevention Studies - Co-sponsored New England PTTC Prevention Tracks**

**Date:** June 10-13, 2024

**Format:** Virtual Conference

**Cost:** See the conference website

#### **ABOUT THE CONFERENCE**

The New England School of Addiction and Prevention Studies, commonly called Summer School, is an intensive 4-day learning experience to further knowledge, skills, and experience in the field of substance use disorder services. For over 55 years, participants from many disciplines have come together to form a unique, diverse learning community.

This year will be our second hybrid year, with options to attend the program in person in Worcester or to attend the program virtually!

We are delighted to return to Worcester State University for a face-to-face program.

Due to the continued strong demand for intensive Summer School programming online, we are happy to also offer a live virtual program. Select from many intensive courses from across the continuum of treatment, prevention, and recovery.

Virtual courses will take place live by videoconference, allowing for course group work and interaction.

In addition to courses: plenary sessions, community, and more!

Options are available to attend the full program, or any number of days.

Earn 26 Contact Hours during the week.

**Courses are designed for the extensive demands of today's professionals and organizations:**

Certification, licensing, and re-credentialing;

Evidence-based practices;

Addressing health disparities and equity issues;

Behavioral healthcare and primary care integration;

Recovery oriented care across the continuum;

Addressing the opioid crisis, stimulants, and other current drug trends;

And many other current and emerging topics!

**Partial New England State Scholarships are available from most New England states. Application coming soon!**

Please contact AdCare New England with any questions at 207-621-2549 or [neias@neias.org](mailto:neias@neias.org).

**[Full details and Registration](#)**

---

Need Training or Technical Assistance? Submit your request [here!](#)



## What Are Alternative Peer Groups?

Creating Connections NH is building supportive recovery communities called Alternative Peer Groups (APGs) for youth and young adults with substance use challenges. APGs offer young people a chance to connect at least once a week with peers in an environment that is fun, safe, substance-free, and recovery-focused.

### APGs Provide...

- Connection through a supportive peer environment
- Fun, substance free activities
- Sense of belonging
- Focus on health and wellness

### More Than Just Meeting Up

- APG Facilitators are trained recovery support professionals
- Youth help choose fun group activities that match their interests
- Opportunities for family/ caregiver involvement

## Connect with a Group Near You

### Southern NH

**Revive Recovery** (Nashua)  
reviverecovery.org | 888.317.8312

### Seacoast Area

**Safe Harbor Recovery Center** (Portsmouth)  
granitepathwaysnh.org | ph. 603.570.9444

**Live Free Recovery** (Dover, Somersworth)  
livefreerecovery.com | ph. 603.702.2461

**Franklin/ Tilton/ Concord/ Plymouth Archways of Greater Franklin and Plymouth**  
archwaysnh.com | ph. 603.286.4255

### Carroll County

**Kingswood Youth Center** (Carroll Cty. South)  
zachary.porter@thekyc.org | ph. 603.569.5949

**Terra Equine Center** (Carroll County North)  
ph. 603.487.6745



**University of  
New Hampshire**

✉ [IOD.CBH@unh.edu](mailto:IOD.CBH@unh.edu)

🌐 [iod.unh.edu/creating-connections-nh](http://iod.unh.edu/creating-connections-nh)

Creating Connections NH is a project of the UNH Institute on Disability (IOD).

The IOD promotes full access, equal opportunities, and participation for all persons by strengthening communities and advancing policy and systems change, promising practices, education, and research.

*Supported by funding from the NH Department of Health and Human Services.*

# ADVOCACY 101

**FREE TRAINING- NORTH CONWAY, NH**

## LEARN HOW TO MAKE CHANGE IN NH!

Your voice can help shape policies that directly impact our lives: Housing, Workforce, Healthcare, Environment. This training teaches young adults (under age ~40) how to engage in state-level legislative advocacy efforts. Plus, hear from a local change-maker in your community about how they did it!

### THIS FREE TRAINING PROVIDES:

- An overview of the NH state legislature and how a bill becomes a law
- Ways to get involved by participating in public hearings, reaching out to legislators, letter writing, using media, and other advocacy strategies



**Monday, June 24**



**5:30-7:30pm**



**North Conway  
Community Center  
78 Norcross Circle  
North Conway, NH 03860**



**Refreshments  
served!**



**Register Now: <https://tinyurl.com/2tnf9sen>**

# ADVOCACY 101

## FREE TRAINING- WOLFEBORO, NH

### LEARN HOW TO MAKE CHANGE IN NH!

Your voice can help shape policies that directly impact our lives: Housing, Workforce, Healthcare, Environment. This training teaches young adults (under age ~40) how to engage in state-level legislative advocacy efforts. Plus, hear from a local change-maker in your community about how they did it!

### THIS FREE TRAINING PROVIDES:

- An overview of the NH state legislature and how a bill becomes a law
- Ways to get involved by participating in public hearings, reaching out to legislators, letter writing, using media, and other advocacy strategies

Refreshments served!



**Tuesday, June 25**



**5:30-7:30pm**



**Makers Mill**

**23 Bay St.**

**Wolfeboro, NH 03894**



**Register Now: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhkt5fe>**

# Hope is Real

Everyone Can Recover.

Presented by:



**Join us for stories of recovery, live music, food, and games,  
and learn about the resources of Carroll County, New Hampshire!**

**Sept. 14th, 2024**

**Schouler Park  
White Mountain Highway  
North Conway, NH 03860  
Time: 11 am to 3 pm**

Generously Supported by:



To register as a community partner for the event, go to:  
[whitehorserecovery.org/hopeisreal](http://whitehorserecovery.org/hopeisreal).

Contact us at (603) 651-1441  
or Email: [info@whitehorseac.com](mailto:info@whitehorseac.com)



"The preparation of this flyer was financed under a Contract with the State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services, with funds provided in part by the State of New Hampshire and/or such other funding sources as were available or required, e.g., the United States Department of Health and Human Services."

Hello everyone! I wanted to make sure you all knew about the date change for our Carroll County event. The event at Schouler Park will now be on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 11am-3pm. Feel free to invite anyone to join for live music and talks of recovery. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy or read the description below to contribute as a community partner or event sponsor!

We hope that you can join us as a community partner for a lively day of food, games, music, and fun for all! This will be a chance for your organization to connect and engage with the community and to show your support for our local recovery centers that stand on the front-line fighting addiction.

It will cost you nothing to participate; we only ask that you provide a table, chairs, and a tent that is weighted and secured for possible wind. We also urge you to have messaging or an activity prepared for the event to promote your organization's mission.

This will be the first annual event and one of three that we are putting on this summer (the other two will be held in Berlin and Littleton).

We have booked Nashville recording artist Mychael David ([Mychael David \(mychaeldavidmusic.com\)](http://mychaeldavidmusic.com)) as well as Lachlan Plache, a local Christian musician and vocalist. There will also be talks by people involved with recovery. Burgers and hot dogs will be offered free (or for a donation), cooked by our very own Grillmaster Eric Moran. Further information is included in the attached.

### **This is an event not to be missed!**

To register for this event as a Community partner please follow this registration link: [whitehorserecovery.org/hopeisreal](http://whitehorserecovery.org/hopeisreal)

If your organization would like to help sponsor the event with a monetary donation, please review the attached information on sponsorship opportunities, and/or contact the undersigned.

Finally, if someone with your organization would be interested in participating as a speaker during the event, please reach out! Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions.

Let me know if you have any questions,  
Mitchell Henderson [Mitchell@whitehorseac.com](mailto:Mitchell@whitehorseac.com)

**SAM** Smart Approaches to Marijuana  
preventing another big tobacco

## Rescheduling of Marijuana Webinar

June 12th at 1PM ET

**Featuring:**

-   
Kevin A. Sabet, PhD  
SAM President and CEO
-   
Luke Niforatos  
SAM Executive Vice President
-   
Russell Kamer, MD  
Partners in Safety  
Medical Director & IASIC  
Expert Physician Council
-   
Sue Thau  
CADCA Public Policy Consultant

[Please join us and register today for the June 12th, 1PM ET SAM Rescheduling of Marijuana Webinar.](#)

As you know, the Biden Administration plans to reschedule marijuana from Schedule I to Schedule III. If implemented, this would give Big Marijuana billions in tax write-offs and further normalize high-potency THC drugs. The Administration has initiated a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), which means the public now has the opportunity to comment.

We are hosting this [FREE webinar](#) to talk about the dangers of marijuana rescheduling and what can be done to prevent this from happening.

Please join us as we have the following experts speak on this topic:

- **Dr. Kevin Sabet** : President & CEO of SAM.
- **Luke Niforatos** : Executive Vice President (EVP) of SAM.
- **Dr. Russell Kamer** : Medical Director of Partners in Safety and a member of the Expert Physician Council, International Academy on the Science and Impact of Cannabis (IASIC).
- **Sue Thau** : Public Policy Consultant for Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA).

*Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM) is an alliance of organizations and individuals dedicated to a health-first approach to marijuana policy. We are professionals working in mental health and public health. We are bipartisan. We are medical doctors, lawmakers, treatment providers, preventionists, teachers, law enforcement officers and others who seek a middle road between incarceration and legalization. Our commonsense, third-way approach to marijuana policy is based on reputable science and sound principles of public health and safety.*



Resources from

## **Kimbyl L. Wade**

Operations Unit Administrator  
Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services  
Division for Behavioral Health  
[Kimbyl.L.Wade@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:Kimbyl.L.Wade@dhhs.nh.gov)

## **UPCOMING**

### **NHADACA: The Contract Lifecycle: Series Wrap-Up**

**Monday, June 10 from 9:00am - 12:00pm**

**NH Audubon - 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, NH 03301**

This Contract Lifecycle series wrap-up will review the two most recent virtual Lunch & Learn sessions (4/29 and 5/20). It will review budget revisions and subrecipient monitoring, including supporting financial documentation. We will clarify any outstanding concerns from throughout the series. Participants will be able to ask any lingering questions.

### **The Importance of Nonprofit Board Leadership: A Guide to Creating a Highly Successful Nonprofit Board**

**Wednesday, June 12 from 1:00pm - 2:00pm**

An educational and insightful discussion of nonprofit best practices for CEOs and Board leaders to gain a deeper understanding of what it takes to become a great nonprofit board. Key issues that will be addressed include the characteristics of successful nonprofit boards, the concept of the CEO and Board partnership, board recruitment and reappointment, the importance of board diversity, committee structures, the board's role in strategic planning and "how good boards evaluate the CEO, great boards evaluate themselves."

### **Cultural Considerations for People at Risk for Suicide**

**Wednesday, June 12 from 2:00pm - 3:00pm**

There is a need for staff to be aware of their own biases when providing care to Veterans, especially those at risk for suicide. As suicide rates remain high, engaging in mental health care can be a protective factor for these Veterans. By learning the cultural characteristics to consider, staff can gain competency and skills in providing inclusive, mindful, and equitable care for those they serve.

### **Student Athlete Mental Health: A Game Plan - A FREE Course for Athletic, Education, & Health Care Professionals**

**Wednesday, July 31 from 10:00am - 1:00pm**

We are excited to announce this live online course focused on supporting the needs of young people involved in athletics. In today's competitive landscape, it is crucial to recognize the impact mental health has on young athletes' performance, well-being, and personal growth. Throughout this course, participants will explore the common mental health challenges faced by student athletes, such as stress, anxiety, and fitness and performance pressures. We will also explore strategies that adults can use to help prevent and address these challenges.

## **RECORDINGS**

### **Certified Prevention Specialist 101 – Prevention Community of Practice Meeting**

Objectives of the Certified Prevention Specialist training:

- Network with current and future Certified Prevention Specialists (CPSs)
- Learn more about the CPS application process

- Learn more about certification and its importance
- Hear about a mentoring program for CPSs and prospective CPSs

Access Presentation PowerPoint slides [here](#).

---

### **The Partnership @drugfreeNH – May Convening**

**Updates on the cannabis landscape in NH and a presentation on the impact of cannabis use on the developing brain.**

**To learn more, check out the following resources:**

- [Podcast: Cannabis Commercialization: What You Need to Know with Kate Frey](#)
- [Announcement Blog: The Power of Prevention Podcast Season Two Premiere! Cannabis Commercialization: What You Need to Know with Kate Frey](#)

[NBC News: Stronger marijuana linked to more psychosis in teens with Kristen Gilliland](#)

Other resources and content to check out and share out:

[Facebook Live: Not Your Regular Classroom](#)

[Facebook Live: Boots on the Ground - Prevention for All](#)

[Focusing on Youth - One Conversation at a Time](#): NH students share the significant role that trusted adults play in their lives. This video highlights the importance of these supportive relationships.

---

### **Building a Framework for Developing a Comprehensive School Based Mental Healthy Program**

It is important for school systems to begin early mental health services to help address serious mental illness and the emotional and behavioral needs of the students and their families. A comprehensive school-based mental health program is vital and can be implemented to support the mental health needs of students, address serious emotional disturbance, reduce suspension and truancy, and positively impact academic success. We will share a mental health framework for schools that has been proven to be effective and successful in helping students to manage their mental health challenges and achieve academic success.

---

### **Understanding, Connecting, & Helping Youth Mental Health Through Screening**

One way to help youth build self-awareness, reduce stigma, and promote positive well-being is to incorporate school screening tools. Adolescent youth face many transitions like entering secondary school, growth & development, and coping with life's uncertainties. These new challenges can mask undetected mental health concerns leading to serious emotional disturbance. The benefits of implementing school screening tools like YouthCheck can help identify those concerns early and likely prevent long-term consequences of poor mental health. This non-diagnostic screening helps youth understand their thoughts, feelings, and behavior tendencies. Providers must cultivate collaborative relationships with school administrators and staff to gain access to schools. That partnership will benefit youth and families by providing early identification of mental health concerns, access to resources, and improved outcomes.

---

### **Youth In Crisis: Supporting youth through school and clinic-based mental health programs**

In this presentation, we will address how youths facing traumatic episodes have developed unhealthy coping skills that negatively impact their academic success and developmental growth. We will offer helpful strategies for addressing trauma and grief, substance abuse, and other barriers that can negatively affect student learning, growth, and development through school- and clinic-based mental health programs.

---

### **I Don't Know How to Support Youth While Living in a Digital World**

Being a parent and supporting your child's mental health comes with challenges and complexities. In 2024, it can be even more confusing with the added layer of the digital world young people are growing up in. Technology is ever-present for youth, affecting their mental health. It comes with online comparison, loneliness, complex dynamics of body image and self-perception, and many other things. For parents, knowing what children are now struggling with in a digital world is hard, and being able to address it and provide support is essential. There is also a [tipsheet](#) and [resource guide](#) that were developed for this webinar for parents to reference.

### **Understanding Stress and Substance Use among LGBTQ+ Adolescents**

In this recording we will explore the connection between stress, substance misuse, and the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ+ youth. We will delve into the underlying factors that contribute to substance disorders, such as the need for temporary relief or numbing painful experiences. Watch this video to discover how substance abuse preventionists can build the capacity of their communities and implement strategies that address the concerns and needs of LGBTQ+ youth. Together, we can make a difference and create safer, more supportive environments for these individuals.

### **PCSS MOUD Case-based Learning Collaboratives Session 1: OUD and Pregnancy**

This 4-session online case-based learning collaborative series focused on treating opioid use disorder. Delve into best practices on OUD and Pregnancy and explore real-world cases provided by addiction experts, applying knowledge to practical situations. Designed for healthcare team members new to treating patients with opioid use disorder, the series aims to offer additional insights, knowledge, and confidence.

### **2023 Opioid Response Summit Recordings and Resources**

Maine's Governor Janet Mills held her 5th Annual Opioid Response Summit on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at the Cross Insurance Arena In Portland. This year's theme: The Power of Prevention, Focus on Families. The plenary session Recordings can be viewed [here](#) and the Conference Materials can be accessed [here](#). Recordings of previous Summits and the monthly webinar series can be retrieved [here](#).

### **The Fourth Wave of the U.S. Overdose Crisis: Disseminating Incentive-Based Interventions for Stimulant Use Disorder into Rural Community Settings**

This UVM CORA Community Rounds Workshop Series webinar is entitled "The Fourth Wave of the U.S. Overdose Crisis: Disseminating Incentive-Based Interventions for Stimulant Use Disorder into Rural Community Settings." Our speaker is Tyler Erath, PhD, NIH Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Vermont Center on Behavior and Health at the University of Vermont. This presentation explores the role of psychomotor stimulants in the ongoing overdose crisis and discusses contingency management treatment for stimulant use, including current obstacles to its use in community settings. Presentation PPT can be accessed [here](#).

### **Cultural Humility and Responsiveness in Behavioral Healthcare**

This interactive presentation reviewed the dynamics of culture in substance use prevention and recovery support services. Additionally, content considered cultural humility key components and how they translate in practice for person-centered care and enhance the opportunities that build trust and rapport.

### **Unraveling Connections: Social Determinants of Health and Substance Misuse Prevention**

This workshop explores the intricate web of social determinants of health and their profound impact on substance misuse. This session will unravel the complex connections between social determinants and substance misuse while providing actionable strategies for addressing these issues at the community level.

### **Swimming Upstream with Data Series**

In this video series, Dr. Beverly Triana-Tremain discusses how to use data to swim upstream in an effort to address underlying risk factors. During this series she explores LGBTQ+, rural, and military data sources to help you dive deeper into working with these interest groups. In each session she discusses key data sources to help you engage in upstream prevention related to one of the three groups in this series focus, including finding and using it in your prevention work.

[Session 1: LGBTQ Individuals and Communities](#)

[Session 2: Rural Communities](#)

[Session 3: Military Individuals and Families](#)

## RESOURCES

### [SAMHSA National Prevention Week Kickoff Celebration & FentAlert Challenge Winners](#)

SAMHSA is excited to announce the winners of its [FentAlert Challenge](#), which took a bottom-up, peer-led approach — with ideas for youth, by youth. The Challenge sought innovative ideas from U.S. youth, age 14-18, to develop a community strategy to better educate their peers about fentanyl and fake pills — and help prevent drug overdose deaths. Congratulations to the winners, the honorable mentions, and our thanks to every young person who participated and is helping drive the conversation in their community.

[National Prevention Week Kickoff Celebration Video](#)

[FentAlert Challenge Winners Video](#)

[Press Release: SAMHSA Announces Winners of FentAlert Challenge During Launch of National Prevention Week](#)

### [JED's What You Need to Know to Support and Protect Your Teen From Cyberbullying](#)

It's not always easy to know how to help teens navigate life's complexities with kindness and empathy, especially in a digital world. To build on [The Choose Kindness Project's Parent Playbook and Educator and Coach Toolkit](#), The Jed Foundation (JED) is pleased to share a new set of free resources for families — with a focus on cyberbullying. The new resources are formatted as decision trees to offer a step-by-step approach for parents and caregivers to handle cyberbullying. Each decision tree provides a practical guide for thoughtful action.

- [4 Steps to Protect Your Teen From Cyberbullying](#)
- [What to Do If Your Teen Is Being Cyberbullied](#)
- [How to Help Your Teen Stop Cyberbullying Others](#)
- [How to Help Your Teen Develop Empathy and Compassion](#)

### [American Medical Association \(AMA\)'s "Creating an LGBTQ-friendly Practice"](#)

This material discusses how physicians who create an environment where all patients feel welcome can better meet their patients' often complex health care needs. Find recommended standards of practice with lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender patients and additional resources to assist making medical practices LGBTQ-friendly.

### [Peer Support Specialist Programs for Families Affected by Substance Use and Involved with Child Welfare Services: A Four-Module Implementation Toolkit](#)

This four-module toolkit offers strategies to develop peer support specialist programs for parents affected by substance use—whose children and families are involved with child welfare. The toolkit, rich with on-the-ground examples and lessons from successful peer support specialist programs, offers practical strategies and resources to promote system-level policy change and practice innovations on behalf of children and families.

[Module 1: Background on Peer Support Specialist Programs and Introduction to the Toolkit](#)

[Module 2: Building Collaborative Partnerships to Establish Peer Support Specialist Programs](#)

[Module 3: Program Development Strategies to Implement Effective Peer Support Specialist Programs](#)

[Module 4: Strategies for Developing the Peer Support Specialist Workforce](#)

### [CDC's 2022 School Health Profiles Released](#)

NOW AVAILABLE: CDC's new 2022 School Health Profiles survey results. Try the new [Profiles Explorer](#), an interactive tool that makes finding the data you want easier. Check out Profiles to find the latest data on school health programs and policies at the national, state, and local level. See how schools and school districts are:

- Providing health education and services
- Addressing bullying
- Responding to the adolescent mental health crisis
- Getting students active in physical education
- Engaging families and more

More information on the 2022 Profiles is available [here](#). Get answers to frequently asked questions, request data files, and download the Profiles questionnaires and technical documentation for data analysis.

## **Behavioral Health Among Older Adults: Results from the 2021 and 2022 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health**

This new infographic report highlighting substance use and mental health indicators among older adults aged 60 or older in the United States. Older adults make up more than 20 percent of the general U.S. population. Despite their tremendous emotional resiliency, substance use and mental illness are major public health concerns among this group.

## **Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center (EBPRC) Alcohol Awareness Month Resources**

Below are resources shared during Alcohol Awareness Month last month. For additional resources that focus on substance use disorder and mental illness prevention, treatment, and recovery, please visit the [EBPRC](#) website.

[Implementing Community-Level Policies to Prevent Alcohol Misuse](#)

[The Community Guide Chapter on Excessive Alcohol Consumption](#)

[The ASAM Clinical Practice Guideline on Alcohol Withdrawal Management](#)

[Brief Screener for Alcohol, Tobacco, and other Drugs](#)

[Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports \(PBIS\) Practice Guides](#)

[Medication for the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder: A Brief Guide](#)

[Alcohol Screening and Brief Intervention for Youth: A Practitioner's Guide](#)

[Pharmacotherapy for Adults with Alcohol-Use Disorders in Outpatient Settings](#)

[College AIM: Alcohol Intervention Matrix](#)

[Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide \(Third Edition\)](#)

[TIP 58: Addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders \(FASD\)](#)

[TIP 46: Substance Abuse: Administrative Issues in Outpatient Treatment](#)

[TIP 49: Incorporating Alcohol Pharmacotherapies into Medical Practice](#)

[Helping Patients Who Drink too Much: A Clinician's Guide](#)

[CDC Guide for Measuring Alcohol Outlet Density](#)

[AHRQ Clinician Research Summary: Pharmacotherapy for Adults with Alcohol Use Disorder \(AUD\) in Outpatient Settings](#)

[CDC's Guide on Planning and Implementing Screening and Brief Intervention for Risky Alcohol Use: Step-by-Step Guide for Primary Care Practices](#)

## **Opioid-Overdose Reduction Continuum of Care Approach (ORCCA) Practice Guide 2023**

This guide was drawn from HEALing Communities Study (HCS) learnings to-date and expert insights to provide guidance regarding implementation of ORCCA menu strategies. Additionally, as part of this, the "Opioid Overdose Reduction Continuum of Care Approach: A Guide for Policymakers for Implementing Evidence-Based Strategies that Address Opioid Overdose" can be accessed, reviewed and downloaded [here](#).

## **Ask the Expert: Naloxone 101 Toolkit**

To answer common questions about naloxone, we asked Dr. Alexander Walley with the Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine and a principal investigator with The HEALing Communities Study. Naloxone is a medication that reverses an opioid overdose if administered in time. Community-level implementation of overdose education and naloxone distribution (OEND) has been associated with reduced opioid overdose mortality.

## **2024 Buprenorphine Extended-Release Implementation Guide**

The 2024 Buprenorphine Extended-Release Injection Guide is a free clinical resource to provide healthcare teams with information on implementing all FDA-approved buprenorphine extended-release monthly/weekly formulations (Sublocade® and Brixadi®) into the practice setting for treatment of opioid use disorder. This new guide includes information on clinical implementation, regulations, storage, disposal, administration, and patient education tools.

## **Care Not Cuffs, an Initiative of Mental Health Colorado, Launches Webinar Series**

Mental Health Colorado's Care Not Cuffs initiative is launching [Monthly Dispatch](#), a monthly webinar series featuring individuals and projects working to disentangle mental health and criminal justice. The series seeks to

highlight exemplary efforts to ensure everyone experiencing mental illness, substance use, or crisis has access to housing, healthcare, supports, or other services. [Register for future webinars.](#)

### **[7 Best Practices & Goals for Agencies Assisting Patients with a Substance Use Disorder and Criminal Legal Involvement](#)**

In a [study](#) published in 2023, researchers from George Mason University and the University of Wisconsin detailed seven best practices and recommendations for implementing MOUD across each stage of the cascade of care in correctional settings. The cascade of care can be an effective tool in establishing effective treatment protocols and can help improve client outcomes by helping identify and address gaps in existing service delivery from admission to treatment initiation to care continuation during reentry. Download the infographic [here](#) and read the journal article [here](#).

### **[SAMHSA Financing Peer Recovery Support: Opportunities to Enhance the Substance Use Disorder Peer Workforce](#)**

This report and webinar explores and summarizes the financing, utilization, and regulatory structures of providing peer recovery support services (PRSS) for substance use disorder (SUD) recovery process within federal grant programs and state Medicaid programs. Based on analyses and input from an expert panel of behavioral health peer services experts, the report identifies challenges and opportunities to finance and strengthen the PRSS workforce. Read the report [here](#).

### **[Rural Minds Launches Rural Mental Health Resilience Program](#)**

Rural Minds and the National Grange have launched their new Rural Mental Health Resilience Program. Recognizing the self-reliance and do-it-yourself mindset that are common among many people living in rural America, this program provides an easy-to-access online toolkit with mental health information and resources to help rural residents improve mental health in their communities. We encourage you to visit the program webpage and access program materials that are free to download and print.

### **[Equitable Enforcement to Achieve Health Equity: An Introductory Guide for Policymakers & Practitioners](#)**

Equity-informed enforcement of public health policies can help break the cycles of injustice and inequitable health outcomes experienced by underserved communities. Equitable enforcement is crucial for measures and policies that affect public health in areas such as retail licensing, employment, education, and housing. Read the [guide](#) to learn more about equitable options for administrative, civil, and criminal enforcement in a wide variety of public health policy areas.

### **[Four Ways Forward Toolkit](#)**

[Mental Health Awareness Month](#) is more than just an observance. It's an opportunity to bring mental wellbeing into focus for yourself, your family and your friends. To help you do that, we're highlighting the Four Ways Forward Toolkit. Learn more by downloading the free toolkit along with implementing these four activities to get started right away:

1. [Sign up for the National Council's Advocacy Alerts](#) to learn about legislation and be notified of opportunities to show your support for expanding access to care.
2. [Stay up to date](#) on breaking news about federal mental health and substance use policy by joining our weekly Capitol Connector newsletter distribution list.
3. [Learn about our 2024 public policy priorities](#) that remove barriers to receiving care, consider ways you can share your story and advocate for positive change.
4. [Download our Advocacy Handbook](#) to access tips, best practices and templates for becoming a mental health and substance use treatment advocate in your community.

Prioritize Your Self-care - It's easy to feel mentally exhausted these days, in a world that demands so much of our time, energy and focus. Left unaddressed, this exhaustion can lead to worsening mental health. This week's [Way Forward](#) for [Mental Health Awareness Month](#) is to prioritize your self-care. In doing so, you can set an example for others, while putting yourself on a path toward wellness. Here are four ways to get started:

1. **Journal your thoughts.** Sometimes it's easier to write down what you're feeling rather than speaking it out loud. Find a journal that has writing prompts or start with a blank page.
2. **Place words of affirmation around your home.** Not only will writing them down be a good exercise in itself but seeing them in special places can lift your spirits.
3. **Spend time outdoors.** Research shows that spending time outside reduces the risk of depression and boosts serotonin levels and Vitamin D production.
4. **Schedule a "nothing" day.** We often push ourselves too hard without giving ourselves a chance to recover. Scheduling a day of "nothing" can do wonders for our wellbeing.

[Download our self-care calendar](#) with daily actions you can take to keep your mental wellbeing top of mind.

### [The Invisible Shield: Public Health Saved Your Life Today, and You Didn't Even Know It](#)

"The Invisible Shield: Public Health Saved Your Life Today, and You Didn't Even Know It" is a compelling four-part PBS documentary that sheds light on the essential yet overlooked role public health plays in protecting countless lives. The docuseries covers historical victories over diseases like cholera and smallpox to current battles with COVID-19.

### [During Second Chance Month, HRSA Takes Policy Action, Releases First-Ever Funding Opportunity for Health Centers to Support Transitions in Care for People Leaving Incarceration](#)

### [HHS & GSA Update Guidelines for Federal Safety Stations to Improve Health & Safety, Facilitate Overdose Prevention](#)

### [HHS Finalizes New Provisions to Enhance Integrated Care & Confidentiality for Patients with Substance Use Conditions](#)

### [Without Maternal Mental Health and Substance Use Interventions, We Can't Address the Maternal Mortality Crisis](#)

### [Cigarette Smoking Among Pregnant Women During the Perinatal Period: Prevalence & Health Care Provider Inquiries](#)

### [The health-care crisis won't be solved without addressing the elephant in the room: Staff workload](#)

### [CDC Releases Guide to Address Burnout in Healthcare](#)

### [The First of Many Firsts: The New CMS Innovation in Behavioral Health Model](#)

### [In Victory for Public Health, Federal Appeals Court Upholds FDA's Graphic Cigarette Warnings](#)

### [State Medicaid Coverage for Tobacco Cessation Treatments and Barriers to Accessing Treatments](#)

### [Medicaid Access to Naloxone: A Look at State Policies to Removing Barriers to Access](#)

### [A Very Small Step in the Right Direction: New Federal Regulations for Methadone Access](#)

### [Faster approach for starting extended-release naltrexone to treat opioid use disorder shown effective](#)

### [SAMHSA Harm Reduction: Findings from the Field](#)

### [SAMHSA It's Okay to Not Be Okay: Tips and Resources for Mental Health Awareness Month](#)

[Biden-Harris Administration Announces Maternal Mental Health Task Force's National Strategy to Improve Maternal Mental Health Care Amid Urgent Public Health Crisis](#)

[Biden-Harris Administration Expands Second Chance Opportunities for Formerly Incarcerated Persons](#)

[Biden-Harris Administration Awards \\$5.1M in Support of LGBTQI+ Youth and Families](#)

[More than 321,000 U.S. children lost a parent to drug overdose from 2011 to 2021](#)

[A modest proposal: No smartphones for kids](#)

[Teen Drug Use Habits Are Changing, For the Good. With Caveats.](#)

[Children and Teens Make Up Majority of Delta-8 THC Exposures](#)

[Residential addiction treatment for adolescents is scarce and expensive](#)

[NIH Trends in adolescent suicide by method in the US, 1999-2020](#)

[NIH Reduced drug use is a meaningful treatment outcome for people with stimulant use disorders](#)

[Vertex Pharma scientist talks about the long road to developing non-addictive painkillers](#)

[Closing Bars Early Reduced Murders by 40% in One US Neighborhood](#)

[Rural COVID patients likelier to die after hospitalization](#)

[Primary Care Shortage Reshaping How Patients Seek Care](#)

[The database you don't want to need: Check to see if your health data was hacked](#)

*DISCLAIMER: The information and resources presented above are intended for informative purposes only. We make no representations or warranties of any kind, expressed or implied, about the completeness or availability of any of the information that has been shared, and nothing listed constitutes a direct or indirect endorsement by NH BDAS or NH DHHS of any non-Federal and/or State entity's products, services, or policies, and any reference to non-Federal and/or State entity's products, services, or policies should*