



NACBH

National Association for Children's Behavioral Health

NEWS

July 17, 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

• Public Policy Update

- Extension of Federal Public Health and Disaster Declarations
- Update: COVID-19 Provider Relief Funds
- High Anxiety and Stress: Legislation to Improve Mental Health During Crisis
- COVID-19: 80 House Members Ask NIH for Pediatric Research

• News You Can Use

- July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month
- Upcoming Webinar: Prevention, Family and Communities: How To Implement a Radical Shift in Child Welfare
- Upcoming Webinar: Developing Organizational Culture Assessment Tools to Improve Adoption of EBPs and Address the Science to Practice Gap
- New Fact Sheet: Revised Privacy Rule for SUD Patient Records
- NACBH COVID-19 Resources

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE

Extension of Federal Public Health and Disaster Declarations

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is expected to extend the current public health emergency declaration for 90 days. Already extended once, it is currently set to expire on July 25, along with a number of temporary health care relief policies such as increased federal Medicaid matching rates, waivers of telehealth restrictions, and requirements that insurers cover COVID-19 testing without cost-sharing. [Continue Reading](#)

Update: COVID-19 Provider Relief Funds



Late last week, HHS [announced](#) the availability of another \$3 billion in emergency relief funds for safety net hospitals, and \$1 billion for certain providers in rural and small metropolitan areas, including hospitals, health centers and health clinics. We do not believe this covers any NACBH members, but please email [Pat Johnston](#) if you'd like assistance in determining your eligibility.

In addition, the Enhanced Provider Relief Fund Payment Portal that Medicaid and CHIP providers have been using to submit data for relief funding has now been opened to dentists. No specific dollar allocation has been set aside for dentists, who may apply until July 24, but the funding methodology is consistent with the one for Medicaid/CHIP providers: 2% of annual revenue for patient care. [Keep Reading](#)

High Anxiety and Stress: Legislation to Improve Mental Health During Crisis

On June 30, the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee on Health held the above-titled [hearing](#) to consider a number of mental health bills whose need has been heightened by the ongoing pandemic. A total of 22 bills were assembled, primarily focused on telehealth, parity enforcement, school-based initiatives, and suicide prevention, screening and assessment. It was quite a feat to narrow the

pool to just 22. Between the House and Senate, more than a hundred mental health and substance use-related bills have been introduced this year. [Continue Reading](#)

COVID-19: 80 House Members Ask NIH for Pediatric Research



On July 9, 80 members of the House of Representatives wrote to National Institutes of Health Director Francis Collins, and National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Director Diana Bianchi, asking for a comprehensive research agenda focused on the short- and long-term effects of COVID -19 on child health. [Keep reading](#) for the particulars.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

July is National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month



The HHS Office of Minority Health (OMH) recognizes July as National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, and encourages partners to join in educating communities about the importance of mental health care, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. For resources and materials, visit the [OMH website](#) and the [OMH Spanish website](#).

Upcoming Webinar: Prevention, Family and Communities: How To Implement a Radical Shift in Child Welfare

July 28, 2:00 – 3:15 p.m. Eastern

Hosted by Thompson and Grutza Consulting

This virtual panel discussion will feature Children's Bureau Associate Commissioner Jerry Milner, Jody Grutza of Grutza Consulting, Will Jones from Thompson, and Page Walley from Saint Francis Ministries, alongside state leaders from Arkansas and North Carolina. The webinar will focus on how states, counties, and providers can move towards a radical shift in child welfare, using the Family First Prevention Services Act as one vehicle to get there. Associate Commissioner Milner will lay out this broader vision, followed by a national update on Family First and a discussion of action-oriented public and private partnerships in Arkansas and North Carolina child welfare.

Space is limited. Register [here](#).

Upcoming Webinar: Developing Organizational Culture Assessment Tools to Improve Adoption of EBPs and Address the Science to Practice Gap



July 23, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern

Presentation for the (canceled) 33rd Annual Research & Policy Conference in Tampa

This presentation will address the disparity between the development of evidence-based practices and their implementation at human service organizations, and outline approaches to navigate common obstacles in translating EBPs from the research environment to real-world settings and populations. Among the areas of focus: organizational goals and motivations, broad organizational culture and history, delivery environment, target population, current services and funding, and the external community.

Register [here](#).

New Fact Sheet: Revised Privacy Rule for SUD Patient Records

The CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act) made permanent changes to the confidentiality of patient information related to substance use disorders.

Historically, the privacy of SUD information for patient records created by federally-assisted programs has been regulated by 42 CFR Part 2. To improve coordination of care, the CARES Act requires the Part 2 regulations to be more closely aligned with HIPAA privacy rules, allowing the disclosure of substance use information for treatment, payment and health care operations, with a patient's written consent. Until the changes go into effect next month, current law has required a patient's explicit consent to share substance use records with other medical providers, which can lead to a doctor prescribing opioids or other addictive medications to a patient with a substance abuse history. [Continue Reading](#)

NACBH COVID-19 Resources



Thanks to all who joined our COVID-19 Zoom meetings for timely discussion of challenges, plans and solutions among NACBH members. The last scheduled call was held on June 22. Future calls may be planned based on feedback from the membership. Please email yours to [Pat Johnston](#), including any particular topics you want to include on the agenda.

We continue to update our COVID-19 [resource page](#) with federal information and guidance, materials shared by NACBH members, and selected other resources. Please take a look and send Pat any additional materials that your NACBH colleagues may find helpful. Forms, protocols and other tools developed by NACBH members are especially helpful and are be posted behind the Members Only log-in to prevent public viewing.

A graphic with a purple-to-pink gradient background. On the left, there is a white icon of a document with a checkmark. To the right of the icon, the text "Public Policy Webinar Series" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. In the background, there is a faint image of the United States Capitol building.

Public Policy Webinar Series

We are pleased to announce ***NACBH's first Public Policy Webinar Series, an opportunity to engage with national leaders and fellow providers on key policy updates.*** Dates and registration are forthcoming. If you have any questions in the meantime, please reach out to [NACBH staff](#).

We hope that you will mark your calendars now for ***July 20-22, 2021*** when the Public Policy Conference returns to Washington, DC.

National Association for Children's Behavioral Health | 201 East Main Street,
Lexington, KY 40507 | nacbh.org