**National Council for Mental Wellbeing**

**Association Executive Spring Meeting Summary**

October 12, 2021

1:00 pm – 2:55 pm Eastern Time

Members Participating: Laura Aldinger, Blanca Campos, Gian-Carl Casa, Nadia Chait, Tom Chard, Rick Crawley, Jud DeLoss, Annette Dubas, Mark Fontaine, Doyle Forrestal, Linda Grant, Shannon Hall, Jesse Hambrick, Lisa Henick, Heather Jefferis, Kyle Kessler, Breeah Kinsella, Claire Kozik, Teresa Lampl, Robb Layne, Joel Landreneau, Rich Leclerc, Mark Levota, Marvin Lindsey, Liz Logan, Holly McCorkle, Emily Miller, Jin Palen, Carolyn Petrak, Michelle Ponce, Cherryl Ramirez, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Andrea Smyth, Julie Tessler, Debra Wentz, and Ellyn Wilbur.

Staff in Attendance: Chuck Ingoglia, Jeannie Campbell, Amanda Baer, Alaleh Banafshe, Brett Beckerson, Neal Comstock, Sam Holcombe, Stephanie Katz, Chayla, Lyon, Sarah Eure, Diane Millard, Joel Nepomuceno, Clement Nsiah, Dr. Joe Parks, Michael Petruzzelli, Keisha Pitts, Sarah Surgenor, Reyna Taylor, Natalie Weiner, Mohini Venkatesh, and Paula Zaremba.

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Doyle Forrestal, Association Executive Chair, began the meeting at 1:03 pm.

Summary – The Association Executives held their Fall 2021 Meeting and focused on CCBHC updates, vaccine mandate implementation, the Association Executives Survey results, provider financial data, and workforce challenges.

Items Discussed – During the meeting, Association Executives discussed five main topics:

* CCBHC updates including an overview of the start up work involved in launching the CCBHC Technical Assistance (TA) Center and the CCBHC Impact Report.
  + Sam Holcombe, Senior Director of Practice Improvement & Consulting, discussed how the CCBHC Technical Assistance Center is tentatively scheduled to launch in January of 2022 and will provide training and technical assistance to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) CCBHC grantees on implementation, adherence, utilization and integration of evidence-based practices and sustainability in alignment of the CCBHC model.
  + Brett Beckerson, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy, provided an overview of findings from the CCBHC State Impact Report including:
    - Lowered cost, increased access to care, decreased inpatient care, and the ability to hire new staff positions.
    - Other findings included improved integration of primary care and behavioral health services, improved rates of care initiation, and increased access to medication assisted treatment.
    - Slides will be available on BoardVantage and the Association Executive Directors community on Engage.
* Discussion: Vaccine Mandate Implementation
  + Lead by Doyle Forrestal, Executive Director, Colorado Behavioral Health Association, and Mark Levota, Executive Director, DC Behavioral Health Association
    - Doyle and Mark shared examples of how each of their respective states have handled vaccine workforce requirements, implementation, termination, and new hire policies. They also shared their state’s experiences on required unvaccinated staff testing and vaccine exemptions.
* Association Executives Survey Results
  + Jeannie Campbell, Executive Vice President, National Council for Mental Wellbeing
    - Jeannie shared the findings from the 2021 Association Executives Survey including association general characteristics (number of staff, membership make-up), association budget and revenue, and policy and advocacy priorities.
    - Slides will be available on BoardVantage and the Association Executive Directors community on Engage.
* Unlocking Provider Data: How Provider Networks Can Use Data for Quality Improvement & Partner with Associations
  + Shannon Hall, Executive Director, Community Behavioral Health Association of MD
    - Shannon presented on how associations can partner with providers to collect data to improve service quality.
    - Slides will be available on BoardVantage and the Association Executive Directors Community on Engage.
* Addressing Workforce at the State Level
  + Brie Reimann, Assistance Vice President, Practice Improvement & Consulting, The National Council for Mental Wellbeing
    - Brie provided an overview of workforce challenges that included increased demand in mental health and substance use treatment, challenges in employee retention, and recruitment challenges.
    - Slides will be available on BoardVantage and the Association Executive Directors community on Engage.

Decisions Made – No decisions were made.

Actions for the Board of Directors – No actions for the Board of Directors.

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There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 pm.

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Doyle Forrestal, Chair