National Council for Behavioral Health

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Participants: Laura Aldinger, Bianca Blaikner, Jeremy Blair, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Dillon Burns, Gian-Carl Casa, Danette Castle, Tom Chard, Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Lauri Cole, Lydia Conley, John Coppola, Paul Curtis, Terry Dosch, Lori Doyle, Mark Drennan, Candy Espino, Josh Evans, Mark Fontaine, Daniel Frey, Elizabeth Gholson, Robyn Garrett, Linda Grant, Lauren Grimes, Shannon Hall, Kelly Hansen, Lisa Henick, Kimberly Higgs, Julia Jernigan, Maryam Kiefer, Teresa Lampl, Marvin Lindsey, Brett McGinty, Pete Nielsen, Carolyn Petrak, Michelle Ponce, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Andrea Smyth, Andrea Summerville, John Tassoni, Jr, Ellyn Wilbur, and Mary Windecker

Staff in Attendance: Chuck Ingoglia, Jeannie Campbell, Brett Beckerson, Frankie Berger, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Sara Haywood, Stephanie Katz, Diane Millard, Joel Nepomuceno, Joe Parks, Michael Petruzzelli, Sarah Surgenor, Reyna Taylor.

**Summary Notes:**

**COVID-19 Policy Related Efforts to Support Members**

Presented by Reyna Taylor

Reyna stated that we are awaiting the Senate’s draft of additional COVID-19 relief legislation. She said that House Majority leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) has outlined the Democrats’ priorities and that we anticipate a lot of back and forth in negotiations between the House and the Senate. Reyna noted that both parties have acknowledged that there is a necessity for funding for behavioral health. She said that we are marching forward with state level data to paint picture of revenue loss, resilience, lost jobs, and negative impact on patients. Reyna also said that we are actively working with HHS, and that Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) has sent a letter to HHS asking them to open funding portals and to rectify the widespread confusion on funding sources.

**Application to the Provider Relief Fund portal for the Medicaid and CHIP Targeted Distribution**

Presented by Reyna Taylor and Stephanie Katz

Reyna stated that we have received notice from HHS about two focus groups sessions looking to identify application volume, discuss Medicaid and CHIP distribution eligibility, and hear about technical difficulties. She asked Association Executives to share information about these focus group webinars and ask members to apply for funds because the deadline for doing so has been extended to August 3rd.

**Federal Reserve Mainstreet Lending Program**

Presented by Stephanie Katz

Stephanie stated that Chuck sent two comments into the Federal Reserve seeking eligibility for non-profits, and that the Mainstreet Lending Program is now available to non-profits. She said this eligibility includes potential loans from $250,000 to $300 million dollars. Stephanie continued that organizations with from 10-15,000 staff are eligible, and that loan re-payments are able to be deferred for 2 years for principal and 1 year for interest. See <https://www.bostonfed.org/supervision-and-regulation/supervision/special-facilities/main-street-lending-program/information-for-borrowers.aspx>

**Telehealth for Buprenorphine Prescribing and Methadone Take Home Survey**

Presented by Mark Fontaine

Mark said that as discussed with the Addiction Committee, the Federal government has provided the ability to prescribe opioids through telehealth. He said that what we would like to find out the best ways to promote this continuing into the future. Mark said that to this end, we are asking members to complete a brief survey. He asked Association Executives to send this to their members when he sends it.

**Open Discussion**

Jeannie Campbell asked Association Executives how members are doing in terms of getting PPE. She said that our last survey showed the evolving and continuing needs of members, and that there was growing needs around gloves, gowns, hand sanitizers, and N95 masks. Jeannie stated that to this end, the National Council has partnered with [Panacea Life](https://panacealife.com) to deliver a variety of PPE at reduced rates.

Jeannie also offered National Council assistance in helping member associations determine what works for conferences in virtual settings. After being asked about the chances of NatCon21 happening in-person, Jeannie described that planning for NatCon as aimed at preserving our flexibility for as long as possible, and that we are focusing on the virtual component of the conference. She said that many other associations are keeping the registration fees the same for virtual and in-person participation. Jeannie said that we are working on enhancing the value proposition for sponsors and exhibitors.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

July 28, 2020, 2:00 PM ET