**National Council for Behavioral Health**

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Participants**: Laura Aldinger, Matt Brooks, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Blanca Campos, Gian-Carl Casa, Danette Castle, Nadia Chait, Shelly Chandler, Tom Chard, Lauri Cole, Lydia Conley, Annette Dubas, Josh Evans, Doyle Forrestal, Lauren Grimes, Jesse Hambrick, Kelly Hansen, Lisa Henick, Heather Jefferis, Robb Layne, Richard Leclerc, Mark Levota, John Magnusson, Holly McCorkle, Jennifer McCollum, Brent McGinty, Carolyn Petrak, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Adrienne Shilton, Andrea Smyth, John Tassoni Jr., and Stephen Wilder.

**Staff in Attendance**: Jeannie Campbell, Brett Beckerson, Frankie Berger, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Stephanie Katz, Joel Nepomuceno, Dr. Joe Parks, Michael Petruzzelli, and Reyna Taylor.

**Summary Notes:**

COVID-19 Policy Related Efforts

Reyna Taylor and Michael Petruzzelli

Reyna shared that the American Rescue Plan with Senate amendments have been sent back to the House for vote. She stated that once it is approved, it will go to President Biden to sign into law. Michael said the Senate’s version of the plan includes:

* $3 billion ($1.5 billion each) for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant and the Community Mental Health Services block grant.
* $420 million to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to fund Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) expansion grants.
* $8.5 billion in new money to the Provider Relief Fund for providers in rural areas and those serving rural communities.
* A 5% increase for two years in Medicaid Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) for states that have not already participated in Medicaid expansion.
* Permission for states to provide bundled payments for community-based mobile crisis services at 85% of FMAP.
* A 10% FMAP increase (95% limit) for states to improve Medicaid home and Community-Based Services.
* More than $450 million in additional funding for SAMHSA and the The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) programming including mental health and addiction services, workforce education and training, suicide prevention, and public education campaigns.

HIPAA Privacy Rule Change

Reyna Taylor

Reyna shared with Association Executives that the deadline for comments regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rule change has been extended to May 6th.

988

Reyna Taylor

Reyna stated that as the date for 988 implementation approaches, we need to discuss what implementation will look like across states and formulate a comprehensive strategy to get a continuum of care for all who call in. She said that next week’s Association Executive call will utilize breakout rooms to facilitate discussion on developing a 988 strategy. She said there will be three breakout rooms based on the state’s current crisis system capacity and its readiness to launch 988.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

The next Association Executives meeting will be on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 from 2-3:00 p.m. ET.