National Council for Behavioral Health

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Participants: Blanca Campos, Gian-Carl Casa, Danette Castle, Nadia Chait, Shelly Chandler, Ann Christian, Lauri Cole, Paul Curtis, Terry Dosch, Lori Doyle, Mark Drennan, Annette Dubas, Candy Espino, Doyle Forrestal, Robyn Garrett, Linda Grant, Shannon Hall, Jesse Hambrick, Kelly Hansen, Kimberly Higgs, Heather Jefferis, Lee Johnson, Kyle Kessler, Maryam Kiefer, Liz Logan, John Magnusson, Brett McGinty, Jin Palen, Carolyn Petrak, Kyle Plaske, Michelle Ponce, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, John Tassoni, Jr., Ellyn Wilbur, and Mary Windecker.

Staff in Attendance: Brett Beckerson, Frankie Berger, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Sara Haywood, Stephanie Katz, Diane Millard, Joel Nepomuceno, Michael Petruzzelli.

**Summary Notes:**

**Federal Legislative Update**

Frankie Berger and Stephanie Katz

Frankie reminded Association Executives that this is the last week the combined provider relief portal is open. She encouraged members who have not received at least 2% of their 2019 patient revenue in relief funds to apply. Frankie asked Association Executives to encourage all their members to reapply for funding through the new portal.

Stephanie stated it will be difficult to make the case for additional funding with legislators if there are not a lot of applications through the portal. She said that having an abundance of members apply through the portal puts the National Council in the best position to advocate for additional funding.

Association Executives brought up some issues some members have expressed about applying for additional funding including:

* Members hesitating to reapply as they are weary of how the funds will be reconciled during an audit of costs;
* Multi-state providers applying in the state that their headquarters are in, as opposed to the other states in which they have facilities;
* Getting different information from the people who they speak with when they call the phone number for the portal; and
* Questions on what can be considered COVID-19 cases and what can be used for funding.

Frankie also stated that we are looking for a place on the National Council website to house the financial tracking tool discussed last week.

**Announcements**

Neal Comstock and Frankie Berger

Neal highlighted two upcoming National Council events. First, he discussed the Future of Conferences meeting on Wednesday, August 26th which will cover virtual meeting platforms, best practices, and how to plan for meetings given the uncertainties around pandemic. Secondly, Neal described the Annual Membership Meeting, also on August 26th, that will include discussions on National Council efforts on behalf of members during the pandemic, public policy developments, and the state of National Council membership.

Frankie also encouraged members to fill out the member survey on COVID-19 impact as the information being collected is extremely important to help us describe the dire financial situation members are facing as a result of the pandemic.

**Breaking News**:

During the meeting,the National Council received news that the provider relief fund combined portal will stay open until September 13th.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

September 1, 2020, 2:00 PM ET