National Council for Behavioral Health

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Participants**:

Matt Brooks, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Danette Castle, Nadia Chait, Lauri Cole, Lydia Conley, Terry Dosch, Mark Drennan, Annette Dubas, Doyle Forrestal, Rachelle Glavin, Kelly Hansen, Heather Jefferis, Lee Johnson, Maryam Kiefer, Misty Leitsch, Mark Levota, John Magnusson, Holly McCorkle, Jin Palen, Sarah Potter, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Andrea Smyth, Andrea Summerville, John Tassoni, Jr., Debra Wentz, Ellyn Wilbur, Mary Windecker, and Alex Wolff.

**Staff in Attendance**:

Brett Beckerson, Frankie Berger, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Stephanie Katz, Joel Nepomuceno, Conner McKay, Joe Parks, and Michael Petruzzelli.

**Summary Notes:**

**Federal Legislative Update**

Frankie Berger, Stephanie Katz, Michael Petruzzelli

COVID Relief Negotiations

Michael stated that there has not been progress made regarding COVID-19 relief negotiations, and also stated that the White House’s willingness to negotiate continues to dwindle. Michael stated the House Democrats want a large-scale relief bill, while Senate Republicans want smaller relief efforts. Michael said that a bill seems very unlikely.

Senate Appropriations

Michael also gave an overview of the FY2021 Senate appropriations process. He said that the House and Senate will come together this week and there is little discrepancy between their respective proposed funding levels.

Crisis Stabilization and Community Re-Entry

Michael stated the Crisis Stabilization and Community Re-Entry Act was passed, which improves the relationship between the penal system and community mental health organizations. He stated the National Council is increasing our advocacy efforts on this and will be reaching out to Association Executives for action and advocacy requests.

Phase 3 Portal

Stephanie said the Phase 3 Portal for funding closed last week and if any Association Executives have questions, to please reach out to her.

**Delta Center 2.0**

Frankie Berger

Frankie provided an overview of the next iteration of the Delta Center. She stated that the Delta Center is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funding grant program for state associations to advance value-based payment initiatives within states through program and policy support. Frankie explained that the Delta Center partners with state primary care associations and behavioral health associations to help them work more fluidly together. She stated that this is a great opportunity to advance Certified Community Behavioral Health ClinicsCCBHC work. Frankie also said $240,000 of funding over the course of three years will be given to the state primary care and behavioral health organizations that demonstrateg how the funding will be used to improve value-based programs. She noted the deadline to apply is January 8, 2021.

**National Council Announcements**

Neal Comstock

Wellbeing Wednesdays

Neal encouraged Association Executives to join the National Council for our first “Wellbeing Wednesday.” He said the virtual town hall with cover how behavioral health will move forward from the pandemic, the impact of the November 3rd elections, and the National Council’s legislative agenda. Neal stated this is open to all National Council members.

2020 Association Executive Survey

Neal also gave an overview of the 2020 Association Executive Survey, which will be sent out shortly, and he encouraged Association Executives to fill it out. He said that the Survey is a terrific source of information on behavioral health associations and gives Association Executives the opportunity to benchmark themselves with their colleagues.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

Tuesday, November 24, 2020 2-3:00 p.m. ET