National Council for Behavioral Health

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Participants: Blanca Campos, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Gian-Carl Casa, Danette Castle, Shelly Chandler, Ann Christian, Lauri Cole, Jud Deloss, Mark Drennan, Annette Dubas, Candy Espino, Josh Evans, Mark Fontaine, Doyle Forrestal, Robyn Garrett, Linda Grant, Lauren Grimes, Shannon Hall, Jesse Hambrick, Kelly Hansen, Kimberly Higgs, Heather Julia Jernigan, Maryam Kiefer, Mark Levota, Holly McCorkle, Brett McGinty, Michelle Ponce, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Adrienne Shilton, Andrea Smyth, John Tassoni, Jr., Ellyn Wilbur, and Mary Windecker.

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

**Summary Notes:**

**Introduction**

Doyle Forrestal introduced a new Association Executive, Holly McCorkle, Executive Director of the Alabama Council for Behavioral Healthcare.

**Federal Legislative Update**

Reyna Taylor, Frankie Berger, and Stephanie Katz

Frankie thanked Association Executives for encouraging participation in the member survey as we have seen an increase in participation. She also highlighted a discussion on the Association Executive’s community on Engage started by Annette Dubas of Nebraska on membership requirements. She said that the discussion is a prime example of how Engage can best be used—to leverage insights from other Association Executives on common challenges.

Frankie also asked if associations had members that have children’s residential treatment programs. She stated that there is legislation on the horizon that would allow for children’s treatment programs with more than 16 beds to qualify as a Medicaid Institution for Mental Disease (IMD). She asked for feedback so we can develop messaging for advocacy.

Stephanie again reminded Association Executives to encourage their members to use the HHS portal for COVID-19 provider relief funds. She said that the National Council has provided a roadmap with a step-by-step guide on how to apply for funds through the portal. She reminded Association Executives of the new deadline and said members just need to get their taxpayer identification number (TIN) validated and approved by September 13th and may finish the application process at a later date.

**National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

Chuck Ingoglia and Michael Petruzelli

Chuck stated that the new 988 national Lifeline number will not just be a suicide hotline, but will be a broader national mental health crisis line. He said that this should be up and running within 2 years and the national infrastructure has to be created, as many of those who will call will need immediate services. Chuck stated we are working with the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) to begin discussions on creating infrastructure. He also asked Association Executives if anyone has had discussions with their states on this as we want to ensure that states can levy taxes on carriers to help pay for the Lifeline.

Chuck also stated that we will ask Lifeline to join us for an upcoming Association Executives meeting. Chuck mentioned that the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) will have a joint convening with the National Council to discuss how best to move forward.

Michael Petruzelli added that the 988 legislation has not yet passed the House, but that it has passed the Senate. He stated we are moving forward with a coordinated effort to get this passed. We will also host a “Day of Action” on September 15th which will include action alerts, Tweets, and messages to send to Members of Congress.

**Announcements**

Neal Comstock and Sara Haywood

Planning Virtual Conferences

Neal and Sara Haywood discussed how information and resources on planning virtual conferences is available for Association Executives in a cloud folder that will house resources shared from recent and upcoming Future of Conferences in a Virtual World webinars. See [this link.](https://thenationalcouncil-my.sharepoint.com/%3Af%3A/g/personal/sarah_thenationalcouncil_org/EuYQUQdDGtNFjtrEGD2Pd4MB5MGeGl19XPTt3uapM1BSrQ?e=rlLiWQ)

Protective Masks

Neal said that Panacea, our mask distributor, has shared with us that they need to move masks from their inventory. See [this link.](https://panacealife.com/wholesale/)

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

September 8, 2020, 2:00 PM ET