**National Council for Behavioral Health**

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Participants**: Laura Aldinger, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Blanca Campos, Gian-Carl Casa, Nadia Chait, Lauri Cole, Rick Crawley, Jud DeLoss, Terry Dosch, Annette Dubas, Josh Evans, Doyle Forrestal, Lauren Grimes, Shannon Hall, Jill Hayden, Lisa Henick Heather Jefferis, Kyle Kessler, Claire Kozik, Joel Landreneau, Robb Layne, Richard Leclerc, Mark Levota, Liz Logan, John Magnusson, Maggie McCowen, Brent McGinty, Jin Palen, Carolyn Petrak, Flora Schmidt, Malory Shaughnessy, Adrienne Shilton, Rebecca Simison, Andrea Smyth, Chris Stoner-Mertz, John Tassoni, Jr., Julie Tessler, Debra Wentz, and Mary Windecker.

**Staff in Attendance**:

Chuck Ingoglia, Jeannie Campbell, Hicham Bakhit, Brett Beckerson, Neal Comstock, Sara Haywood, Stephanie Katz, Connor McKay, Joel Nepomuceno, Dr. Joe Parks, Michael Petruzzelli, Keisha Pitts, and Reyna Taylor

**Summary Notes:**

Policy Update

Reyna Taylor and Michael Petruzzelli

Reyna stated the House drafted a continuing resolution (CR) and will fund FY2021 through December 3rd, 2021. She also stated that there was $77 million allotted for 988 implementation in the CR. However, she stated that the CR might not make it through the Senate.

She also said that 20 states were won planning grants from HHS’ Secondary Mobile Crisis Services awards. She stated that the National Council is focused on ensuring the planning grants are used in conjunction with 988 implementation and implementation of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) and Community Mental Health Clinic (CMHC) grants.

Reyna touched briefly on vaccine mandates from the Biden Administration and stated that we are awaiting the final regulation from the Administration. She shared we are eager to work with states that already have state mandates and that we will be helping Association Executives navigate their mandates in relation to federal mandates.

Michael reminded Association Executives about Hill Day on October 19th. He said this will be a fully virtual event and the four areas of legislative focus are: 988 implementation, CCBHC legislation, the substance use epidemic, and workforce shortages.

Open Notes Mandates

Dr. Joe Parks, Mark Levota, and Jin Palen

Dr. Parks gave background information on the new regulatory push from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) to move from the way healthcare systems share data from one where they *may* share to one where they *must* share data. Dr. Parks also shared the organizations that the regulations apply to which include providers, payers, health information technology (HIT) developers and 3rd party applications. He shared his recommendations pertaining to the mandates, which include contacting an organization’s electronic medical records (EMR) vendor, reviewing and revising forms and procedures, reviewing and revising patient education materials and additional staff training.

 **Next Association Executives Teleconference**

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