National Council for Behavioral Health

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Participants: Bianca Blaikner, Melanie Brown-Woofter, Gian-Carl Casa, Danette Castle, Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Paul Curtis, Terry Dosch, Lori Doyle, Candy Espino, Josh Evans, Mark Fontaine, Doyle Forrestal, Linda Grant, Lauren Grimes, Shannon Hall, Kelly Hansen, Lisa Henick, Cynthia Humphrey, Heather Jefferis, Julia Jernigan, Lee Johnson, Maryam Kiefer, Mark Levota, Marvin Lindsey, Jin Palen, Michelle Ponce, Adrienne Shelton, Mary-Linden Salter, Andrea Smyth, John Tassoni, Jr, Julie Tessler, Debra Wentz, Ellyn Wilbur, and Mary Windecker

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

**Summary Notes:**

**Federal Legislative Update**

Presented by Reyna Taylor and Michael Petruzelli

Reyna gave a quick update on the meeting with HHS Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan. She mentioned that the thank you letter, signed by 26 other organizations, was sent last week to summarize and document the call they had last week.

Michael Petruzelli also gave a summary of the House Appropriations Committee’s approved FY2021 budget that includes:

* $22.9 million for Mental Health First Aid;
* $5 million increase for Promoting Integration in Behavioral Healthcare grant program ($54.8 million);
* Level funding for integration technical assistance, the National Council’s Center of Excellence for Integrated Health Solutions at $1.99 million;
* $35 million increase to the Mental Health Block grant (toward crisis care set-aside); and
* The State Opioid Response Block Grant remained level at $1.5 billion.

Reyna said we will summarize this information and send it out to Association Executives. She also said the House Energy and Commerce Committee will meet at Wednesday, July 15 at 11 am to consider at 29 different bills (see <https://energycommerce.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/pallone-on-committee-passage-of-17-health-bills>).

Association Executives held a robust discussion about federal legislative updates, relief funding and portal, and other expected tranches of funding.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

July 21, 2020, 2:00 PM ET