**National Council for Behavioral Health**

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Participants**: Melanie Brown-Woofter, Blanca Campos, Gian-Carl Casa, Tom Chard, Ann Christian, Mark Drennan, Annette Dubas, Richard Edley, Josh Evans, Mark Fontaine, Doyle Forrestal, Robyn Garrett, Linda Grant, Lauren Grimes, Shannon Hall, Jesse Hambrick, Kimberley Higgs, Heather Jefferis, Jerry Jenkins, Robb Layne, Misty Leitsch, Mark Levota, Liz Logan, Holly McCorkle, Brent McGinty, Jin Palen, Michelle Ponce, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, Adrienne Shilton, Andrea Smyth, John Tassoni, Jr., Julie Tessler, Cameron Vickers, and Mary Windecker.

**Staff in Attendance**: Chuck Ingoglia, Jeannie Campbell, Brett Beckerson, Frankie Berger, Neal Comstock, Rebecca Farley David, Sara Haywood, Stephanie Katz, Connor McKay, Joel Nepomuceno, Dr. Joe Parks, Michael Petruzzelli, Sarah Surgenor, and Reyna Taylor.

**Summary Notes:**

COVID-19 Policy Related Efforts

Reyna Taylor

Reyna discussed the confirmation of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure as the new Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). She said that outreach has gone out to Administrator Brooks-LaSure to congratulate her and open conversation around mental health and substance use disorder.

Reyna also mentioned that the Biden Administration recently released its initial budget for FY2022. She stated that there will be many changes to this draft, but as it stands, it includes:

* $1.6 billion for Mental Health Block Grants.
* $10.7 billion to support research, prevention, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid addiction.
* $1 billion to increase the number of counselors, nurses, and mental health professionals in schools.
* $551 million for home and community-based services.
* $65 billion in FY2021 for broadband access.

She also discussed the recent Congressional hearing on 988 and crisis services in America. Reyna stated this gave the National Council an opportunity to reinforce that 988 is an opportunity to positively affect care systemically across the country.

CCBHC Impact Report

Rebecca Farley David

Becca shared some highlights of our recently released Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) Impact Report including:

* An estimated $1.5 million people serviced (as of January 2021);
* 50% of respondents said that CCBHCs were able to provide same day services and 84% reported that services were provided within one week; and
* 89% of CCBHCs were able to provide medication-assisted treatment to an estimated 37,000 people.

Telehealth Update

Frankie Berger

Frankie discussed the telehealth state legislative tracking tool and asked Association Executives how best the National Council can organize resources around current and upcoming telehealth legislation. She also asked Association Executives to highlight pieces of legislation that is of most interest to them and how the National Council can provide value in relation to telehealth legislation to states.

Managed Care Negotiations

Reyna Taylor

Reyna asked Association Executives about having a guest speaker attend an upcoming Association Executives Call around managed care negotiations. She asked Association Executives if it is possible to pool resources together and if someone with knowledge around the ongoing negotiations would be of interest as a guest speaker. Association Executives responded positively.

Association Executives Retreat

Doyle Forrestal, Jeannie Campbell

Doyle asked Association Executives their preferences regarding the yearly Association Executives Retreat. Jeannie shared with the group that the plan is to have a hybrid in-person/virtual retreat.

**Open Discussion**

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

The next Association Executives meeting will be on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 from 2-3:00 p.m. ET.