**National Council for Behavioral Health**

Association Executives Teleconference Summary Notes

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

**Participants**: Melanie Brown-Woofter, Blanca Campos, Danette Castle, Le Ondra Clark Harvey, Lauri Cole, Rick Crawley, Terry Dosch, Richard Edley, Sammy Fejleh, Doyle Forrestal, Robyn Garrett, Jacob Gomez, Linda Grant, Moses Gur, Jesse Hambrick, Jill Hayden, Lisa Henick, Rusti Holwick, Heather Jefferis, Lee Johnson, Kyle Kessler, Robb Layne, Mark Levota, Makayla Leonard, John Magnusson, Holly McCorkle, Brent McGinty, Shauna Moses, Jin Palen, Michelle Ponce, Mary-Linden Salter, Flora Schmidt, John Tassoni, Jr., Julie Tessler, and Ellyn Wilbur.

**Staff in Attendance**: Chuck Ingoglia, Brett Beckerson, Malka Berro, Neal Comstock, Samantha Holcombe, Connor McKay, Joel Nepomuceno, Dr. Joe Parks, Sarah Surgenor, Reyna Taylor, and Bini Taddesse.

**Summary Notes:**

COVID-19 Policy Related Efforts

Reyna Taylor and Mike Petruzzelli

Reyna stated that Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) has been vocal about the need for both the budget resolution and reconciliation to be paid for and that we are looking toward a lively debate on what will be included in the FY2022 budget and the second reconciliation package.

She also stated that President Biden has nominated Dr. Raul Gupta as the head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Reyna stated that Dr. Gupta is a primary care physician from West Virginia. She stated that Dr. Gupta was also part of the Biden transition team and has heard the National Council’s policy recommendations.

Michael shared that there are rumors that the Labor-HHS Subcommittee has approved its budget and gave a quick highlight of the relevant numbers including:

* Community Mental Health Block Grant - $1.58 billion
* Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Block Grant = $2.59 billion
  + Includes a 10% recovery set-aside
* CCBHC Expansion Grant - $374 million

Michael stated that we will provide more in-depth information to Association Executives on Engage.

Workforce

Reyna Taylor and Stephanie Katz

Reyna addressed the current workforce challenges that many organizations are facing and asked Association Executives to send us workforce data they have available (vacancy rates, turnover rates, wait times, etc.). Stephanie let the Association Executives know that the National Council is planning on developing a workforce work group to explore challenges states are facing and develop creative solutions to address the issues.

Association Executives Retreat

Doyle Forrestal

Doyle reminded Association Executives that we are planning on having the Association Executives Retreat, September 13th-14th. She stated that during the retreat, there will be an orientation for newer executives and networking events for Association Executives. She stated that the Association Executive Retreat will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona. \*The Association Executive Retreat has since been postponed.

Association Executives Call Schedule

Doyle Forrestal

Doyle shared that the weekly Association Executive meetings will be put on hold for the remainder of July, and will resume monthly beginning in August. She shared there will be one meeting in August, then the Association Executive Retreat in September\*, where the format and frequency of these meetings will be determined.

**Next Association Executives Teleconference**

The next Association Executives meeting will be on Tuesday, August 17, 2021, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET.